

**Social Status of Persons with Disability: Case Study from Tribhuwan Basti
VDC., Kanchanpur**

**A Thesis Submitted to the Central Department
Of Sociology/Anthropology for Partial
Fulfillment of the Requirements
For the Master's Degree of
Arts in Sociology**

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LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION

This thesis entitled “*Social Status of Persons with Disability: A Case Study from Tribhuwan Basti VDC, Kanchanpur*” has been prepared by **Mr. Bhim Kumar Shrestha** under my supervision for partially fulfillment of requirements for Master’s Degree of Arts in Sociology. I hereby recommend this thesis to evaluation committee for final approval.

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APPROVAL SHEET

This entitled “*Social Status of Persons with Disability: A Case Study from Tribhuwan Basti VDC, Kanchanpur*” submitted by **Mr. Bhim Kumar Shrestha** to the Central Department of Sociology/Anthropology, Tribhuvan University, for partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Master’s Degree of Arts in Sociology has been found satisfactory in scope and quality. Therefore, we accept this thesis as a part of the Master’s Degree in Sociology.

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Acknowledgement

Present research entitled “*Social Status of Persons with Disability: Case Study from Tribhuwan Basti VDC, Kanchanpur*” has made an attempt to present general social condition of PWDs living in the same VDC, general views of people on them and their problems. This research has got this form only after the support of many individuals and organizations.

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Abbreviations

CBR	Community Based Rehabilitation
CBS	Central Bureau of Statistics
CRDP	Convention on Right of Persons with Disabilities and Optional Protocol
GO	Governmental Organization
INGO	International Non-governmental Organization
NFD-N	National Federation of Disabled-Nepal
NGO	Non-governmental Organization
NNSWA	Nepal National Social Welfare Association
PWD	Person with Disability
SLC	School Leaving Certificate
TU	Tribhuvan University
UN	United Nations
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Emergency Fund
VDC	Village Development Committee
WHO	World Health Organization
WWW	World Wide Website

Chapter-I

Introduction

1.1 General Background of the Study

Disability is a state in which a person is not able to perform his/her daily activities easily like normal people. It is a sort of obstacle that hinders the overall development of personality of an individual as it is perceived negatively by the society. Though disability is mere a physical problem, it is made more serious socially and culturally by the people living in the same society. Problem of disability is not viewed physically only, it is associated more with culture and social norms and values. Due to such perception of society, persons with disabilities (PWDs) face inhumanitarian and heart-pricking pains. If disability is associated with physical part only, it is not a big problem, but its association with culture and social values has created more problems for PWDs.

If we try to search the definition of disability, we do not find similarity. *Apangatako Paribhasa Ra Apangapan ko Nirdharan (2063)* states that disability refers to the difficulty to perform the daily activities and to fully participate in social life due to the problems in physical organs and disturbances created by physical, social and cultural environment. The Disabled People Protection and Welfare Act, 2039 says, "disabled people are those who are physically or mentally unable to do the usual daily activities". In 1980, WHO defined disability as "any restriction or lack of ability to perform an activity within the range considered as normal for human being. A disability may be temporary or permanent, reversible and progressive or regressive" The situation of disability may be permanent or temporary. It depends on nature of accident or problem. Any person can have disability at anytime. It means that every person can have disability, but disability for short period is not "a real disability", only permanently physically and mentally disabled people are categorized as "disabled persons".

Different non-government organizations have been supporting to limited PWDs in education, health and economic sectors. Similarly, government has made provision of reservation for PWDs and has also been providing “certain amount of money” according to their class of disability. Both government and non-government sectors do not seem to be fully able to support all PWDs of the country. World Health Organization (1998) claims that 10% of total populations in the world are disabled. Similarly, disability survey of Nepal conducted in 1998 shows that only 3.41% Nepalese people have disability. But leading organization working in the sector of disability, National Federation of Disabled Nepal (NFD-N) does not agree with this data and says that more than 10% Nepalese are suffering from disability and government is not working sufficiently in favor of persons with disability.

Since Nepal is a developing country, superstitions, lack of education and poverty are worsening Nepalese society day by day. They are considered to be burden for family. As developing country is not able to excel social status in general due to the lack of financial support, skilled manpower and unstable political situation, modernization, scientific advancement and utilization of natural and cultural resources don't take place in the right time. And this problem not only strengthens superstition and poverty but also weakens the educational sector. After the fall in educational status, people start to associate every negative concept with superstition. Superstition doesn't lead us to the right path. As a result, poverty starts to rule the people and whole society. Both of them don't let the people come out of misconceptions and traditional beliefs.

Disability prohibits us from being complete physically. And very incompleteness is negatively interpreted and viewed if people are superstitious. Disability is also associated culturally more than biologically. Such people don't believe that disability is mere a biological problem, they assume that it is curse of god and

consequence of evil work. Then they start to discriminate and misbehave with PWDs. PWDs are ridiculed and they are not given any place in social spheres. Their presence is taken as evil sign. Such activities of normal people have badly hampered the advancement of PWDs in general. This problem is also seen in the study area.

Comparatively, level of consciousness is high in urban areas due to advancement in technology, strong presence of media and employment opportunities. These factors make them more aware about disability issues. So they are more positive towards PWDs than rural people. City dwellers just ignore PWDs; but rural people not only manhandle PWDs, they even abuse and imprison PWDs as they possess the mentality that PWDs are totally burden. Sampled PWDs too were found living with such experience more or less in the study area.

By the same token, due to the superstition and lack of awareness, the number of PWD is increasing. Different diseases and accidents cause the disability. In most of the cases, normal people do not realize that PWDs should also be loved and they can also support the family if empowered. They know very well that disability is a mere a biological factor, so they do not relate this problem with culture and religion. In other words, they are not misguided by superstition and traditional concepts like rural uneducated people. Similarly, educated PWDs view themselves and society more broadly. Unlike uneducated people, they try to empower themselves and try to change the perspective of society towards them by raising awareness among the people. Due to the physical infirmity, they have no option than tolerating such inhuman treatment of the society and the people. Thus, PWDs are compelled to live inhuman life full of rejection, hatred and ill-treatment.

PWDs are incapable to live a normal life easily due to physical inefficiency. More than that, negative views on them make them weaker. PWDs are not strong externally; but if they live with optimistic perception and bring positive change in their thinking, they can be strong internally. But society is not letting them to live such life. Instead of supporting and empowering PWDs, society, family and culture are exploiting them. Disability is in their own body, but external factors like culture and beliefs are making them more disabled than their own body. Physically and mentally, PWDs are different in nature, but treatment of society and people with them is always same. Disability may take place by birth or due to diseases in childhood and accidents. Though the time and reason of disability vary from each other but there is no variation in the ill-treatment with PWDs from normal people. In different places like society, school, organizations and cultural festivals, they have to tolerate the misbehavior of the normal people.

Persons with disability can be found in all parts of the world and all levels of society, and number of PWDs is also increasing day by day due to accidents. The causes and consequences of disability may differ from one place to another. The differences in causes and consequences of disability are the result of different socio-economic status and the government policy. Government policies do not seem interested to address the welfare of PWDs. At the same time, the discrimination against PWDs is also more or less same though it may be different in Particular situations. Such discrimination against PWDs can be seen in all parts of the world. PWDs are living in the different parts of the world, but they are living with same pain. Some families even try to ignore PWDs' basic needs like clothes, food and housing. Mainly women and poor people with disability suffer more from such discrimination. They face multiple problems where as male and rich persons with disability are less vulnerable to severe discrimination due to their sex and class.

A Cry for Health, Poverty and Disability in the Third World(1983), written by O. Shirley, also shows that approximately 10% of total population in most third world countries is suffering from disability in one way or other. He also found that there is very close relationship between poverty and disability in third world countries. Most importantly poverty has been seen as major cause of disability. Accidents and poverty have compelled the people to be disabled in some way. If the disability takes place by birth and is in incurable form, no treatment can make them normal person. But some disabilities can be diagnosed if care d in time, but for that there should be consciousness and financial support. To be conscious, obviously education is necessary. But education can be acquired only if the financial condition is satisfactory. As poor people do not possess sufficient level of consciousness and strong financial status, they are not able to diagnose even curable disabilities. Similar is the case in accidents. Due to poverty, many accidents of poor people are turning into permanent disability. Thus, poverty and disability are closely linked to each other.

The cultural values do not let PWDs to come up with new vision and enthusiasm. One way or other, normal people try to suppress PWDs so that they can always rule over PWDs. With the help of opportunities and love, PWDs can develop their overall personality and social status in their own way and can be an example too. At the same time, they can contribute more or less not only for society and nation but also for whole world. PWDs are also born with certain talent, and using this very talent, they can bring lots of positive changes in them. But all this is a kind of a dream for PWDs as state and society do not pay much attention to them But in course of time, people have been conscious and have started to raise their voice for their rights and their inclusion in the main stream development. In Nepal, after restoration of democracy in 1990, the perspective of general people and governments towards PWDs started to change slowly. PWDs also started to

conduct different campaigns; as a result, PWDs have also access in legislative parliament at the present time.

It is known to all that as PWDs are deprived of many opportunities, they are one of the marginal communities of Nepal. Due to the lack of awareness about disability and positive concept toward PWD, they are not able to enjoy their right to education, health, transportation, communication etc. PWDs are also human being and they also need the love and support. But such concepts are very rare in most of Nepalese society. Normal people only think that PWDs should be kept inside the four walls and they are useless because PWDs are not as capable as them. Such concepts are dominating almost all rural areas of Nepal. If PWDs have more access in political, religious, cultural and economic sectors, that can be regarded as their progress in social status. For more contribution, at first the social status should be better; if not PWDs can not think about the contribution as they have to fight for their own personal status. If own personal social status is not tolerable, how can PWDs think about development of nation. Present research also aims to find out the social status of PWDs living in Tribhuwan Basti VDC and also try to present the hidden facts behind disability issues.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

Now-a-days, we can see the access of some PWDs in universities and in different professions. Many GOs, NGOs and INGOs are also seen supporting sector of disability. Similarly, government policies also sometimes try to address disability issues. Ministry for Women, Children and Social Welfare is the government body to formulate the policies and plans the programs for the empowerment of PWD. But unfortunately, the efforts made by both government and non government are not sufficient to cover all the disability-related issues. They have not been able to penetrate the real and hidden problems of PWDs. Policies are made in the paper, but their implementation part never comes in to the real work. PWDs are already

weak physically; but such disappointing policies make them more disabled. The very discriminatory activities of these sectors are making them victim of poverty and hunger more and more. If PWDs are properly incorporated and those policies are properly practiced, they can free themselves from such long-term problems to some extent.

Different programs are conducted in capital and headquarters by NGOs and INGOs on disability issues, but they are not seen in practice in rural areas. So, much effort is yet to be made. Tribhuwan Basti VDC of is also a rural site situated in the southern part of Kanchanpur district. Like other villages of Nepal, Tribhuwan Basti has also PWDs suffering from different sorts of ill-treatments and discriminations. Formulated policies and programs frequently conducted in central level are not supporting PWDs abundantly. Still many problems are hampering the overall development of PWDs in Tribhuwan Basti VDC. Present study has attempted to study following PWD-related problems:

1. What are the reasons of disability and what types of disability are there?
2. What are the views of society and people on PWD and the difficulties they suffered?
3. In what types of works the PWDs are involved and whether they are receiving any support from GOs and NGOs or not?
4. How is the social status of PWD in study area?

1.3 Objectives of the Study

If simply supported, PWDs can be an ideal person for whole world. So, their access to central level and leadership should be made easy. But lack of trust upon PWD always keeps them in margin and they are compelled to face different problems. Negative attitude of normal people towards PWDs has always kept them in the darkness. Though different attempts have been made to find out the real status of PWDs in the society and to uplift the overall condition of PWDs by

PWDs themselves, GOs and NGOs; they are not sufficient. The general objective of present study is to find out overall social condition of PWD. Specific objectives are given below:

1. To find out the socio-economic status of PWDs.
2. To reveal the general view of society and people on PWDs.
3. To identify the problems faced by PWDs.

1.4 Importance of the Study

Persons with disability can even compete with normal people if they are given opportunities. So, they demand opportunity; not love and sympathy. For this, all the people, society and government should bring change in their perspective towards PWD. If done so, overall status of PWDs may change easily. Since present study tries to focus on general social condition of PWDs and general views of society on PWD, it can be helpful for both government and non government sectors to formulate their future plans and strategies for the all-round development of PWDs. Some of other importance of present research is as follow:

1. It presents the general social status of PWDs living in rural area of Nepal.
2. It also makes us familiar with general views of society on PWD and the problems faced by them.
3. It gives the general reasons and nature of disability.
4. It may be beneficial for those who are interested in the disability sectors.
5. It helps both GOs and NGOs to initiate further steps to raise the awareness about disability and to improve the overall status of PWDs.

1.5 Organization of the Study

Present research will be divided into six chapters. Chapter 1 will contain general background of study, statement of the problem, objective of the study and importance of the study. Literature review and reports and data about disability

from different organization and magazines will be presented in chapter 2. Chapter 3 will deal with research methodology. It will detail study area, research design, sources of data, methods of data collection and data analysis. Chapter 4 will have general detail of study area. Reasons and types of disability in study area and social status of PWDs has been discussed in chapter 5. Views of society on PWD and problems faced by them have been presented in chapter 6. Chapter 7 has carried summary and conclusion as well as recommendations.

Chapter-II

Literature Review

Disability is a condition in which a person is not able to perform his/her daily activities easily and it may hinder our lives at any time. As disability makes a person weaker mentally and physically, it has been a harmful aspect in human lives. Harris(1993) argues that a disability is a physical or mental condition we have a strong preference not to be in ourselves. What is more important, he argues that it is a condition, which is in some sense a “harmed condition” (pp. 178-187).

Helander (1999) states that 30 percent of moderately and severely disabled people in the world lives in developed regions and 70 percent live in developing regions of the world. His study also shows that the prevalence of disability ranges from as low as 0.2 percent to as high as 20.9 percent. Similarly, UN (1995) found nearly 200 million people with disabilities living in the Asia and the pacific region. It easily proves that poor Asia countries have more pathetic condition than European countries.

Disability is a common international phenomenon. Though different attempts have been made to minimize the number of person with disability, it is not possible to eradicate the case of disability from the society. The same condition is there in Nepal also. UN observed the year 1981 as “International Disable Year” and obviously Nepal also celebrated this year. In the same year, government established different schools and provided training from PWDs. Similarly, Bal Mandir was established in 2023 B.S for deaf people. Likewise, National Social Service Co-ordination Committee was also formed in 2034 B.S., and started to work for special education strongly. After the restoration of democracy in 2046, many organizations were established and started to work for the welfare of PWDs; as a result comparatively, the overall condition of PWDs is better now than before.

Large part of Population in Nepal is still facing many problems due to disability. On the basis of physical organs, problems and difficulties in physical system, disability has been categorized into seven parts.

1. Physical Disability: Physical disability is a problem in walking and in use and movements of physical organs due to problems in nerves, muscles, joints and structure of bones. Polio, leprosy, muscular dystrophy, loss of physical organ, problem in spinal cord, rickets and very small size of body are examples of physical disability.

2. Vision-related Disability: If a person is not able to know the shape, size and color of any object due to problem in vision, that is vision related disability. This disability has been divided into two parts.

a. Visionless: A person who even after treatment (medical, surgical or use of spectacles) cannot count or detect fingers with the better-sighted eye from a distance of ten feet or cannot read the character of Snellen chart (3/60) is defined as visionless person.

b) Low-vision: A person who even after treatment (medical, surgical or use of spectacles) cannot count or detect fingers with the better-sighted eye from a distance of twenty feet or cannot read the characters on the Snellen chart (6/18) is a person with low vision.

3. Hearing-related Disability: Problem in the organs that help to hear and problem in identifying the voice, and its place as well as difficulty in distinguishing the degree and quality of voice is hearing-related disability.

This disability has been divided into two parts:

a) Deaf: A person, who cannot hear, cannot speak properly at all and has to use sign language for communication with a hearing capacity of 80 decibels or less, is defined as deaf.

b) Hearing-impaired: A person, who cannot hear and speak properly or can speak very little or requires a hearing aid and have a hearing capacity of 65 decibels, is known as a hearing-impaired person.

4. Deaf-Blind: The person who cannot both hear and see anything properly is deaf-blind.

5. Voice-related disability: A person who cannot speak clearly and repeats the words and letters due to difficulty in the voice and speaking organs is voice-related disabled person.

6. Mental Disability: A person who is not able to handle the situation as per his/her age due to problem in mental organs, memory power, language and intellectual function and who is very slow in learning is defined as mentally disabled person. It has been divided into 3 parts.

a. Intellectual Disability/ Mentally Retarded: A person who is not able to perform the activities of normal life due to lack of intellectual development before 18 years old is a mentally retarded person.

b. Mental Disease: The problem in performing daily activities and normal life because of mental weakness is a mental disease.

c. Autism: If a person does not show normal activities as per the age, does not have natural reaction and keeps on repeating the single activity and cannot get adjusted with others, that person is said to have autism.

7. Multi- Disability: If a person has more than one problem above mentioned, that person is multi-disabled person.

(Apangatako Paribhasa Ra Apangatapanko Nirdharan, 2063)

Survey of CBR, Bhaktapur has revealed the PWD with different disabilities. The percent wise numbers of PWD on the basis of disability are as follow:

1. Hearing and Speech	38.5%
2. Movement (Physical)	34.3%
3. Epilepsy	11.1%
4. Visual	5.6%

5. Mental Retardation	5.6%
6. Mental Illness	4.6%
7. Others	0.3%

(Bhaktapur CBR: 2000)

Above given data state that the highest (38.57%) portion of PWDs are suffering from disability of hearing and speech. Deaf and persons with speaking problems fall in this group. Similarly, 34.3% have physical disability and epilepsy has affected 11.1% of PWDs in Nepal. Visual problem, mental retardation and mental illness are some other types of disability explored by this research.

CBR has also found out the percent wise causes of disability. They are:

1. Disease	53.66%
2. Birth defect	28.85%
3. Accident	17.55%

(Bhaktapur CBR: 2000)

This figure presents the fact that disease is the main reason of disability in Nepal. 53.66% people are victim of disability due to different diseases. Likewise, birth defect has been reason of disability for 27.55% of PWDs whereas accident has caused disability of 17.55% PWDs.

Disability is an international phenomenon, so different intellectuals have defined it and expressed views about it differently. Wendell says, "Disability is socially constructed by such factors as... expectations of performance, the physical and social organization of societies on the basis of a young, non-disabled, 'ideally shaped,' healthy adult male paradigm of citizens, the failure or nonwillingness to create ability among citizens who do not fit the paradigm, and cultural representations..."([www.joster.org/sociology of disability](http://www.joster.org/sociology_of_disability)). Finkelstein thinks that

“Disability is something imposed on top of our impairments by the way we are unnecessarily isolated and excluded from full participation in society. Disabled people are therefore an oppressed group in society”. Shakespeare and Watson believe that “people are disabled both by social barriers and by their bodies. This is straightforward and uncontroversial (Shakespeare & Watson, 2001, p. 17)”

Fundamental principles’ document states that disability was the disadvantage or restriction of activity caused by a contemporary social organization which takes no or little account of people who have [...] impairments and thus excludes them from the mainstream of social activities', (cited in Oliver, 1996, p. 22). Similarly, Thomas argues that “disability is a form of social oppression involving the social imposition of restrictions of activity on people with impairments and the socially engendered undermining of their psycho-emotional wellbeing (Thomas, 1999, p. 60)”.

Associating disability with socio-political problems, Reindal says, “Disability is far from merely being a medical problems that can be “cured”, on the contrary it is mainly a cultural and sociopolitical problems. The medical notion of disability, seeing disability as a cause of a limitation within the individual, cannot account for the fact that not all people with losses, diseases, illnesses etc experience disablement”. Park and others argue that children with disability must have parental support. They opine, “Although children with disability often can lead successful lives and eventually become independent adult members of society, to do so often requires more intensive parental and public investment than is needed for children with no limitations”.

WHO Regional Health Report 1998 states that women in developing countries are more vulnerable to disability than men because of biological features such as menstruation, pregnancy and lactation process. These processes make them

nutritionally more deficient. If mother gets deficient in calories, protein and several other nutrients, it directly affects the fetus resulting various types of disabilities in the child such as mental retardation, physical disability, visual impairments and so forth.

We can find different views about disability in different parts of the world. Rioux and Prince from Canada say that “compared to persons without disabilities, adults with disabilities in Canada tend to have lower levels of education, far higher rates of unemployment, lower earnings and lower household incomes. Persons with disabilities face further serious challenges of accessibility and affordability of housing, health care, transportation, learning, training and employment opportunities” (Rioux and Prince, 2002). In sociological terms, inclusion is multidimensional. It happens on an everyday or episodic basis, in formal and informal ways, and on interpersonal, organizational, interagency, intergovernmental, and intersectoral levels. In policy terms, integration has an important dualism. First, it means building disability considerations into mainstream programs and policies in all service and practice areas. At the same time, the integration of people with disabilities means supplementing mainstream programs where necessary with complementary services and supports for addressing the additional disadvantages faced by children and adults with disabilities.

Shirley (1983) says that the efforts to improve the situation of PWDs in developing countries are impeded by four main obstacles: poverty, ignorance, misconceptions and faulty priorities. Similarly, *Rupantaran*, publication of NFD-N states that more than 80% PWDs are living in poverty. Malnutrition, lack of education and superstition are the result of poverty. So, poverty is also increasing the number of PWD. Unless the chain of poverty and disability is broken, the PWDs can never be brought into inclusive world. So, poverty and narrow

mindedness have been degrading the living of PWDs. (Trans., *Rupantaran*: 2065). In the least developed countries, 80 to 90 percent of persons with disabilities of working age are kept back from employment opportunities while in industrialized countries it is estimated to be between 50 and 70. Besides, globally approximately 20 million women acquire disabilities as a result of complications during pregnancy or childbirth. (www.un.org/disabilities)

Highlighting the social problem of PWDs, LeClere and Kowalewski argue, “Physical disability is also often associated with socio-demographic characteristics. Disabled persons are more likely to be poor, poorly educated, separated or divorced, and member of the minority population” (Strock & Thompson-Hoffman, 1991). Furthermore, showing the relationship between disability and behavior, F.B. LeClere and B.M. Kowaleswski state, “Children had more several behavioral problems when they liveed with more than one disabled relative and more common behavioral problems when they lived with a disabled parent”.

Act II in *The Constitution of Kingdom of Nepal, 2047* states that regarding the right to equity, a special legal provision will be brought for the preservation of rights and development of children, women, and aged people and physically and mentally disabled. (Trans., *The Constitution of Kingdom of Nepal, 2047*). But, they are never seen in their practical lives. Similarly, *Interim Constitution of Nerpal, 2063*, in Article 3, says that “no discrimination on the basis of caste, religion, gender, origin, language on thought will be practiced. Women, Dalits, Indigenous, Madhesis or farmers or laborers deprived from economic, social and cultural aspects, children, elderly aged people and persons with disability will have rights of special protection. The special provision for the empowerment and protection of PWDs will not be prevented legally” (*Interim Constitution of Nepal, 2063 B.S.*).

Similarly, Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and Optional Protocol (CRPD 2006) has strongly advocated in favor of PWDs. This convention formulated 50 Articles favoring the rights of PWDs. About equity and non-discrimination, the convention strongly states that States parties recognize that all persons are equal before and under the law and are entitled without any discrimination to the equal protection and equal benefit of the law and shall prohibit all discrimination on the basis of disabilities and guarantee to persons with disabilities equal and effective legal protection against discrimination on all grounds. In Article 10, stressing on the Right to Life, the convention says, “States parties reaffirm that every human being has the inherent right to life and shall take all necessary measures to ensure its effective enjoyment by persons with disabilities on an equal basis with others” (Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and Optional Protocol-2006).

Focusing on problems caused by disability, Jones states, “... Physical impairment often prevented them (PWDs) from carrying out actions, walking for example, with which their unimpaired peers had no problems. They were disabled. For many, society’s response to their impairment and disability, inadequate education, rejection by their family or community for example, caused further problems; they were handicapped. The effect of social pressure on the response to disability can influence very strongly the wellbeing of the disabled person. For example, a child with a major chromosomal anomaly was never acknowledged by the family

We can also read the news about PWDs in different newspapers. *Annapurna Post*, a daily national newspaper, states that Santa Bahadur Tamang of Namobuddha, Kavrepalanchowk was born disabled and he cannot eat and speak at all. Helpless and poor father of Santa Bahadur, Ram Bahadur Tamang has been wandering on the roads of Kathmandu keeping the son in the wheel chair for 2 months to collect

the funds for the treatment. He informed that his son will be able to eat and speak if treated in time. (*Aunapurna Post*, 2007).

Study of New ERA (2001) presents the facts that the number of PWDs is more in Buddhist house holds. 9.59 per cent of the Buddhist household had a disabled member. Remarkable number of PWDs was also seen in occupational caste groups. These groups covered 10.36 percent of total households. The group includes blacksmiths, tailors, sweepers, cobblers, laundry-men and so forth who are also poor and socially disadvantaged people. The study also found that 57.6 per cent of the household heads among the households with PWD had not received any sort of education. Similarly, 61.0 percent households with PWD were involved in agriculture and the very households were in less advantageous position than households without PWD. 68.2 percent PWDs had no education and participation of PWDs in skill training was very poor. 29.9 per cent were economically dependent on their family. The study also revealed that most of PWDs had difficulties in joining social functions and participation of disabled girls and women was less in education and employment than disabled boys and men.

Above mentioned literature shows the pathetic situation of PWDs. Present research will also try to present the general social life of PWDs in Tribhuwan Basti VDC.

Chapter-III

Research Methodology

Effective research methodology is one of the most important parts of every thesis. Without it, the study becomes almost paralyzed. Proper methodology can make thesis very strong and effective one. Socio-cultural research can not be complete without use of proper methodology. This research work has tried to find out the social status of PWDs of Tribhuwan Basti VDC, general view of society on PWDs as well as problems faced by the same PWDs. This study has focused more to field study; and has also taken the help of secondary sources. Similarly, descriptive and exploratory research designs have been used in this work. During data collection period, different data collection methods such as interview, questionnaire, observation and so forth have been practiced. Presentation and analysis of collected data is another important part of this research and this part has been strongly presented. Thus, this research paper is completely based on proper research methodology.

3.1 The Selection of Study Area and Its Rational

For present study, Tribhuwan Basti VDC of Kanchanpur has been selected as a study area. Like in other rural areas, in this VDC also, PWDs are living difficult lives and also facing ill-treatments and discrimination. Lack of education and superstition has been the major problems for them and the perception and general people towards PWDs is not so satisfactory; but real social status and view of people living here on PWDs as well as their difficulties are untouched so far. I am also a person with disability; so I have also faced such discrimination. Similarly, I am from same VDC, so it is easy to approach the sampled PWDs. The number of the PWDs to find out the social status is enough in this VDC. Therefore; this study area has been selected for the research.

3.2 Research Design

Different data about disability found in study area have been collected and analyzed later. Descriptive research design has been used at first for data collection, and then only exploratory research design has been brought into use to present the socio-economic condition of PWD more clearly. Since research is based on primary data, both descriptive and exploratory research designs have been applied in this research.

3.3 Source and Nature of Data

Both primary and secondary data have been used in this study. Primary data have been given more priority. Primary data were acquired through household survey , interview, observation and group discussion whereas secondary data were collected from various literatures available in office of VDC,CBS, NFD-N, NGOs and INGOs working in disability sectors and many other approachable sources. Similarly this research paper has used both qualitative and quantitative information. The qualitative information includes general view of people and feelings of PWDs and age, number of family members and qualification of PWDs are quantitative information.

3.4 The Study Universe and Sample

It is difficult to approach each and every household and individual of VDC during any research due to the lack of the time and resources. There were more than 100 PWDs in the study area; but only 30 PWDs from different social status has been included in the study. Like in other VDCs, this VDC has also different types of PWDs with different age groups and cultural background. An effort has also been made to make this work more inclusive covering PWDs from most of the wards and from different, religion, caste, age group, professions and cultural backgrounds. To draw the sample, purposive sampling method has been applied in this research work.

3.5 Methods of Data Collection

3.5.1 Primary Sources

3.5.1.1 Interview

Interview was performed with PWDs at first, and then only other family members and guardian were consulted during the field work. Only sampled PWDs were interviewed. Structured interview was brought into practice in this research. Guardians and other concerned individuals of PWDs were interviewed as they were not capable to provide complete details. Matured physically disabled, visually impaired people and few adult deaf were directly interviewed as they were capable to express their problems and feelings. But due to the lack of proper communication, guardians of child disabled and mentally retarded persons were interviewed.

3.5.1.2 Observation

All the desired answered can not be received from interview. So, for such hidden information, sampled PWDs were observed seriously. Direct observation was used during the research period. This method also helped to know the real problem of PWD and their real lifestyles. Observation was also important to test the relevancy of information provided by the respondents. This method was found very useful to find out complete details of sampled PWDs. Facial expression, hesitation, dress pattern, way of speaking and working environment were focused during observation.

3.5.1.3 Key Informant Interview

Key informant interview was used to collect the information that was not gained from sampled PWDs very properly. It also helped to collect the information about overall aspect of VDC, educational status and various policies made for PWDs. This method was performed with relatives, neighbors and friends to find out more details about sampled PWDs. All together 15 key informants were approached in this study. The details that were not possible to gain from PWDs and their guardians were collected

through this method. Their support has helped this research to be more reliable.

3.5.1.4 Questionnaire

In this research work, structured questionnaire was used. For the educated respondents, this method was performed. Through this method, information about causes of disability, problems faced by PWDs, support from different sectors and reasons for discrimination was collected. Through this method, they provided the details which they hesitated to talk about during interview. This method saved the time of research to some extent as respondents could give answer at one time.

3.5.1.5 Case Study

Case study was another method to have primary source in this work. With the help of this method, complete detail of a particular person is achieved to represent all sampled people. Among many concerned PWDs, case study of any two has been presented to make this work more reliable and fact-based. The past life, problems suffered, supports received so far and present problems of sampled person are the major facts of the case study presented in this research work. Similarly, their daily problems, living-style and other necessary information have also been presented through this method.

3.5.2 Secondary Sources

Only primary data are not sufficient for the research. So, secondary sources collected from libraries, office of VDC, CBS and NGOs and INGOs working for PWD were also used in this research. Articles on disability, different daily newspaper, magazines published by NFD-N, different GOs and NGOs working for PWDs, Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and Optional Protocol (CRDP-2006) and Interim Constitution of Nepal were consulted seriously to make this work more effective.

3.6 Data Presentation and Analysis

Data presentation and analysis is the main part of research. Therefore, special focus has been given to this part in this research also. All the collected data have been clearly presented in different forms and later completely analyzed. The data collected from primary and secondary sources were edited and coded in tabular form at first. Then, they were classified and analyzed presenting in the figures. During the classification and analysis of collected data, simple statistical tools such as percentage and average were also used to make this study more efficient.

3.7 Limitation of the Study

Present study has covered only one VDC of the district. There are many marginal groups in the VDC, but it has focused only on Persons with Disability. It did not consult any other PWD from another VDC of the district. Because of lack of time and resources, only approachable PWDs, their guardians and other experts were included in this study. It only focused on the issues of PWDs avoiding other genuine cases and problems of the study area.

Chapter-IV

Introduction to Study Area

Tribhuwan Basti VDC, study area of this research paper, lies in the south-eastern belt of Kanchanpur district. All together there are 19 VDCs and 1 municipality in this district. Most part of this district has flat land and its headquarter is Bhim Datta Nagar. Surrounded by Kailali to the east, Dadeldhura to the north and India to the west and south, total area of this district is 160sq.km with total population of 3,77,899 and literacy rate of 60.1%. Most of the people in this district are dependent on agricultural activities. Total number of family is 60,150 living with population density of 235 per sq. km. and total number of PWDs is 1350 in the district (CBS, 2001).

Nearly 90km. far from the district headquarter; Tribhuwan Basti VDC has total area of 25.30sq.km and total population is 12,507 accommodated in 2262 households in 9 wards, with 6215 males and 6292 females (CBS, 2001). Topologically, this VDC is flat with most of the plain land. Maximum and minimum temperature varies between nearly 40⁰C and 5⁰C respectively and average number of days of rainfall is 160. It is surrounded by Parashan VDC to the east, Baise Bichawa to the north, Laxmipur and Kalika to the west and India to the south. Whole population of this VDC is migrant of hilly districts of western, mid-western and far-western development region migrated after the government brought the program of resettlement (Punarvas) in around 2030 B.S. Still, the people from those areas are migrating to this VDC. During the program of resettlement, the government had provided 3 bighas to each family destroying the dense forest hoping that security could be maintained in the southern border and India would not be able to capture the southern belt the district. Since the inhabitants of this VDC are migrants, diversity in the caste, religion and culture

can be seen tacitly.

4.1 Ethnic Composition of Study Area

Caste is one of the most prominent parts of the society. According to the caste, culture and values are determined. Caste is also associated with identity and profession. Among the different migrant castes, the population of Kshetri people is the highest in this VDC.

Table 1: Population by caste in Tribhuwan Basti VDC:

Caste	Population	Percentage	Caste	Population	Percentage
Chhetri	3677	29.39	Sanyasi	146	1.16
Kami	2396	19.15	Murung	70	0.55
Brahman	2291	18.31	Gaine	19	0.15
Tharu	1187	9.49	Muslim	18	0.14
Tamang	502	4.01	Gharti	14	0.11
Sarki	374	2.99	Unidentified Dalit	14	0.11
Thakuri	366	2.92	Koiri	11	0.08
Damai	334	2.67	Badi	11	0.08
Newar	294	2.35	Yadav	5	0.03
Gurung	280	2.23	Lohar	5	0.03
Sunwar	278	2.22	Others	12	0.09
Magar	203	1.62			
Total				12,507	100

Source: CBS, 2001

Table 1 shows 23 castes living in Tribhuwan Basti VDC. Among these castes, population of Kshetri is the highest with 29.39% and Kami has covered 19.15% of total population. After Kami, Brahmin and Tharu have the majority with 18.3% and 9.49% respectively. But number of Yadav and Lohar is extremely low which has covered only 0.03%.

4.2 Mother tongue

Mother tongue is also directly associated with culture. It represents our social and cultural aspects. It also helps to maintain the unity in the society. As the population is from different castes in this VDC, several mother tongues are found

here. Nepali is the mother tongue of most of the people living here and Tharu is the second most spoken mother tongue.

Table 2: Population by mother tongue in Tribhuwan Basti VDC

Mother tongue	Population	Percentage
Nepali	10569	84.50
Tharu	1060	8.47
Newar	201	1.60
Gurung	112	0.89
Others	106	0.84
Tamang	93	0.74
Magar	19	0.15
Hindi	17	0.13
Maithili	15	0.11
Bhojpuri	15	0.11
Total	12,507	100

Source: CBS, 2001

This table presents the fact that Nepali is the most spoken other tongue of this VDC that covers 84.50%. Tharu is second most spoken language here with 8.4%. Newari and Gurung mother tongue stand in third and fourth place covering 1.6% and 0.89%. Maithili and Bhojpuri are the least spoken mother tongue of this VDC. They cover only 0.11% of total population.

4.3 Religion

One of the most dominant cultural factors, religion is so strongly rooted in the society that it is impossible to overthrow it once we become a part of society. Religion and culture are like two parts of the coin. Strong command of religion can be seen in every society and culture. Like caste and mother tongue, religion is also an unavoidable factor in the human lives. As far as religion in this VDC is concerned, Hinduism is practiced by highest portion of total population and Buddhism comes in the second place.

Table 3: Population by religion in Tribhuwan Basti VDC

Religion	Population	Percentage
Hindu	11755	93.98
Buddhist	640	5.11
Christian	73	0.56
Islamic	18	0.14
Non Stated	21	0.16
Total	12,507	100

Source: CBS, 2001

Table 3 states that the population of Hindu is the highest (93.98%) and Buddhist has possessed the second place with 5.11%. Similarly, Christian and Islamic people are also found here that has covered 0.56% and 0.14% respectively. But religion of 0.165 was not identified.

4.4 Literacy Status

Literacy is one of the important indicators of development. If the literacy status of country is sound, it also helps to excel the development process in the country. Progress only by per capita income and life expectancy is not enough; literacy status should also improve along with them. As Nepal is a developing country, literacy status of the country is not very satisfactory in general. Same case is seen in this VDC too. As stated in district profile of Kanchanpur that was based on CBS, 2001 basis for literacy status was found following three of the table 4. The number of people who can read and write is almost equal. Though the literacy status of males is a bit considerable, condition of females is really disappointing.

Table 4: Population by literacy status in Tribhuwan Basti VDC

Status	Male	Female	Total	Percentage
Can read and write	3205	1953	5158	50.07
Can read only	467	484	952	9.24
Can't read and write	1390	2801	4191	40.68
total	2,062	5,238	10,300	100

(Source: CBS, 2001)

This table exposes that the number of people who can read and write is the most (50.07%). 40.68% people can't read and write whereas only 9.24% can read only. This table represents the poor academic status of Nepalese people.

4.6 Academic Status

The number of people who can't read and write clearly proves that academic activities in this VDC are not going on smoothly and qualitatively. Though the number of both government schools, private school and +2 is satisfactory, infrastructural status and both circular and extra circular activities in these schools are not very optimistic. Janata Multiple Campus is the only bachelor level campus of this belt. Punarvas Janata Higher Secondary School is the only school that is running the class for deaf children.

Table 5: Number of Academic organization in Tribhuwan Basti VDC

Academic Organization	Number
Bachelor level campus	1
+2	3
Secondary School	5
Lower Secondary School	4
Primary School	2
Total	15

(Source: Field Survey, 2010)

This table clearly shows that there is one bachelor level campus in the VDC. Available faculties in this campus are Humanities, Management and Education. Similarly, number of +2 in the VDC is 3. All these +2 have three faculties: Humanities, Management and Education. There are five secondary level schools including three private schools here. Some of these schools are planning to run +2 programs in the future. 4 lower secondary level schools are also seen running their classes successfully. But number of only primary school is low as above mentioned all secondary and lower secondary schools are running primary level

class also. The number in these schools is satisfactory and all of them are running their respective programs smoothly. This fact presents considerably better academic status of the VDC.

Along with education sector, other developmental infrastructures like transportation, electricity, health, communication, drinking water, and irrigation are also in developing phase in this VDC. In the name of health service, this VDC has only one health post and few private clinics. Therefore, for major cases, people have to depend on either hospitals of India or other hospitals of urban areas such as Dhangadhi and Nepalgunj.

This VDC doesn't have black topped road but most of the roads have been graveled and seasonal bus services are also available. Private pump sets are the only means to irrigate the field in this VDC. No attempts have been made yet from governmental side for irrigation in this belt. Drinking water project is under construction. Water tank has already been constructed and main line of drinking water pipe has also been set. Very soon, drinking water is going to be distributed to individual houses.

Electricity and communication are the development infrastructures that the whole population of this VDC is fully enjoying. People are not only running small scale industries and handling mechanical works but also using different electronics items for the entertainment with the help of electricity. Similarly, both landline and mobile service are available in this VDC. People can be seen walking with different kinds of mobile set everywhere. PWDs are also fully utilizing these facilities though they are facing other social problems.

Both government and non government institutions have been established in this VDC. Government institution such as branch office of District Administration

Office, branch Health Post, branch office of Veterinary Service, Agriculture Sub-Center, Area Police Station and Office of Rural Settlement Company and Nepal Telecom are providing government services to general people of this belt.

Besides these government institutions, people of this VDC are also being benefited by some other organizations like NGOs, private bank and co-operatives. Along with these government and community institutions, different private hotels, groceries, repairing centers, stationeries, fancy shops, garages, studios, and many other retail shops are also seen in the different parts of the VDC. Sampled PWD's of this research paper are also receiving services from these places one way or another.

Chapter – V

Social and Cultural Condition of PWDs in Tribhuwan Basti VDC

The study area of this research work, Tribhuwan Basti VDC possesses the people from different social, cultural, religious, economic and political background as well as persons with disability with different status and problems. We can see physically disabled, blind, deaf, mentally retarded and multiple disabled people in the VDC.

5.1 Types of disability

Though the treatment with PWDs is more or less same, the types and nature of disability are found different. Problem of PWDs may be different according to their types of disability. In sampled area also, variation in disability was found. Most of them were found physically disabled and deaf possessed the second place. Among 30 sampled PWDS most of PWDs were found physical disabled and deaf possessed the second place.

Table 6: Types of sampled PWDs in Tribhuwan Basti VDC

Types of Disability	Total	Percentage
Physically disabled	19	63.33
Deaf	6	20
Blind	3	10
Mentally retarded	1	3.33
Multiple disabled	1	3.33
Total	30	100

Source: Field Survey, 2010

Table 6 clearly shows that the number of physically disabled is the highest covering 63.33%. Deaf has covered 20% standing in the second place followed by blind with 10%. The number of mentally retarded and multiple disabled is only one. But, out of 6 deaf, all were completely unable to speak and hear at all. Similarly, among 3 blind people, all of them were completely blind. Multiple retarded boy was neither able to walk, nor hear nor speak. Mentally retarded had

no problem in the physical part, he was slow in mental activities; but physically short had problem in his height, not in mental part.

5.2 Reason of Disability

Carelessness and lack of nutritious food during pregnancy period is the main cause of disabled child by birth. But accidents and disease cause disability only after birth. Therefore we need to be very careful both before and after the birth, if we want to save our children from disability. If the parents are not much conscious about danger during pregnancy period, the child may be at risk of disability. Most of the sampled PWDS were found having disability by birth. When asked more details about the birth, they revealed that their parents were not much aware about the measurement to be taken during pregnancy period. Disability takes place by birth or due to accidents or diseases. Most of the sampled PWDS were found to have disability by birth.

Table 7: Reason of Disability of sampled PWDS

Reason	Total	Percentage
By Birth	18	60
Accidents	9	30
Diseases	3	10
Total	30	100

Source: Field Survey, 2010

Though I do not know clearly about real medical reason of disability by birth, I found 60% of sampled PWDS having disability by birth. Given table says that 60% of sampled PWDS had disability by birth and accident was the reason of 30% respondents where as only 10% respondents had disability because of diseases. During pregnancy period, lots of things need to be cared. If not cared, the child may have disability. But for this, we need proper level of consciousness and financial and social support. This table indicates that parents of most of PWDS were not much conscious and due to lack of sufficient consciousness and poor economic condition of parents, they have been victim of disability by birth.

5.3 Sex Composition

Needless to state that every society consists of male and female; this sex ration is obviously seen in PWDs too. The population of this VDC has been dominated by females, but this is not the case in samples PWDs. Though the number of females is more than males in this VDC, male PWDs were found dominating female PWD during this research.

Table 8: Sex composition of sampled PWDs:

Sex	Total	Percentage
Male	24	80
Female	6	20
Total	30	100

Source: Field Survey, 2010

My sampling method was purposive sampling method and I have covered only 30 samples; and in my research, male PWDs were found dominating female PWDs. But, this finding may not be applicable in all cases of PWDs. Table 8 reveals that 80% of sampled PWDs were males with total number of 24 where as the total number of female was only 6 with 20%. In the survey, it was also found that comparatively condition of males was better than females. They had better educational and economic status than females. Even among PWDs, females were seen dominated more by males due to patriarchy. They were discouraged to go out of house and participate in the PWD-related program; such problem was not there in the case of males. Such biased nature of patriarchy has made females more helpless.

5.4 Caste Structure

Most of the people living in this VDC are from the hilly part of western, mid-western and far-western region. Similarly, Tharu community is the original inhabitant of this belt. Therefore, differences in the castes are common here. Since Kshetri group has occupied the largest portion of population, among the sampled PWDS also, Kshetri has the domination.

Table 9: Caste structure of sampled PWDs

Caste	Total	Percentage
Kshetri	10	33.33
Tamang	6	20
Brahmin	5	16.66
Dalit	3	10
Newar	3	10
Tharu	2	6.66
Gurung	1	3.33
Total	30	100

Source: Field Survey, 2010

Above given table states that 33.33% of sampled PWDs were from Kshetri group. After Kshetri, majority of sampled respondents were from Tamang community with 20%. Similarly, 16.66% respondents were found from Brahmin community and Dalit and Newar community covered 10% respectively. Among them, only 2 PWDs were found from Tharu community and 1 from Gurung community. Kshetri has occupied the largest volume even in the Population of Nepal, 2001; and its effect was clearly seen in sampled PWDs too.

Kshetri, Brahmin, Newar and Dalit PWDs were spotted celebrating their major festivals Dashain and Tihar with much enthusiasm. But their physical and mental difficulties were also creating problem to some extent. They needed the support of other normal people to move from one place to another. They were also seen playing “ping” and “Deusi”. Specially blind people were singing “Deusi song” with much interest. Similarly, Tamang and Gurung PWDs were seen giving much priority to Lhosar and Buddha Jayanti along with Dashain and Tihar. They had their own “Gurung Dress” also which they used in these festivals. Among 30 sampled PWDs, we had 6 Tamang and only one Gurung PWD with hearing problem. Physically disabled and blind Tamang PWDs were also seen taking part in these functions with the help of others. Deaf Gurung boy was also participating

in these festivals with much curiosity, but his disability was disturbing him. He was not able to properly communicate with normal people as they had no knowledge of sign language. Tharu people in their own community had their own festivals like Maghi and Holi limited in their own community. Our 2 sampled PWDs were seen being part of these festivals: but they were not fully able to enjoy there due to disability. Their presence was discouraged and they were frequently ridiculed.

5.5 Mother Tongue

Mother tongue is directly connected to caste. As the caste differs, we can see change in the mother-tongue too. Mother-tongue represents our culture and identity; so it has been one of the most dominant cultural factors. As diversity was seen in the caste, diversity was found in the mother tongue of sampled PWDs. Nepali was the mother tongue of most of the respondents.

Table 10: Mother tongue of sampled PWDs

Mother tongue	Total	Percentage
Nepali	18	60
Tamang	6	20
Newari	3	10
Tharu	2	6.66
Gurung	1	3.33
Total	30	100

Source: Field Survey, 2010

According to table 10, the highest portion of the sampled respondent spoke Nepali as their mother tongue covering 60% and mother tongue of 20% respondents was Tamang. Newari language was the mother tongue of 10% of sampled PWDs whereas 6.66% percentage of respondents had Tharu mother tongue. Brahmin, Kshetri and Dalit sampled physically disabled and blind persons had Nepali as their mother tongue. They had no special mother tongue like that of Tamang, Tharu, Newar and Gurung. Out of 6 sampled Tamang PWDs, only 3 physical-disabled persons were able to speak Tamang language properly but others had

very little knowledge. Similarly, Newar PWDs were also found not completely able to speak Newari language. But one sampled Tharu physically disabled girl had complete command over her language but another Tharu girl was deaf.

5.6 Religion

According to religion, culture and social traits are formed. Religion is said to be storehouse of cultural values. Like caste, religion also plays important role to form cultural values and beliefs .Though the main destination of all religion is same , way of practicing it is found different .Religion is an unavoidable part of society. Sampled PWDs of this research work were also found from different religious background. Hinduism was the religion followed by the highest portion of sampled PWDS.

Table 11: Religion of sampled PWDs

Religion	Total	Percentage
Hindu	23	26.66
Buddhist	5	16.66
Christian	2	6.66
Total	30	100

Source: Field Survey, 2010

As shown in Table 11 presents the fact that 26.66% of sampled respondents were following Hinduism; 16.66% of respondents were Buddhist and only 6.66% respondents were from Christian back ground. This table clearly proves the domination of Hindu people among sampled PWDs. Since, Nepal has the highest number of Hindus, this domination can be seen in sampled PWDS too.

As per caste and religion, different festivals are celebrated. Like in other parts, in the sampled area also, Hindu PWDs were seen enjoying festivals of Hindu like Dashain, Tihar, Teej, Krishna Astami etc. Mainly PWDs from Brahmin, Kshetri, Newar and Dalit community were found following Hinduism. Half of sampled Hindu PWDs were found matured and they had strong belief about Hindu god and

goddesses. But some of other PWDs were very young and some other had not much interest in the religious belief though they were the part of Hinduism.

Similarly, Tamang PWDs had majority among Buddhist people. They had their own cultural practices in name giving ceremony, marriage and death ritual. At the same time, they were found celebrating Lhosar and Buddha Jayanti with much respect for the Lord Buddha. But disability of sampled blind and physically disabled Tamang people was creating obstacles for them to fully enjoy these festivals. They were not properly able to dance and walk in the rally as well as perform rituals during the celebration. Christians had the smallest number among sampled PWDs. They had Christmas as their main festival. Our sampled PWDs were also part of these festivals. They also celebrated New Year eating many delicious foods like “Sel”, ‘Laddu’, and varieties of meat and different kinds of sweets. Christian sampled PWDs had also difficulties while participating these festivals. There PWDs and their families were seen praying the God Jesus a lot for the improvement of disabled member. From this table it is clear that like domination of Hindu in total population, domination of Hindu was also seen among sampled PWDs.

5.7 Age Composition

Age can be categorized into mainly 3 parts: 0-14, 15-59 and 60 above. Among these three, 15-59 age group is the most active and useful age group for the nation as they are both physically and mentally fit to do any work. Most of the people are found from this group; and this trend was seen in sampled PWDs too. Among 30 PWDs, PWDs from 20-40 age group were found most in the study area. As we can see people from different ages in every society, sampled PWDs of this work were also found from different age groups. Highest number of respondents was found from 15-59 age groups.

Table 12: Age composition of sampled PWDS

Age	Total	Percentage
0-14	4	13.33
15-59	25	83.33
60 above	1	3.33
Total	30	100

Source: Field Survey, 2010

As per Table 12, 83.33% of sampled PWDS were from “15-59” age group and age group of “0-14” had covered 13.33 % but only one respondent was from “60 above” age group. Among 4 PWDs under 14 years, one physically disabled child was 5 years old, another was 8 years and he was deaf. There was another deaf also and he was 14. Last one was mentally retarded with 14 years. In 15-59 age group, most of the sampled PWDs were blind and physically disabled. Half of them were below 25 years and another half had age between 25-50. Only one sample PWD from “60 above” category was a physically disabled male. Though the sampled PWDs from ‘15-59’ category, except mentally retarded, were weak physically, new vision and enthusiasm like enabling PWDs and PWD-friendly policies were also seen in them to some extent. Since “15-59” age group is economically active group, more disability from this group has directly affected the economy of the country.

5.8: Family Size

We all live in a family and family makes whole society. Family needs us for proper upbringing. PWDs also need family and their support. If they get support from their family first, then only they can have friendly treatment. Size of family directly affects the personality development of every individual. PWDs are also directly influenced by this size. Extended family has usually problem due to the size. Family is one of the basic needs of individual; but the size may be different. Most of the respondents were found living in 5-7 family size.

Table 13: Family size of sampled PWDs

Family size	Total	Percentage
Below 4	6	20
Between 4 and 8	19	63.33
Above 8	5	16.66
Total	30	100

Source: Field survey, 2010

This table shows that the largest portion (63.33%) of sampled PWDs were living in the family size of between 4 and 8, 20% respondents had less than 4 members in the Family and 16.66% PWDS were living with more than 8 members in the family. The family with number of less than four looked happy and PWD of this family was also seen not facing much family problem like financial and lack of support. Similarly, family with number of above 5 had a bit more problems. Their all members were not economically active; only father was the main person to earn. Besides, PWD from this family was found satisfactory help in daily work due to high number of members, but there was financial problem to fully support this PWD. But family having more than 8 had both familial and financial problems. The land with them was not sufficient to feed the members in most of the cases. Among 5 families, 2 had other persons also except father to earn; comparatively, their status was slightly better. But, some members in other 2 families were not much supportive for PWD.

5.9: Income Source

Income source is the principal base of our living. The more we have income, the better our lives are. Good income source always keeps us very happy. PWDs and their family should have sound income source also to minimize the problems of PWDs. Every family needs source of income to live a happy life. The family of sampled PWDs had also different source of income. Among them, agriculture was found as main source of income of the largest part of sampled PWDs.

Table 14: Income source of family of sampled PWDs

Income	Total	Percentage
Agriculture	20	66.66
Business	3	10
Services	3	10
Vocational work	2	6.66
Manual – work	2	6.66
Total	30	100

Source: Field Survey, 2010

Above presented table reveals that most (66.66%) of respondents' family were earning their lives with the help of agriculture. Only 10% family had business and services respectively as the source of income. This datum shows the total dependence of Nepalese people on agriculture; and families of PWDs have also no option than to live with the support of agriculture.

Among families who were dependent on agricultural, most had not large area of land. They had only “around 10 Katthas” in average. Small family was able to somehow feed its members, but for big family, that mass of land was not enough. The income received from agriculture was not sufficient for most of them. They had to depend on rainfall and others' oxen for farming. Similarly, families engaged in business had very minor business like small grocery and simple hotel. Family with services had also not very satisfactory condition. For some of them, India was the source of income whereas other were involved in co-operatives and teaching. Families survived on self-skill had been living with the help of sewing, cycle-repairing and carpenting job. Families dependent on manual works had seasonal manual works like daily wage work in brick factories and carrying loads

5:10: Earning of Family

Most of the people of Nepal are poor. Same is the condition of sampled PWDs' family. Very few respondents' family had earning of more than 6000 per month. Most of families dependent on manual work, and self skill and few families with

agriculture background had less than Rs. 3,000. Considerable families surviving on agriculture, services and business were able to earn more than Rs 3,000 every month. Few families with strong agricultural status and regular business work had income of more than RS. 6,000. Though this family had satisfactory financial status, but PWD in this family was not receiving sufficient support from normal people.

Table15: Earning of family of sampled PWDs.

Earning (Per Month)	Total	Percentage
Less than Rs. 3000.00	7	23.33
Between Rs. 3000.00 and Rs 6000.00	18	60
More than Rs. 6000.00	5	16.66
Total	30	100

Source: Field Survey, 2010

Table 15 clearly shows that 60% of sampled PWDs' family had earning of between Rs. 3000.00 and Rs. 6000.00 per month. More than that, 23.33% family of respondents was earning even less than Rs.3000.00 per month. Only 16.66% of respondents' family had good earning with more than Rs.6000.00 per month. It easily proves the weak financial status of family of PWDs in Nepal. Some of the respondents' economic condition was clearly seen by their living style. They were found in the dire shortage of good food, warm clothes and house. They had so miserable condition that they couldn't stop themselves from sobbing while explaining about their poor condition to the researcher.

5.11: Marital Status

It's a universal fact that marriage is one of the most important events of life. Since marriage is an unavoidable part of life, most of the people must go through this. But for most PWDs, marriage has been a big unbreakable stone due to disability. Among sampled PWDs, some of marriage-age PWDs had problem to marry. This problem was seen more among females because of their sex. Some of the sampled PWDs were also found being bound by this social need in the study area.

Table 16: Marital status of sampled PWDs

Marital Status	Total	Percentage
Unmarried	16	53.32
Married	12	40
Divorced	2	6.66
Total	30	100

Source: Field Survey, 2010

Above mentioned table states that 53.32 respondents were unmarried , but 40% respondents were living with married status.. But due to disability, 2 sampled PWDs were divorced by their spouse.

4 PWDs by birth had late marriage only after the age of 30. Similarly 2 deaf were found divorced. These deaf had devorce because of their disability. Among married PWDs, one visually impaired person was found married with physically disabled woman. Similarly, 8 PWDs were single even if they had marriage-age. Half of them did not show much interest in marriage but others were not able to marry due to their disability. Such problem for marriage and divorce clearly prove that marriage is not an easy event to go through for PWDs.

5.12: Educational Status

Education is that factor that enlightens the lives of the people, so it's very important for us. Obviously PWDs also need this light. But in the study area, the educational status of the sampled PWDs was detected very poor.

Table 17: Educational status of sampled PWDs

Educational Status	Total	Percentage
Illiterate	5	16.66
Literate	25	83.33
Primary level	14	46.66
Lower secondary level	5	16.66
SLC	4	13.33
Intermediate	2	6.66
Total	30	100

Source: Field Survey, 2010

Table 17 shows literate (83.33%) PWDs dominating illiterate PWDs, but their access to higher level is very low. It says that most (46.66%) of the respondents have passed primary level. Only 4 i.e. 13.33% PWDs have passed SLC and 2 PWDs are able to complete intermediate level. At the present time, SLC level has been the basic qualification level. But this level is also a big thing for PWDs. 16.66% of respondents were found illiterate. This educational status is a clear example of poor access of PWDs to education. This also proves that to what extent PWDs are lagging behind in the sector of education.

Most of sampled PWDs were unable to pass even SLC due to their disability, lack of support and poverty. PWDs who were able to pass and +2 were physically disabled. But condition of deaf and blind was more disappointing. 3 deaf were found receiving education from “Special Education” program provided by the government but other 2 could not continue the study because of lack of study materials and family problems; but one deaf was not able to have any sort of formal education.

Comparatively, educational status of physically disabled was found more satisfactory than deaf and visually impaired though they couldn't continue their higher study. They revealed that most of them were not able to continue the study due to their poverty and lack of supportive treatment. They had no one to take them to school and help in other time of study. They further added that they could not see PWD-friendly infrastructure in the school. It was difficult for them to get adjusted on the benches and desks made for normal students. Besides, treatment of teachers and friends was also very disappointing; they did not give much attention to PWD and considered them as disturbance. They felt humiliated. Due to such scenario, they decided to drop the class. And among illiterate PWDs, one was mentally retarded and another one had multiple disabilities.

5.13: Support from GOs and NGOs

It is the responsibility of the government to provide the support for needy people like PWDs. NGOs are also seen providing such support to different marginal groups. Government is providing “certain amount of money” for PWDs according to their class and NGOs and INGOs are also seen providing different financial support and training; but most of PWDs are not aware of these facilities in the rural and remote belt of Nepal. In the sampled area also, only conscious and educated PWDs were found receiving such supports. But the support for all PWDs is very rare.

Table 18: Support from GOs and NGOs for sampled PWDs

Support	Total	Percentage
Frequently	3	10
Rarely	9	30
Never	13	43.33
No idea about support	5	16.66
Total	30	100

Source: Field Survey, 2010

Table 18 reveals the fact that 43.33% of respondents have never got any support from GOs and NGOs. Very few (10%) PWDs were seen having such support. 16.66% respondents had no idea about the support at all. It also shows that 10% sampled PWDs were having support frequently and 30% respondents were receiving such support rarely.

VDC office has been distributing government support for PWDs in the sampled area; but for this, they need “Disability Identity Card”. This card is provided only in headquarter; but it is nearly 90 km far from the study area. This survey found that some sampled PWDs were not able to approach the headquarter and did not know the office process due to lack of sufficient consciousness. So only few of them were receiving this card where as other PWDs were preparing to have this support. Except that, they had no government support.

Nepal National Social Welfare Association (NNSWA) was seen supporting PWDs in study area providing different scholarship, training and health support. No other NGOs were found working for PWDs in the VDC. But these supports were grabbed by very few clever and socially and politically strong PWDs. Some of sampled PWDs had very rare support where as large portion of them were living without any NGO support. This fact presents the level of ignorance of both government and non-government sector towards PWDs. PWDs are always in the need of support; but they are in compulsion to live a painful life without having even smell of any sort of support.

5.14: Involvement in Political Activities

Political consciousness makes us more aware about the nation and own rights. PWDs also need political consciousness; but for this, they should have access to political activities. As most of PWDs are not empowered due to negative attitudes towards them; they have no access to politics too. In the study area, political activities of Nepali Congress, CPN-UML and UCPN-Maoist are seen. But few of them were seen interested in such activities. The involvement of sampled PWDs in political activities was found very deteriorating in the study area.

Table 19: Involvement of sampled PWDs in political activities

Involvement	Total	Percentage
Yes	7	23.33
No	12	40
Not interested	11	36.66
Total	30	100

Source: Field Survey, 2010

Above presented table shows the highest (40%) portion of sampled PWDs not taking part in political activities. Only 21.33% respondents were seen being involved in such activities; but 36.66% of respondents had no idea about political activities. In the study area, some PWDs were very young to get involved in any

sort of activities. Still, the participation of other PWDs was found very pessimistic. Such fact loudly says that PWDs are very backward politically. At first, they are not conscious due to poverty; on the other hand, even if they are conscious, their access is discouraged. In such situation, it is not possible for PWDs to fight for their rights.

Most of them were seen not having sufficient political consciousness for such activities. Even if they had, their disability was obstructing them to get involved in such programs. There was no one to help them in such work in the family. At the same time, some PWDs were seen not having any attention from political parties as they thought PWDs had no capacity to strengthen their political career. Similarly, politically conscious PWDs were seen frustrated with political scenario and politician due to ignorance of those politicians. Some sampled PWDs also requested politicians a lot to help PWDs, but they only promised but never showed in practice.

5.15: Participation in Social Functions

Once we live in the society, we participate in different social functions one way or another. Since PWDs live in the society, they also need to participate in such functions. But participation of sampled PWDs in the social functions of study area was seen very discouraging one.

Table 20: Participation of sampled PWDs in social functions

Participation	Total	Percentage
Always	6	20
Sometimes	13	43.33
Never	11	36.66
Total	30	100

Source: Field Survey, 2010

Table 20 clearly presents the detail that only 20% of sampled PWDs always attend social functions where as the most (43.33%) respondents sometimes and 36.66%

respondents never participate in such social gatherings. Social functions have access of only those who are socially strong.

Marriage Party, Pooja and different meetings in school, co- operatives and VDC office are organized in the sampled VDC also. Socially, economically and politically established people were seen regularly invited in such functions. But, some of the sampled PWDs were found neglected. Even if they were invited, they were not able to participate without others' help and some of them felt hesitated to appear in such functions as normal people had the habit of staring at them. Some of them also revealed that there were some normal people who thought the presence of PWDs would spoil the charm of the function. This detail directly shows the weak status of PWDs in the society.

From the above mentioned data, we can be sure that sampled PWDs in the study area are from different cultural, religious, economic and education backgrounds; but their access in several sectors and support for them are very pessimistic. Therefore, it is clear that all PWDs of Nepalese society have very disappointing social and cultural condition in their own society.

Chapter-VI

General Views on PWDs and Their Problems

6.1 General Views of Normal People on PWDs in Tribhuwan Basti

Like normal people, PWDs have also right to live a respectable life. But majority of normal people and government mechanism do not seem to be positive for them. Though comparatively, the perspective of general people and state towards PWDs has changed nowadays; still PWDs are not able to live a barrier-free life. Similar kind of situation was seen in the study area of this research work too. Sampled PWDs were found having different impression and views from their parents, neighbors, teachers, friends, government mechanism and so forth.

6.1.1 Parents' View on Sampled PWDs as Burden

Parents are the most supportive hand for every child. Kind parents never view disabled child as burden. In the study area, mixed responses were collected from sampled PWDs about the issue of burden.

When asked about burden, most of the sampled PWDs (63.33%) were found lucky as they were highly supported by their parents. Their parents were also seen trying their best to support their differently-able child though they were trapped by many other problems. Parents of 3 young PWDs, two deaf and one physically disabled, were regularly sending their children to school and helping in daily works. Similarly, some adults PWDs were also having helping hands of their parents in their small business.

But considerable number of sampled PWDs (26.66%) remained silent when asked about issue of "Burden". They looked satisfied but their daily activities and facial expression were indirectly showing their painful life. They were rarely helped in daily works and given proper attention while bathing, washing and cooking. Such problems were seen more in daily activities of physically-disabled.

Few of sampled PWDs (10%) were seen completely neglected by their parents and other family members. Among 3, one of them, a visually impaired person, was seen frequently scolded and insulted by family members. Same was the case with other 2 PWDs. They were frequently cursed and avoided. They were not provided their basic needs and they did not get any opportunity to attend school. As a result, they were very dull and lacked confidence. This shows that without support of parents and family, PWDs can do nothing.

6.1.2 Neighbors' and Relatives' Treatment with Sampled PWDs.

Like parents', the supports from neighbors and relatives are also very essential for PWDs for overall development of the personality. If the neighbors and relatives are favorable, PWDs can advance even if they lack the support of their own family. Sampled PWDs were found living with different kinds of treatment from neighbors and relatives.

Table 21: Variation in the treatment of neighbors and relatives of sampled PWDs.

Treatment	Total	Percentage
Supportive	14	46.66
Satisfactory	8	26.66
Indifferent	4	13.33
Do not want to say	4	13.33
Total	30	100

Source: Field Survey, 2010

Nearly half of respondents (46.66%) were found receiving favorable treatment from their neighbors and relatives. They were frequently encouraged and helped in daily works and difficult situations. They were frequently provided money and many other goods like cycle, utensils etc. But 26.66% PWDs were not much lucky. They were both cared and loved by their dear and near, but not always.

Only in certain cases like accident and religious ceremonies, they would visit and help these PWDs. Therefore, they were positive but not completely caring.

On the other hand, 13.33% PWDs did not want to talk about this treatment. They just tried to ignore by talking about other issues. Their facial expression and body movement were indicating that their neighbors and relatives were not much supportive for them. But remaining 13.33% PWDs frankly revealed the truth that their neighbors and relatives were completely indifferent to them. They added that they never got any support from these nears and dears. They had to do every thing on their own at any cost. The researcher also never saw their relatives helping those PWDs.

6.1.3 Intimacy with Friends

Without friends, it's difficult to live a happy life. PWDs too need friends for playing & sharing. During research work, treatment of friends with sampled PWDs was found different. Most of them had comparatively less friends in comparison to normal people. But friendship for some PWDs is seen as a rare relationship as they are viewed negatively.

Table 22: Intimacy with friends of sampled PWDs

Intimacy	Total	Percentage
All friends talk and help	8	26.66
Some friends talk and help	14	46.66
Few friends talk and help	6	20
No friends	2	6.66
Total	30	100

Source: Field Survey, 2010

Among 22 sampled PWDs, (26.66%) of them had very good relationship with their friends. Their all friends were found very positive towards them, so they all helped and talked with them all the time. They had very good sharing and

exchange of help. These friends gave many examples to encourage them. 46.66% PWDs had friends, but all were not very intimate. Only some friends were found very close to them. Other friends had just “Hi” and “Hello”. Those friends who were not very near were found having negative attitudes towards PWDs to some extent. They did not go to these PWDs’ home nor talked to their parents properly. Anyway, these PWDs looked happy with those “some friends”.

But there was another group of sampled PWDS, covering 20%, who had more miserable condition as they had few friends for sharing of feeling and help. Most of their friends did not want to develop the intimacy due to disability. They would feel difficult to talk and walk with them. More than that 6.66% of sampled respondents were having no friends. They were not able to express and understand feelings as they were mentally retarded and multiple disabled. They had their own friendless small world. Such variation of intimacy helps us to know the real status of PWDs.

6.1.4 Behavior of Teachers and other Staffs

If the PWDs are going to school, the behavior of teacher and other staffs should be exemplary for the better academic performance of PWDs. Maintaining the balance between PWDs and normal children in the school and classroom is a kind of challenge for every teacher. The teacher must equally focus on disabled child along with normal student. But biased behavior of some teachers has been generating the negative views on PWDs in the society.

In the study area, the behavior of teacher and other staffs was seen different in cases of sampled PWDs. 30% of them said they received positive behavior from teachers and staffs. They were very supportive for PWDs. All the time they encouraged these PWDs to work hard and take part in different extra curricular activities. 43.33% of the sampled PWDs revealed that treatment of their teacher and staffs was satisfactory. The teacher and staffs never harmed them directly, but

they were not quite supportive and friendly. They just taught and treated with these PWDs in OK manner, but did not show much attachment unlike in other normal students.

But 10% respondents sadly revealed that they faced ignorant behavior from these people. They only listened to normal students and helped also, but PWDs like them were completely avoided as those people regarded PWDs as a kind of obstacle in the classroom and school. They frequently used bad words for them and ignored in the class. Other staffs also indirectly ridiculed and frequently discouraged them. Remaining PWDs were illiterate so they had not any experience about behavior of teachers and staffs.

6.1.5 Approach of Politicians and Social Workers.

Politicians and social workers also play an important role to spread the positive views on PWDs; but their speech only does not work, they must be practical. Their frequent approach to PWDs can be a supportive factor for PWDs. Sampled PWDs were detected not frequently approached by these people.

When asked about approach of politicians and social workers to sampled PWDs, 13.33% revealed that they were “frequently” approached by those people. Comparatively these PWDs were seen having a bit more satisfactory status in the society. They were the active member of different parties. Through these PWDs, politicians and social workers tried to strengthen their social network to some extent. Such approach was more frequent during election period and social function. But 63.33% of sampled PWDs were found “rarely” approached by these people. This group of PWDs was not much politically and socially active group. They visited this group only when they had to collect certain individual information and needed help. Other time, they did not much attention to them.

Similarly, 23.33% were never approached by those politicians and social workers. They visited only other normal socially established people and few PWDs. Therefore they had no trust upon any kind of politicians and social workers. This activity clearly proves the lack of positive views in politicians and social workers towards PWDs.

6.1.6 Treatment of Shopkeepers and Bus-staffs

Shopkeeper and bus-staffs are also part of society; so they can also play certain role to generate positive views on PWDs. If they properly serve PWDs, other people can also treat them friendly. But all shopkeeper and bus staffs are not found having positive concept about disability. As they are responsible persons of the society, so they need to have positive views on PWDs. But all shopkeepers and bus-staffs are not having positive concept about disability. Sampled area was also not untouched from this problem.

Table23: Treatment of shopkeepers and bus staffs with sampled PWDs.

Treatment	Total	Percentage
Friendly	7	23.33
Tolerable	20	66.66
Humiliating	3	10
Total	30	100

Source: Field Survey

Among 23 PWDs, 23.33% were found facing “friendly” treatment from shopkeepers and bus staffs. They revealed that those shopkeepers and bus staffs talked to them and behaved nicely. They completely understood PWDs’ feeling and problems. Bus-staffs also managed seat for them and also provided discount in the ticket. But highest portion i.e.66.66% of them had just tolerable treatment. The shopkeepers and bus staffs spoke to them normally but were not much careful about problems of PWDs. These PWDs revealed that they had not concept that

PWDs should be encouraged and empowered. They just accomplished their duty but were not conscious about rights of PWDs .

Other 10% sampled PWDs had very “humiliating” treatment from those people. They stated that those people did not respond properly in their places. Those people were seen trying to avoid them. Shopkeeper teased them while visiting them and bus staffs did not stop the bus for PWDs. This shows the comparatively better views on PWDs, but it seems that PWDs have to wait a bit more for completely friendly shopkeepers and bus staffs.

6.1.7 Attention of GOs’ and NGOs’ Staffs

Many government and non- government organizations are working in the sector of disability; so their views on PWDs need to be positive. If staffs of GO sans NGOs pay much attention to PWDs, GOs and NGOs where they work can also support them to some extent. If they pay sufficient attention to them, other normal people can follow their path. But this is not the case. Many such employees are seen ignoring PWDs. Sampled PWDs were also victim of such problem.

Table24: Degree of Attention of GOs’ and NGOs’ Staffs on Sampled PWDs.

Attention	Total	Percentage
Remarkable	5	16.66
Avoidable	16	53.33
No attention	9	30

Source: Field Survey, 2010

Among 24 respondents, 16.66% of them were seen having “remarkable” attention from these people. They frequently met these PWDs to ask about problems and inform about different programs and support. They also encouraged these PWDs to tell their problems to their senior officers so that they could get the support from the office. But 53.33% of them saw “avoidable” attention from these people. These staffs rarely approached them, only after the office sent them to these

PWDs. In other time also, they just normally talked to PWDs, but did not heartily help and share the ideas.

30% respondents were very unlucky because they never got any attention from these staffs. These PWDs frequently saw these staffs, but they could never attract their attention. They always walked by the house of these PWDs but did not pay any attention. This is a representative example of disappointed views of both government and non-government sector on PWDs.

6.1.8 Disabled-friendly Physical Structure.

Easy access and proper interaction of PWDs in public organizations, banks and other working place also shows the positive altitudes of state and normal people towards PWDs. But such comfort is very rare for most PWDs.

70% PWDs were found having problems due to lack of friendly structure. There was no access for PWDs with wheel chair and Tri- cycle as there were stairs to reach the serving zone of all public organizations. Bathrooms of all public organizations were also not in access of such PWDs. Similarly, these places were useless for deaf because there was not any notice in sign language and no person to help deaf with sign language. Physically short persons were also not able to interact properly in these places due too high table for them. 1 sampled physically short boy said that he has problem while sitting on the benches as he is too short for them. Blind had also problem to receive the service as there was not any facility of brail-service. Both literate and illiterate blind people needed support while having service from these places. Most of organizations were found only focusing normal people.

But 30% educated physically-disabled people who were able to walk with the help of crutch said that they had not much problem in such public places. Lack of such friendly infrastructure easily proves the negative view of people on PWDs. This

states the fact that normal people and government only think about normal people; PWDs are nothing for them.

6.1.9 Views on Reasons of Disability

If the people have traditional belief about disability, they view it negatively. But positive people try to associate it biological factor. Superstitious people highly associate it with lots of unscientific ideas like mistake of previous birth. Generally, disability occurs by birth or because of accidents and diseases. All of these are biological factors; but we can also see the people in the society who associate disability with previous birth and religion. Such cases were seen in the sampled area too to some extent.

Table 25: Views on Reasons of Disability of Sampled PWDs

Views	Total	Percentage
Diseases	12	40
Accidents	7	23.33
Biological	6	20
Mistake of previous Birth	3	10
Do not know	2	6.66
Total	30	100

Source: Field Survey, 2010

Among sampled PWDs, 40% of respondents were told that “disease” was the reason of their disability. These people were seen comparatively positive as they had no belief in unscientific reason of disability. Physically-disabled by birth were told about this reason more. They guessed that carelessness and lack of nutritious food could be the reason of their disability.

Similarly, 23.33% PWDs were told about “accident” as reason of their disability. These PWDs explored that the people who told about this reason had no idea about real cause of disability. Still, their association of disability with accident proved that they believed in scientific facts and they were positive towards PWDs.

Likewise, 20% PWDs were said that biological factor was the reason of their disability. These people believed in biological disorder; so gave this answer. This answer also openly shows their belief in scientific truth.

But 10% PWDs were badly told that their disability was caused by mistake of previous birth. They had no modern concept as they were old and illiterate. They directly associated disability with such baseless fact. Besides, 2 PWDs with mental retardation and multiple disabilities could not respond to this issue. These details show that mentality is developing; but still, there are loopholes.

6.1.10 Inclusion of PWDs in Constituent Assembly

Though the time for PWDs in the past time was much harder; at the present time, the condition of PWDs has improved a lot. For example three PWDs have been able to be part of Constituent Assembly after the continuous demand of inclusion of PWDs in Constituent Assembly.

When asked about this inclusion, guardians of 20 comparatively young sampled PWDs responded differently. Among them, most (70.66%) said that it was a “positive concept”. They also believed that this could be an historical event in history of disability in Nepal. They were seen doing their best to support their children on the other hand. 16.66% guardian opined that this move was “not necessary now”. They thought that pressure from the road was enough for right if given seriously. At the same time 10% guardians said “normal people could also work for PWDs”. They argued that normal members of legislature parliament could be requested to work in the sector of disability, but they should be made familiar with disability issues completely. They are our representatives, and it is their duty to work for PWDs along with normal people, they added. Majority of positive concept shows the optimistic rays in the lives of PWDs.

Above mentioned data and detail is the evidence to prove that in comparison to past time, general views of normal people have been a bit more positive; but still, Nepalese society is not free from such negative conception which are directly hampering the all-round promotion of PWDs.

6.2 Different Problems faced by PWDs of Tribhuwan Basti VDC

Life is full of problems; PWDs also cannot avoid them. But compared to lives of normal people, lives of PWDs are harder due to physical and mental difficulties and negative attitudes of people and states towards them. Sampled PWDs of study area were also found living the lives fighting difficult problems.

6.2.1 Problems in Daily Minor Activities.

If we can do our daily works easily, we can pass our life easily to far extent. We have many social and economic problems. But in addition, if we have problem in daily activities, our life becomes almost joyless. Such problems waste our time and decrease our level of confidence. Same is the condition of PWDs. Due to the problems in the physical organs and lack of mental development, sampled PWDs were found having problems in daily minor activities.

Table 26: Problems of sampled PWDs in minor daily activities

Problem	Total	Percentage
Always	9	30
Usually	13	43.33
Occasionally	8	26.66
Total	30	100

Source: Field Survey, 2010

Among 26 sampled PWDs, 30% were found “always” facing problems in minor daily activities. Multi-disabled, mentally retarded and severe physically disabled people had problems while brushing, wearing clothes and eating. They always needed others’ helps for these minor works.

Similarly, 43.33% respondents had “usually” such problems. As these PWDs had slightly more developed physical condition; most of the time, they were seen trying to do their works themselves. But when they were tired and when it was dark, they needed the assistance. With the same token 26.66% PWDs were found

fighting such problems “occasionally”. PWDs of this category were physically and mentally stronger. Mainly deaf and normal physical-disabled had these problems. But none of them were seen without any problems. This clearly shows the depths of problems faced by are PWDs.

6.2.2. Need of Assistant in Cooking, Washing and Bathing.

Every one must cook, wash and bath in different phases of life; so these are basic works that we must go through. Method only does not help us to do these works; we need physical and mental ability too to accomplish these minor jobs. Cooking, washing and bathing are very normal things for normal people. But for some PWDs, these works are like climbing the mountains. Problems in cooking, bathing and washing are always hampering the daily lives of most PWDs. PWDs with serious problems were seen facing these problems in the study area.

Table 27: Description of problems of sampled PWDs in cooking, washing and bathing

Description	Total	Percentage
Needs assistant	21	70
Does not need assistant	9	30
Total	30	100

Source: Field Survey, 2010

In the survey, it was known that 70% of sampled PWDs had problems in cooking, bathing and washing and they needed assistant. Most of visually-impaired and physically-disabled with sever problems fell into this category. While cooking, they needed assistant to cut down vegetables into pieces and to prepare spices. While bathing they needed assistant to fetch water; and they could not rub the clothes without assistant while washing them. On the other hand, only 30% did not need assistant for these works. They were comparatively and mentally more sound. Deaf and normal physically-disabled were found able to accomplish these works easily. But none of them were capable as normal people to do these works.

This problem is evidence of huge gap between the life of normal people and life of PWDs.

6.2.3 Problem in Traveling

Traveling helps us to go from one place to another easily. But this work is not easy for PWDs. Riding cycle and motorcycle and driving motor are extremely difficult work for PWDs due to their disability. In the study area also, sampled PWDs were seen facing while traveling.

Among 30 respondents 66.66% revealed that they had problem during their travel. Visually impaired, mentally retarded, multiple-disabled and severely physically-disabled people fell into this group. While getting on bus, physically-disabled said, they needed the support and could not stand in the crowd inside the bus. Similarly, visually-impaired people revealed that they had problem of location of vehicles. They could not find out where the vehicle was without help of others. They had problem to find out the destination and work there. As they reached the destination, they had to be helped by someone who knew that place. Mentally retarded and multiple disabled were seen being unable to find out the right bus and to get inside and come out of it in the destination. So, traveling alone for them was almost impossible.

Only 33.33% respondents were found properly able to travel alone. Deaf and minor physically-disabled were the respondents in this group. As they had not much problem in physical and mental part, they possessed the capacity to travel alone. But traveling in a long route was problem for them also. Therefore, we can say that traveling makes our lives easier, but same easy-making thing is difficult for PWDs due to their lack of ability to use them.

6.2.4. Aid used by PWDs

Due to physical and mental difficulties, PWDs are compelled to use different aids. These aids make PWDs easy to move, interact and do daily activities. Hearing aid, wheelchair, white cane are some examples of aids used by PWDs with different nature of disability. In the study area also, sampled some of PWDs were seen using these aid to accomplish their work more property and sooner.

Table 28: Aids used by PWDs .

Aid	Total	Percentage
Wheel chair	2	6.66
Tri-cycle	2	6.66
White cane	3	10
Crutch	6	20
Living without Aid	17	56.66
total	30	100

Source: Field Survey

Among them, 6.66% were using wheelchairs. They were physically disabled and their legs were very weak to move easily, but same wheelchair was useless if they had to cross a long distance and if the infrastructure and roads were not disabled-friendly. Similarly, Tri-cycle was used by 6.66%; it was also used by physically disabled as they had problems in their legs. But it was useful for them only if distance was short and roads were smooth. 20% of respondents i.e. 3 visually-impaired people were found using white cane for easy movement. It was used by them while walking, but for other daily works, this cane did not help them much.

Besides, 6 physically-disabled, 20% of total respondents, were using crutch to move easily. As their legs were partially weak, this crutch was useful for them. Half of them were able even to ride cycle with the help of the crutch. But none of them were able to ride two-wheeler motorcycle. Traveling in the other vehicles was not a big challenge for them.

But highest portion of respondents, (56.66%) was seen living without help of any aid. Disability of some PWDs was so serious that no aid helped to minimize their problems. Mainly deaf, mentally retarded and multiple-disabled persons' problems were out of reach of these aids. On the other hand, physically-disabled with minor problem were seen not using them. Without the support of these aids also, they were looking more comfortable in daily activities compared to other PWDs but for more difficult work they were helpless without support of others.. This table has shown that though aid is making lives of PWDs comfortable to some extent, it has not been able to help all types of PWDs. This table has shown that though aid is making lives of PWDs easy to some extent; it is not helping to minimize the problems of most of the PWDs.

6.2.5. Problem during Learning Period.

There are lots of things to learn in this world. But PWDs have problem even in learning. We must learn things to live lives easily and empower ourselves. Learning also needs barrier-free situation. Normal people can learn the things easily. But same easy job is extremely difficult for PWDs due to their disability and lack of learning materials. Because of their physical and mental weakness and lack of helpful sources, sampled PWDs were seen not being able to learn properly.

Table 29: Responses of sampled PWDs on learning problem

Response	Total	Percentage
Problem was seen	22	73.33
Problem was not seen	3	10
Did not go to school	5	16.66
Total	30	100

Source: Field Survey, 2010

When asked about learning problems to sampled PWDs, 73.33% said that they faced problems while learning in the school. Due to learning problems, most of PWDs were found not able to pass even S.L.C. They stated that they had difficulty

to walk school as their disability disturbed them and there was no one to take them to school. Mainly, physically-disabled faced such problems. Mean while they faced financial problem too. Even if they reached the school, the benches and classrooms were also not disabled-friendly. At the same time, the teachers also sometimes showed very insulting behavior. This compelled them to discontinue the class at last.

Similarly, visually impaired people had problems of learning materials and financial support. Special school for visually-impaired was not in the study area; so they were compelled to go to Dhangadhi. But there also, they faced shortage of learning materials like brail-book, paper and other necessary materials. At the same time, they went through problem of financial aid and family support. As a result, they had to quit their study. Deaf also had problem in learning in the study area. One school was found providing special education for deaf. But this school was not able to accommodate all deaf of this belt as it had limited seats. At the same time, this school had class up to five only. For higher class, they had no option than to quit. And they had not friendly environment for them too as other people did not believe in their education.

In contrast, 10% of respondents had not much problem during learning period. They normally attended the class and used the study materials too. Physical-disabled with normal problems were from this group. They were also lucky as they received friendly environment and behavior every time. But 16.66% never went to school. One visually impaired person, one deaf, one mentally retarded, one multiple-disabled and one physically disabled child did not go to school. Among five, mentally retarded and multiple-disabled were not able to attend class due to their mental weakness. Deaf and visually impaired were not sent to school due to lack of consciousness and poverty and physically-child was not able to have formal education as his parents were planning to send him to school in the near

future. This easily makes clear that receiving knowledge is a huge thing for PWDs.

6.2.6. Problem to Express Opinions and Feelings.

We all have certain opinion and feelings, and we express them time and again. Expressing opinions and feelings is a human nature. Everyone is free to express own opinions and feelings. But this human nature is rare for certain PWDs. In the study area, most of them were found completely able to express feeling but others had problems to accomplish this work.

Table 30: Description of problems of sampled PWDs to express opinions and feelings

Description	Total	Percentage
Not able at all	1	3.33
Partially able	7	23.33
Completely able	22	73.33
Total	30	1010

Source: Field Survey, 2010.

This table shows that 73.33% of sampled PWDs were “fully” able to express their opinions and feelings. Physically-disabled and visually-impaired persons were among this group. Through they had problem in the eyes and hands and legs, their verbal capacity was sound. Compared to physically-disabled, visually impaired were found smarter to select the words and to deliver their ideas.

But deaf and mentally retarded, 23.33% of sampled PWDs, were only “partially” able to express their ideas. Deaf who had attended class of special education were able to communicate more properly as they had knowledge of sign language than other deaf. Among 6 deaf, 5 were more able to interact with each other, but 1 deaf was poor in conversation as she had no formal education. Similarly, 1 mentally retarded person had also problem during conversation. He was already 42 years old, but his way of interaction was like that of a child due to slow mental

development. But 1 PWD was completely unable to share his feelings because he had multiple disabilities. He could neither speak nor respond sensibly; he had his own speechless world. This fact shows that fundamental right to speech is also like a dream for PWDs.

6.2.7 Problem in Economic Activities.

The money is very important element for life; so we need to get engaged in certain economic activities. The more we get engaged in economic activities, the more we can be economically sound. More economic activities also contribute for better economy of the country. PWDs can also make them independent being involved in such activities. But certain PWDs have to face bulk of problems to be part of such activities. Similar situation was found in the study area too.

During field survey, 16.66% respondents were seen “completely able” to get involved in money-generating activities. Physically-disabled with minor problems and deaf were seen engaged in hotel grocery, sewing and teaching. Their earning was also found satisfactory. But most (60%) of respondents were only “partially able” to earn money because of their disability. Though they heavily wished to start any work, but their disability created problems for them. Some visually-impaired and physically-disabled with a bit more severe problem were seen partially involved in different activities like weaving, chalk making and farming. But their earning was not sufficient for them. Therefore, their financial status was also very disappointing.

Remaining 6.66% sampled PWDs were “not able at all” to be part of any sort of economic activities. Mentally retarded and visually-impaired people without any formal education and training had not any capacity to support their family financially. Other 16.66% were found very young to get engaged in any sort of economic activities. They were living under the care of their parents. Majority’s

lack of ability to earn money resents the bitter fact that money-generating works are very rare for them.

6.2.8 Problem for Marriage

It is said that after marriage only, real family life beings. Marriage makes us more responsible and matured. Obviously it is one of unavoidable events of life, but most of PWDs are compelled to avoid it due to their disability. Most of the sampled PWDs in the study area viewed disability as a problem for marriage.

When asked sampled PWDs about whether disability was problem for marriage or not, 60% of them sadly said it was. Their facial expression was also indicating this. Most of respondents of this group were seen living a single life though they were already in marriage-age. This problem was more serious in the case of female PWDs. Generally, our society accepts daughter in-law without any fault, but disability of female makes them like useless item to some extent. Some of the respondents were married too. But few of them had late marriage. Unmarried PWDs were not seen much excited about marriage as they thought that the disability would create problem for marriage and after marriage too. They said that they had the doubt that they would be able to keep their life partner happy.

But 23.33% revealed that they did not regard disability as big problem for marriage because they had the thinking that they had at least one option to marry any PWD like them. Though the life would be difficult, they would be able to pass through this unavoidable event of life, they added. Some married PWDs were also found in this group and they looked satisfied in marital relationship though they had social and financial problems. Remaining 16.66% PWDs were under-marriage age. They could not give sensible answer in this issue. Such detail is enough to show that marriage is not an easy event for PWDs. This detail is enough to show that marriage is not an easy event in for PWDs.

6.2.9. Problem in Social Inclusion.

Once we live in society, we come into contact with many cultural factors like festivals, rituals and different social committees or organizations. Different social values, institutions and group control the society one way or another. As they are controlling body, everyone wants to include in those body. PWDs also possess such desires. But most of PWDs are not given any place in such bodies. Such scene was familiar in study area too. Social inclusion has been a rare case for large number of PWDs in Nepal. But such work is very difficult for PWDs. Similar scenario was seen in the study area too.

Table 31: Description of inclusion of sampled PWDs in different committees

Description	Total	Percentage
Included	6	20
Not included	19	63.33
Very young for inclusion	5	16.66
Total	30	100

This table reveals that 63.33% respondents were not included in any sort of inclusive committees such as market management committee club, womens' and farmers' committee, but the presence of PWDs in these sector is almost avoidable. Even if there was presence, that presence was not given much importance. Other members would make decision without consulting PWD member.

Only 20% of respondents were found included in local committees. Some of them were member of school management committee and some other were included consumers' committee. Normal people were seen often hesitant to associate PWDs in such committees. As earlier said; though they were included, they were not given much responsibility and their role was ignored. Only few i.e. 2 PWDs had strong presence in these committees. But 16.66% were very young to be part of any social group and organizations. They had no idea of such inclusion. This fact

clearly exposes the reality that concept of “inclusive society” has been initiated; but PWDs have to wait again to have the real taste of “inclusive society”.

Such status of PWDs reveals that normal people and state are indifferent about concept of inclusiveness.

6.2.10. Problem of Ill-treatment.

Misbehaving, teasing and abusing are some examples of ill-treatment. Ill-treatment always discourages the person and makes them feel humiliated. It makes us mentally weak first, then automatically physically also. It is obviously not positive factor, for any individual, but it has been a kind of permanent belonging for PWDs as they become victim of ill treatment one way or another.

When asked about ill-treatment, 76.66% revealed that they suffered from ill-treatment directly or indirectly. They said that most of old normal people cursed them and blamed the god for their birth. Some people also regarded their presence as an-evil sign. That’s why they were not very often invited in social gatherings. They added most of normal people still used traditional uncivilized words such as “langado”, “gojyangro”, “andho”, “baunnabir’ etc. Some of these people even scolded them as they were not able to walk and interact with these people. Most of normal people moved aside as they saw PWDs near them.

Only 10% PWDs were found living lives without any discriminatory treatment. They were frequently receiving both physical and financial support. They were frequently invited by their relatives, neighbors and many other institutions. Comparatively their social status was found more optimistic. But 13.33% PWDs were too young; so they were not able to say much about ill-treatment. When their parents were asked about it, they revealed that other people round them just showed sympathy, but hesitated to help seriously. Their treatment was not “so bad” because they were positive in words, but not fully in the deeds. This disappointing fact clearly proves that PWDs need to struggle more to be free from any sort of ill-

treatment if they have to grab respectable status in the society. This disappointing fact clearly proves that PWDs need to struggle more to be free from any sort of ill treatment if they have to grab the respectable status in the society.

All these problems of PWDs tacitly expose how difficult is the life for them. They do a lot to free themselves from such bondage, but they are not able to come out of it. Most of PWDs of Tribhuwan Basti are also living lives filled with discrimination and shortages.

6.3 Case Study

Case study helps the researcher to find out the complete detail of any one sampled individual through which the overall condition of the sampled people can be presented clearly. The information which was not acquired by questionnaire can be presented through this method. While conducting case study, only the case study that can represent the majority should be explored. Case study makes our research work more reliable too. In this research work also, case study of any two of sampled PWDs has been presented to expose the real status PWDs living in Tribhuwan Basti-VDC.

6.3.1 Case Study of Pradip Poudel

Born on 2054/5/14, Pradip Paudel is the oldest son of Mr. Liladhar Poudel and Mrs, Til Kumari Poudel. He was born in Tribhuwan Basti-1 where he is still living with his parents. He got disability by birth. He is a multiple disabled child who needs much care from others. He is both mentally and physically very passive. Physically he has got problem in his leg; so he is not able to walk properly. He can walk a short distance, but for long distance he needs help. Since he has problem in his leg and mental part, he is not able to use any sort of shoes. He just walks with bare feet. Similarly, he does not care about clothes also. He can not find out which the right way of wearing is and which is not. But he can feel hot and cold weather.

Similarly, his mental development is also pessimistic. He can do very few works on his own. His condition is so miserable that he should be fed daily by his parents at the age of 14 also. He rarely understands the instructions and responds the taste and temperature, but conversation with him is not possible. He can't speak at all. Going to school and learning things is impossible job for him. So, parents have to understand his feelings and problems with the help of his sound, gestures and physical activities. He can see very nicely, but can't respond sensibly. That's why; this colorful world and people are completely colorless for him. He eats only "daal" and "bhaat", and frequently drinks tea if given. He can drink tea holding the cup in the hand but is not able to eat anything himself. Similarly, he is so senseless boy that he urinates in open place without any hesitation. Sometimes he tries to attack small children. So they are always kept far from him. If he is angry, he cries continuously. In the similar way, if he is hungry, he goes to the kitchen straight and starts growling. He has also capacity to know the people and their voice, but can't respond nicely.

His family is surviving on the cycle-repairing skill of father. But earning is not sufficient for them. Along with cycle-work, he does different manual works if gets the time. His mother is a housewife, and she is the main person to take care of him. He has 12 years old younger brother studying in class of 6. He also sometimes takes care of his brother if parents have to go out for work. Along with parents, he is also worried about the situation of the elder brother but they are helpless. Since, his parents have very weak financial condition, they are not able to take him anywhere for his treatment. They made many attempts for the financial support, but they were ignored. Most of the people around him just show sympathy but do not show any interest to help him one way or another. After the government made the provision of "financial support" for PWDs according to their nature of disability, he has been receiving Rs.1000,00 per month from VDC

Office as his disability falls in 'A' category. Since this amount of money is not sufficient for his upbringing and parents are also not capable to earn more, he is compelled to live a tasteless life.

6.3.2 Case Study of Durgalal Moktan

Eldest son of Mr. Harkalal Tamang and permanent resident of Tribhuwan Basti-4, Kanchanpur, Mr. Durgalal Moktan is a completely visually impaired person. 50 years old Moktan is presently living with his wife and a son and fully dependent on agriculture. His wife also has got disability in her leg. So, they frequently face physical, social and financial problems. His white cane helps him to go to different places. But if he has to reach a bit far, he takes help of his wife. She sits on her Tri-cycle and he pushes it, and they move for destination. He keeps on participating different programs organized for PWDs. He has been actively working for PWDs, but his labor has not been respected as he and his PWD friends have not got sufficient long-term support.

He lost his eye sight after the three months of birth. He passed his childhood fighting with countless obstacles and ill-treatment because that time was full of superstition. Still, he is struggling to live in disabled-friendly environment. He says that comparatively the people are more aware about disability; many efforts are yet to be made to make a fully-friendly society for PWDs. He has been continuously leading the PWDs of this belt and pressurizing the government and non government sector with the help of other PWDs for the welfare of powerless people like him.

He has passed primary level; but due to his disability, poor financial status and lack of study-materials, he could not continue his study. Though he does not have formal academic degree; he possesses strong command over many social and political issues. In addition, he has singing and poem-writing talent. Still, he has

to go through discriminatory behavior. Though he is in dire need of support, he has not received any support except the “certain amount of money” provided by the government for PWDs. Such disappointing condition of Mr. Moktan represents the difficult lives of PWDs of Tribhuwan Basti-VDC.

He has also got the training of “chalk making” and “mudha making”. He is capable to do these works, but due to lack of sufficient support, he is not able to engage himself in these vocational works. He has been trying to form a new committee of blind people in his belt, as it is difficult to approach district committee due to long distance. So, he keeps on calling the gathering of PWDs; but presence is very found very upsetting as PWDs have problem for the movement. Due to the lack of support from normal people and GOs and NGOs; his such attempts and other skills are going in vein. Though he is doing best to uplift the social status of PWDs as well as his own, overall condition of PWDs of this belt is not very hopeful.

Chapter- VII

Summary, Conclusion and Recommendation

7.1. Summary

Present research work is an attempt to reveal the general social condition of PWDs living in Tribhuvan Basti VDC. PWDs in rural Nepal are socially, economically and politically discriminated. They have to live with countless problems. The same scenario can be seen in the sampled area also. That's why; to find out the social status and problems of PWDs and general views of normal people towards PWDs are the objectives of this study.

This research is based on both primary and secondary data. Only PWDs of Tribhuvan Basti have been included in the study using purposive sampling method. As primary source, responses of 30 sampled PWDs have been collected using interview, questionnaire, key informant interview methods and they have been supported by secondary sources received from VDC office, CBS, NED-N etc. These details have been presented and analyzed with the help of descriptive and exploratory research design.

In this research work, among 30 sampled PWDs most (60%) of them were found physically disabled and male (80%) dominating females. Disease was seen by birth of most sampled PWDs(60%) In the caste structure, PWDs from Kshetri group were found most with 33.33%, but Nepali was seen being used by the highest (60%) portion of sampled PWDs. Hinduism was practiced by the most (76.66%) of sampled PWDs. Similarly, 83.33% of respondents were found from 15-59 age groups and 63.33% of them had family with more than five members.

Further more, the survey found that 6.66% of respondents' family was dependent on agriculture and 60. % of them had monthly earning of below Rs. 6,000. Besides, 40% of sampled PWDs were found married, but educational status was

found very poor as only 6.66% of them were able to pass intermediate level. Similarly, their social and political status was also found very disappointing. 40% of them were not involved in any political activities and 43.33% had partial participation in social functions.

As the general views of normal people on PWDs were researched, the outcome was found very pessimistic. Though 63.33% of respondents said their parents didn't view them as burden, 26.66% of them didn't say anything about it. 46.66% of respondents had supportive treatment from neighbor and relatives, but 13.33% were seen having discouraging treatment. Similarly, 46.6% had only some friends to lay and share feelings and 43.33% had "not so bad" behavior from teachers. 50% of them saw tolerable treatment from shopkeepers and bus-staffs, but 26.66% were victim of painful treatment.

In addition, 43.33% of them were found being approached "rarely" by politicians and social workers and 53.33% had "avoidable" attention from GOs' and NGOs' staffs. Likewise, 46.66% respondents were found being "rarely" invited in social functions. When asked about views on reason of disability, 6.66% respondents' disability was found associated with unscientific beliefs. More than that, 90% of sampled PWDs had not disabled-friendly physical infrastructure which had prohibited the easy access and interaction of PWDs.

Sampled PWDs were found living the miserable lives full of problems. When surveyed, 43.33% had problems "usually" in daily minor activities and 70% need assistant for cooking and washing. Besides 66.66% were not able to travel alone and 73.33% had problems during learning period. 46.66% were detected living without support of any aid.

Similarly, 23.33% of respondents had problem in expressing own opinions and 60% respondents considered disability as problem of marriage. 60.0% respondents were only “partially” able to involve them in economic activities and 63.31% of them were not included in any sort of social group. Ultimately, it was also found that 76.66% of sampled respondents faced ill treatment directly and indirectly. All of these details are sufficient to present the pathetic social status of PWDs.

7.2 Conclusion

From above given data and presentation, we can conclude that PWDs in Tribhuwan Basti have not sound social status compared to other normal people. They are compelled to face multiple problems in different sectors. The discriminatory policy of the states and treatment of responsible person of the society has always hindered the overall development of PWDs. Poor PWDs of this VDC are also victim of such discrimination. Poverty and disability have very close relationship as disability is also caused by poverty. Similarly, association of disability with religion and culture has generated more negative altitude in society towards PWDs.

Physically PWDs are weak but association of their disability with culture and social values have worsened their weak condition more. As their disability is associated with culture, different negative values and attitudes are generated against them. Most of normal people have not understood that disability is just a biological factor; for them, it is still a factor related to god and previous birth. Due to such attitudes towards PWDs, they are lagging behind in every sector.

Pessimistic access of PWD into education, policies, economic activities and social functions is the example of unfriendly environment for PWDs. If empowered and provided skills, they can also contribute for the whole world. It’s a kind of dream for most of PWDs. Though they are from different backgrounds and have different

reasons for disability, general view on them and their problems are same. That's why, all of them have not been able to grab the respectable status in the society.

Their educational, economic, and political status are also found very upsetting. Very few PWDs are able to pass SLC, to generate money regularly and to hold respectable position in the society. Though the situation of PWDs has improved slightly in comparison to past time, there are many things to do to prepare discrimination-less society. Still, PWDs are found surrounded by ill-treatments. They are still abused and viewed as evil sign in many rural areas of Nepal. GOs and NGOs are working for PWDs, but their programs are not fully able to improve the overall situation of PWDs. Only 'fund' provided by government is not enough, so we all need to empower them.

7.3 Recommendation

Poor social status of PWDs makes us realize that they are in urgent need of empowerment and considerable support. Both government and non government should excel their speed while working in the sector of disability and also should formulate PWD-friendly policies if needed, and implemented too. No doubt, PWDs have certain physical and mental weakness, but they are also social beings. All the general people along with responsible persons like politicians, social workers, bureaucrats etc. need to change their altitudes towards PWDs. Most of the PWDs have been ignored by both normal people and state; so PWDs must raise the voice strongly.. Their access to education, health, transportation and many other developmental works should be made easy. Different traditional unscientific beliefs are dominating rural societies; so these beliefs should be completely eradicated if PWDs want to live a respectable life.

It is told that right should be snatched. So, PWDs shouldn't stop their struggle for right against discrimination. If empowered, PWDs can also be pillar of development, not a burden. Therefore, they should be given an easy access into

every sector along with other normal people. Awareness about disability must be spread strongly as people still relate disability with cultural values. Normal people as well as state should know very properly that this 21st century is age of inclusiveness and PWDs should also be incorporated in different inclusive organization and committee to make this society and century really inclusive and to empower them. Since, new constitution is going to be written, the PWD member of legislature parliament should not atop pressurizing the government for the welfare of PWDs. Then only PWDs can enjoy their rights one after another slowly.