

CHAPTER –I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the study

This paper researches the educational status of Brahmin married women along with their decision making power in their household activities. The married Brahmin women are engaged in household chores and agricultural activities with low decision making power politically, economically, socially and culturally. The reasons behind their low decision making power is due to the illiteracy, patriarchal practices and unawareness. However, the woman in a family is a determining factor to decide her status that family in particular, and in the society in general. Thus, the social world of a married Brahmin woman is the picture of her position in each household. They have their particular roles and responsibilities and enjoy different status in their particular family.

In Nepal, women comprise more than (50.05) percent of total population (CBS, 2001). But only 42.5 percent females are literate (CBS, 2001) that is increased by 12.1 percent according to (NDHS, 2006). Women are heavily engaged in domestic chores along with the socio-economic activities. They have major role in household management and they have to do more than 50 percent of household work but they have low decision making power. Even in the 21st century they are not enjoying equal decision making power with their male counter parts. They are discriminated since their childhood. In childhood they have to live under their parents, in adulthood, they should follow their husbands and in old age they are under their children. They have no liberty to decide freely even.

To develop a nation, contribution of female can play a crucial role. However, in the male dominated country like Nepal, women have low socio- economic status as well as low decision- making power. They should not be confined to merely their reproductive roles and seen as a weakness lot in need of support. Women

have a permanent three responsibilities as reproduction, household work and productive economic activities. Besides, they do not have control over decision making on their reproduction and economic activities. There exists a lopsided relationship between the women performing the roles of protesters, nurturer, and guide. Nepali women are daughters, wives and mothers but are less recognized by their own identity. Many societies have placed women took the lowest rank and to a submissive role, confined to the home and from and their family responsibilities (Subedi, 1997-1.3)

The economic, demographic and social factors have the strong role in terms of decision making power (RIDA, 1991). Women are not in leading roles: they are considered as second grade citizen and play sub- ordinate role in the society. They are less comfortable in decision making field. They have low access to resources which make them dependent and it affects their role in households as well as in society.

In male dominated country like ours, females are considered of low slandered and of less values. But in recent years people have started realizing the importance of women participation in the economic as well as social development. The socio- economic slandered of women greatly enhance the possessive development of a nation. Men and women have now started participating on equal footing in development activities in many developed countries having faith and relationship as that of "muscles with the nail of the finger" (Acharya, M. 1987). This mutual understanding between male and female can bring dramatic changes in the socio- economic status of nation.

Nepal is also a victim of such unpleasant situation over the last here decades from 1960s to 1980s the focus of development policies and objectives have shifted from being growth oriented to people oriented. Although the deprived people from the lowest economic strata, women however, have remained excluded from all development activities. The people oriented approach has now become the “men oriented approach”. It is always the men who interact with the

outside world and the women unquestioningly slip back into her traditional role as house wives within the farm household sphere (Acharya, M. 1994).

Women's empowerment most evolved women making choice that woman's their individuals' well- being in addition that; their well- being further enhances their families and communities. Integrated empowerments programs result in measurable behavioral changes in women. Women who have participated in such programs often become Morse active participated in their household and communities and as a result contribute more to the growths of Nepal's economy (BBC, 2004:2).

Nepal is a prosperous country with its religious and cultural foundation. Brahmin people who have occupied second largest population density in the nation and they are so creed for religious, ritual beliefs. Brahmin women are obliged to follow the religious taboos and prohibition. They are gradually getting the dignity in their family. The taboos and prohibitions have been composed by patriarchy that always leads female to the catastrophe. Females are not free to handle their individual life according to their own wish. They have to address the problem of their husband, children, father-in law, mother- in law and whole family members.

Though the female of Brahmin family are more educated in the comparison of other caste the domination, exploitive factors over female are such as social, political, economy and culture tied in the parochial circumstance or limited periphery from which they can never go away from the chain of discrimination and segregation law inside the family preferring the role and importance of male.

Brahmin women are responsible to conduct the household activities remaining in the periphery of four walls of kitchen even if they are not responsible to decide what they should do. They asked whether they had done good work or not. They don't know what they should buy, how much they should spend, where they should go to buy and when. The decision maker is the male of

family who will decide himself the plan of their household activities because father figure society takes father as the main source of economy.

The population of female is greater than that of male in Juropani VDC especially in ward no. 7 and 9 in Brahmin community. Although the women have larger numbers of population they do not have their own social, economic and educational status. The research on this issue was not taken before in the Juropani VDC of Jhapa about educational status of the women and their decision making power in household activities in Brahmin community.

1.2 Statement of the problem

In the context of Nepal women spend their time especially in household activities and their important opinion in household sphere is restricted, leave alone the limited sphere and are overall conferred the status of a weak lot. The remains for such as predicament may spring from the strong gender bias evident in the economic and political field, conventional social norms, values and perceptions and attitudes of the people themselves. But whatever the reasons may be out come remains the same the widened gap between the status of men and women.

The research about women's educational status has been done sufficiently. The policy has focused in women's education but its implementation is very weak. It has been so mainly due to all policy makers and implementers are male in Nepal. Education is just reference for the rich people and males. However women's educational label and status is being increased in Nepal but only women's education doesn't help for them in all sectors. There employment opportunities are the most important factor for their all round development.

Women have been taking part in developing activities in Nepal, long before international concerns were voiced for including women in development and increasing their participation. In Nepali socio- economic context women's work load is believed to be heavier in the rural areas of the country compared to that

of their men. However, their contribution to development activities at community level and work at household level is never recognized and their status remained unimproved in spite of global efforts in unimproved in spite of global efforts in increasing women's participation. There are constraints of women's participation in Nepali society at various levels which can be eliminated or overcome mainly by awareness generating and training at massive scale for both men and women because neither of the two gender exist in isolation.

Women have remained voiceless and their representation in social, economic and political life has been minimal. Problems related to women in power and decision making gave qualitative and quantitative dimensions. The first dimension involved the capacity of women to assert and exercise their right, the lack and enabling environment in which to do this. On the other hand, some quantitative improvements have been made with the introduction of reservations in local election. The overall participation of women in decision-making position is very low and remained unsatisfactory. The statutory provisions alone do not adequately facilitate women's entry into these positions. Quantitative growth has been horizontal and only observed at the local level of representation. Higher levels of both local and national politics are still regarded as the male sector. Thus far, the political parties and legislatures have failed to substantiate their commitment to assure women's access to powerful decision-making position (CBS, 2004:28).

It is true that women are capable and they have efficiency of making important and effective decisions if they have been given a chance by male. As they are the providers of basic household needs, they can bear the closest association with it. The study area in Juropani VDC where decision making power of women is weak because their socio-economic as well as political status is very low compared to their counterparts. In spite of the fact that the woman in study area is literate but they have not got high education. Education that plays a vital role is the main factor that will dominate the female.

The empowerment and autonomy of women and the empowerment of their political, social, economic and health status is a highly important end in itself. In addition, it is essential for the achievement of sustainable development. The full participation and partnership of both women and men is required in productive and reproductive life including shared responsibilities (ICPD, 1994).

In such scenario, this study has tried to find out the educational status of married Brahmin women, the role they have to play in household activity and the problems they face in the household affairs and in the societal level. The present study attempts to find out the answers of following research questions that are related to married Brahmin women of Juropani Village Development Committee of Jhapa district.

They have been playing multiple roles in their household activities, how can they be subordinated? Does education of married Brahmin women really increase the level of decision making power practically in their household activities? What can we do to uplift the life style and decision making power of married Brahmin women? What is the education status of the married Brahmin women at Juropani VDC? What sort of participation do married Brahmin women have in the study area? What is the role of married Brahmin women in providing economic support to the family? Who does what in household chores activities? Who controls the household decisions?

1.3 Objectives of the study

The general objective of this study is to perceive the phenomena of women's education status and their decision making in household among married women of Brahmin community in Juropani VDC ward no. 7 and 9. The specific objectives are as follows:

- a. To identify the impact of educational status of married women in their decision making power in Juropani VDC.

- b. To examine the social status of women in the study area such as their economic and educational status.
- c. To identify the role of women in decision making on household activities, politics, family measures and their own individual freedom.

1.4 Significant of the Study

Women play a significant role in all societies, both as economic and social actors; they should, therefore be seen as integral partners in all development efforts. In patriarchal society, women are discarded from participation in social, political and economical areas. States must seek to include gender perspectives in their national development policies and should implement various programmes to improve women's self-confidence and decision making power. The main significance of the study is as follows:

- a. The study is significant the education status and household decision-making power of women in Juropani VDC.
- b. It will be useful to develop awareness towards their participation in social, political and economic fronts.
- c. It will be helpful for planners and the policy makers to improve the educational condition and household decision-making condition of women in Juropani VDC in Brahmin community.

1.5 Limitations of the study

This study is limited in the following areas,

- a. This study will be limited to only 120 married women of 15-49 years within the Juropani VDC ward no 7 and 9 in Brahmin community.
- b. This study will be search the status of women with respect to education, occupation and decision making power.

1.6 Organization of the Study

This study has been summarized into six chapters. The first chapter deals the introductory part of this study. The second chapter deals the literature review. Methodology of the study has been assessed in the chapter Third. The background characteristics of the respondents are assessed in the Fourth chapter. Chapter Five deals about the socio economic, education and political aspect of respondents. The final chapter has been used to state the findings, conclusions and recommendations.

CHAPTER-II

LITERATURE REVIEW

This chapter attempts to present some literatures related to educational status and household decision making power of women practices in Nepalese as well as global reference. Some of the facts and study reports related to this study are reviewed in this chapter that has been given below.

Status of women in World Scenario:

In the world even though women are the major founders in the society, yet women have not achieved equality with men. Of the world's 1.3 billion poor people, it is estimated that nearly 70 percent are women. Between 75 and 80 percent of the world's 27 million refugees are women. There are many countries where women are second-class citizens. No matter how talented they are, they never get a chance to develop. A lot of countries are there where women are treated as subordinate and second class citizen, though the equal rights are preserved in the constitution.

The political participation of women in the world seems relatively low and it is duly because of the existence of the patriarchal mindset even in the political parties in almost all countries in the world no matter how advanced and socially, economically, culturally and politically sound the countries are. The participation of women in parliament of Japan and USA is only 7.1% and 17% respectively. While in the countries like Rwanda it's 49% and in Sweden it's 46%. The status of women in the developed countries is also lower in all sectors. Leaving some exceptions of European, American and Asian countries, women in the world are socially, economically, culturally and politically dominated and they are excluded from the opportunities. Throughout the world, women face violence every day. From the battlefield to the bedroom, women are at risk from violence in all areas of life. Violence against women persists because of society canopy. Virtually every culture in the world contains forms of

violence against women that are often invisible because they are seen as normal or acceptable. The underlying cause of violence against women lies in gender discrimination - the denial of women's equality with men in all areas of life.

Status of Women in South Asia

South Asian countries are primarily linked with the status of women in family, society and the state structures. Traditional ethical code of the society expects women to remain restricted within four walls of home, which is still a common occurrence. In some of the countries of South Asia women are outlawed even to cast votes. In South Asian region, women are discriminated because of son preference traditions of the society dominated by religious beliefs. Daughters are discriminated from birth to funeral ceremony. Women are also suffering from domestic violence, wrong tradition and cultural male practices. Some awful examples of violence are: sex selective abortion, wife battering, child marriage, polygamy, rape, sexual violence, trafficking of women & forced prostitution, sexual harassment, dowry, tilak system, suicide, killings, and domestic violence they are still prevailed. They are still accused in the name of witchcraft.

Women in South Asian countries are witnessing changes through development initiatives. Women are considered as poor people in developing countries, live under the same conditions as men, but suffer additional social and policy biases. Though this problem affects almost all sections of the people, women are recognized to be among the most disadvantaged groups. Political participation of women in the state structure and mechanisms is still a far dream even in this advanced century. Though, constitutions of all the countries have ensured equal status of all citizens without discrimination based on gender in every layers of governance, political participation of women in South Asian countries is very low. The decision and policy level positions remain occupied and dominated by the majority of them with the patriarchal psyche. (<http://www>. Status of Women in Nepal Opinion Everest. htm.)

Status of women in Nepal

Acharya and Beneet, (1981) gave a wider overview of women's status in their decision making power in household. They claim that economic factor affects women's role in decision making both directly and indirectly. If a woman has a great economic participation she has a greater possibilities power of decision-making. Similarly, social demographic factors also influence the role of decision- making eg. smaller size of children implies higher economic participation and consequently greater decision- making power of women.

Bennett, (1983) focuses on the decision making power as might be expected in such a strongly matrilineal society, the authority over household and property management rests nominally with the senior male. Of course, in the reality of daily decisions about work, food distribution expenditures, and long term property management, seniority and maleness are not the only principal behind authority. Especially in large extended families, women and junior males use many strategies to influence these decisions.

Joshi, 1985) started the household without leisure done by women is not regarded on men, hence if women are to be made economically self reliant, gainful employment for women essential to attend quality of right participation in development activities is required for the overall sector of development of the country.

Kaur, (1987) emphasizes upon the female decision making especially in the home ad farm affair on the emphasis education of women as an important factor in the matter of decision-making process. In her words "Educate women are better placed as compare to their illiterate parts."

Ghimire, (1997) found that the girls enrollment in primary level, in spite of equal level population was lower than that of boys in both districts. The main causes were found to be the poverty and negative parental attitude, girl's involvement in farming and household work and lack of educational awareness

in parents. He also found girls decreasing trends of enrollment from primary to the secondary level in the both districts. Through high rate of enrollment were found in primary levels, the proportion of girl's enrollment even at this level was only 38 percent at against 62 percent of the boys. She has started that she has never seen women as final decision makers in many household matters except for cases for nutrition of children. The financial activities are slowly done by the male member of the family. She claims that women have greater input in household decision making if they are from medium status. She also claims that the socio- economic status is closely linked with women's power of decision-making.

Limbu, (1995) showed importance of education as key factor for opening the door to women's life. Education is the most important tool to increasing aspirations including economic development, awareness of rights and duties among the people that affect their education, which permits the optimal utilization of individual potential and unable women to reach decision-making position in household as well as education, provides employment opportunities for women and equal footing with men. So education is most important tool for household decision-making power of women. Nepalese society is regarded as the male dominated one. There is a wide gap between the status of male and female in terms of education, income, decision-making and health concerns.

UNICEF, (1998) States the level of women's education is low in Nepal as well as SAARC countries also. The adult female literacy is 34 percent for Nepal compared to Sri Lanka 94 percent, India 58 percent, Bangladesh 53 percent and Pakistan 48 percent. The campaign for improving women's status has influenced the role of education. It is believed that education will bring about a reduction in the inequalities between sex and uplift women's subjugated position in the society. Education of women has a higher social status and stable family size.

MOH, (2001) indicated that women and men residing in the mountain ecological zone and least educate, while those residing in the hill zone the most educated.

One third of women and two third of men residing in the hill have some education. Women residing in the hills have some education; Women residing in the western region are more likely to have some education than women residing in the other region while those residing in the far western region are the least educated. Similarly men residing in the western region are most likely to be educated, while men residing in the central and mid western region are least educated, Education difference by sub- regions is marked. The proportion of women who have never attended school ranges from low of 53 percent in the western mountains sub- region. The proportion of men having no education ranges from 28 percent in the western hill sub- region to 51 percent in the western mountain sub- region, indication similar pattern for both men and women in the central hill sub region, 8 percent of women and 20 percent of men completed at least secondary education, which is highest among all sub region.

MOH, (2001:45) with the exception of what food to cook, husband in Nepal have a greater say in decision making than wives. For example, one in two married women status that their husbands alone gave final say in making decision about the wife's healthcare. In general, women have a much greater say in what food to cook each day since cooking is often perceived as women's work, with little male involvement. The data also shows that two in five married women state that their husband makes the role decision of the purchase of large household items', which are in three states that they need their husband's permission to visit family or relative and to make daily household purchases. It has found that currently married women are much less likely to have a final say in any of the five types of decision, than women who are divorced, separated, or widow. Even so about one in four, previously married women gave someone else making decision for them.

CBS, (2004: 23-24) in addition, to routine domestic work, women play a significant, if not a predominant, role in agriculture production. One participatory research project found that women do more agriculture work than men in the high mountain areas, equal to or more than men in the middle hills,

and slightly less than in Terai (southern region). Women both are participants and decision makers; share the responsibility of planting, transplanting, weeding, harvesting, carrying grains to the mill for grinding, and collecting woods, water and fodder. Women's involvement is also significant in the care and management of livestock and poultry, and as well as kitchen gardening, while women participate in agriculture throughout Nepal, the character of their participation is not uniform. The participation of women in agriculture is quite different in hills and in the Terai. In the complex social system of hills, women's participation in agriculture throughout Nepal, the character of their participation is not uniform. The participation of women in agriculture is quite different in hills and in the Terai. In the complex social system of hills, women's participation in agriculture further varies tremendously according to social group. Despite women's important role in agriculture, traditional social norms and customary laws, which are often gender biased, are a barrier to women's equitable access to productive resource.

MOH, (2006) women's participation in decision-making process is an important indicator of their empowerment. In order to access women's decision making autonomy, the 2006 NDHS sought information on women's participation in four types of household decisions: her own health care; making large household purchases; making household purchases for daily needs; and visits to family or relatives. Table 14.3.1 shows the percent distribution of currently married women according to the person in the household who usually makes decisions concerning these matters. Women are considered to participate in decision-making if they make decisions alone or jointly with their husband or someone else.

Table 2.1: Participation in Decision-making Women

Percentage distribution of currently married women by person who usually makes decision about four specific issues, Nepal 2006							
Decision	Mainly wife	Wife and husband jointly	Mainly husband	Someone else	Others	Total	No. of women
Own healthcare	20.3	62.8	33.6	19.2	0.1	100	8,257
Households purchases	15.4	37.3	20.2	27.0	0.0	100	8,257
Purchases of daily household needs	36.3	21.3	15.7	26.7	0.0	100	8,257
Visit to her family or relatives	21.1	35.4	18.7	24.6	0.1	100	8,257

Source: NDHS, 2006

CREHPA, (2007:3) shows normally husbands were the major decision maker as to whether to determine a pregnancy. It was found that if the husband decided to keep the unintended pregnancy to term, his wife would have few or no options to alter the decision. It was not possible in this study to assess whether women with unintended pregnancies had resorted to abortion without informing their husbands. Nevertheless, finding indicated discordance in responses between husbands and wives regarding the final outcomes. For example, of 12 husbands who said their wives had successful abortion, two of these wives (of matched couples) responses did not match with their husband's responses. Similarly, among those seven husbands who reported abortion failure, these responses matched only with four wives.

RIDA, (1991) presents the Nepalese socio- cultural environment that is far from congenial to the holistic development of a girl child: "She is unwittingly branded as inferior even before she is born". The gender-linked disparity in pattern and

practices of child rearing in the early years affect adversely her personal development. In the same vein, RIDA opines the female troublesome caused as “The cultural norms, economic condition and preferential attitude of parents towards the boys all lead to create vulnerable condition of women”.

Bennett, (1981) shows a woman having male child enjoys a higher status in the family. The practices of rejoicing at the birth of a son and lamenting at the birth of a daughter are quite common in most of the communities. Bennett in her Study of “prabatiya women” has shows a women’s economic power in the family as “The more she works to sustain the subsistence economy the more prestige she gains in the family”. Her continuing labor and ability is to contribute to the productivity of the *affine* family. Her ability is to uphold and honor reputation (izzat) of the family in the community at large.

Luitel, (1992) women’s values were confined to only house-keeping and child-bearing and the contents of Manusmriti,(a Hindu code of conduct) says for women who are destitute of strength and destitute of knowledge of Vedic texts and impure as falsehood itself.

Interim constitution of Nepal, 2063 (2007) has announced the rights regarding employment and social Security in part 3 article 18 as (1) Every citizen shall have the right to employment as provided for in the law. (2) Women, laborers, the aged, disabled as well as incapacitated and helpless citizens shall have the right to social security as provided for in the law. (3) Every citizen shall have the right to food sovereignty as provided for in the law. Gradually part 3 article 19 claims about right to Property as: (1) every citizen shall, subject to the laws in force, have the right to acquire, own, sell and otherwise dispose of the property. (2) The State shall not, except in the public interest, requisition, acquire, or create any encumbrance on the property of any person. Provided that this clause shall not be applicable on property acquired through illegal means. (3) Compensation shall be provided for any property requisitioned, acquired or encumbered by the State in implementing scientific land reform programme or in public interest in accordance with law. The compensation and basis thereof

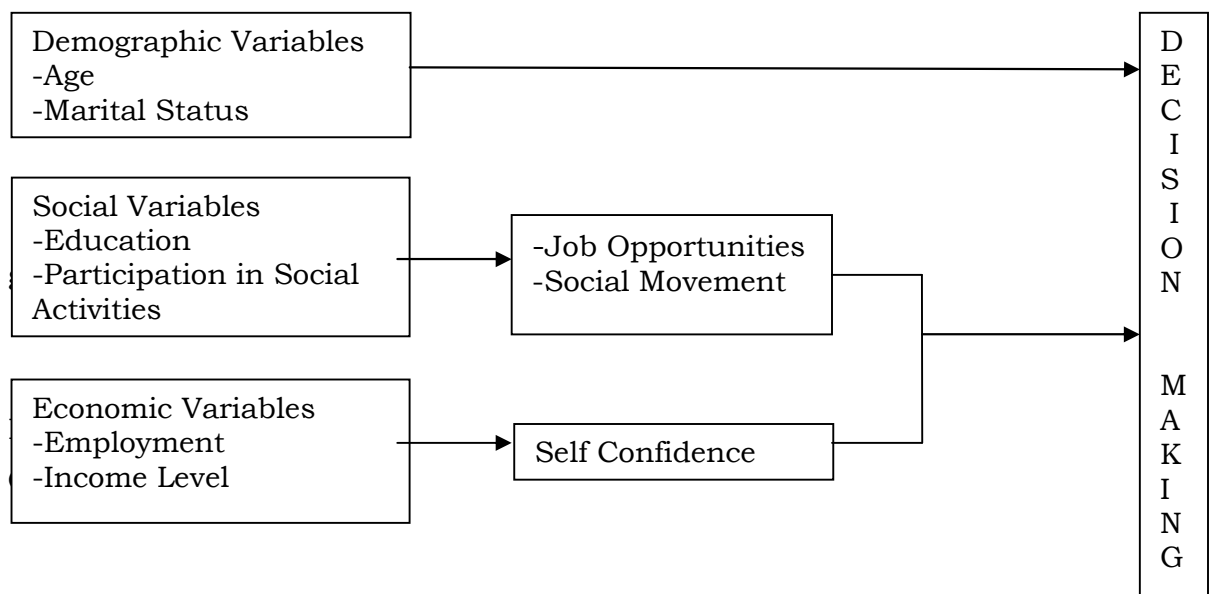
and operation procedure shall be as prescribed by law and in the same part article 20 tells about right of woman as: (1) No one shall be discriminated in any form merely for being a woman. (2) Every woman shall have the right to reproductive health and other reproductive matters. (3) No physical, mental or any other form of violence shall be inflicted to any woman, and such an act shall be punishable by law. (4) Son and daughter shall have equal rights to their ancestral property.

Conceptual Frame Work

Decision making power of women is influenced by demography, social and economic factors. Demographic variables such as age and marital status and important factors; whose determines the social role and responsibilities of women. Job opportunity and mobility in society is determined by education and chance of participation in social activities, which finally influence the decision-making power of women.

Figure2.1: Conceptual Framework

Independent Variables Intermediate Variables Dependent Variables



CHAPTER- III

MEHODOLOGY OF THE STUDY

To achieve the main objectives of the study and to make systematic research method has been applied. This is descriptive type of research design. The information used in this study is obtained from field survey. Structured questionnaires were used to collect the information from the informants. This study has been conducted in Juropani VDC of Jhapa District.

3.1 Introduction of the Study Area

Juropani is a village development committee of the Jhapa district of Nepal. It lies in the southeastern border of Nepal with India. It is located in the southwestern part of the Jhapa district bordered by Maharanijhoda VDC in the west, Khajurgachhi and Gauriganj VDC in the south, Gauradaha VDC in the North, Korobari and Mahabhara VDC in the east. It is the plain (Terai) of Nepal. The interviews are taken from ward no. 7 and 9 of Juropani VDC where 120 householders are selected from Brahmin married women randomly for direct interview.

According to the village survey of 2004, the total population of this VDC is 10624. Among them, 3076 are Brahmin, 1509 are Chhetri, 966 are Dalit, 2222, are Rajbanshi, 724 are Tajpuria, 194 are Rai, 122 are Sanyashi, 113 are Tamang, 92 are Muslim, 75 are Tharu, 60 are Newar, 34 are Limbu, 14 are Magar and Others are 1423. Brahmins, Chettri, Jaisi, Rajbanshi, Satar etc. People are living there in great numbers. The huge numbers of villagers are depending up on agriculture and the main crop they grow is rice in one season and other crops are also grown but they are negligible. Most of the Satar, they are without their own land so they have to depend upon the field of others people land.

More than half of the young people live outside of the village. Many of them live in the capital city of the country, Kathmandu. Some has gone to gulf countries like Arab, Qatar, Dubai and Malaysia in search of the employment. Recently ward no. 1, 2, 4, 5, 6 and 8 the village are covered by the facility of infrastructure like electricity, communication and transportation but the quality of communication line network of telephone and electricity is not reliable. There are 9 telephone lines in the whole village. There is no pipe line connection of clean drinking water; people use water from the tube well. VDC, profile (2004).

3.2 Sample Design

This study has selected 2 wards of Juropani VDC of Jhapa district. Out of nine wards, two representing wards (7, 9) were selected by lottery method for the study and as for making sample size 120 females were taken as sample, purposively out of 275 households in ward number seven, 60 household of Brahmin family were selected. Similarly, out of 230 households, in ward number nine, 60 household of Brahmin family were selected in which only one married women of age (15-49) has been selected from each household. Decision making power of the overall population of married women is taken from Juropani VDC of Jhapa district.

3.3 Questionnaires Design

Questionnaire is designed in such a way that it provides all required data needed to fulfill the objectives of the study. The questions and probable options for answers inside questionnaire contained for both qualitative and quantitative information in the form of close ended and open ended. The questionnaire include information about household individual knowledge and attitudinal towards reliable in the subject matter of dissertation.

3.4 Data Collection and Processing

During the research study, the data were collected with the help of structured and non-structured questionnaires. The questionnaire included the entire question, which are needed to collect for the information related to household and other activities. The raw data were entered in computer using statistical software SPSS and consistency of the data was checked using the same software.

3.5 Data presentation and Analysis

We get raw data from the field so it needs to be analyzed to get fruitful result. The collected data were analyzed by using methods such as frequency distribution, percentage and cross tabulation were used to analyze the data.

CHAPTER -1V

GENERAL INFORMATION OF RESPONDENTS

This chapter unveils the demographic and socio-economic dimension of the study area. The characteristics of the respondents in socio- economic and demographic are stated in this section.

4.1 Characteristic of Respondents

4.1.1 Age composition structure

The age is an important factor in demography and it makes difference in decision-making roles, social relation and responsibilities. The age groups are divided as 15-19, 20-24, 25-29, 30-34, 35-39, 40-44, and 45-49 years of age. The group division is mentioned below in table 4.1.

Table 4.1: Percentage Distribution of Respondents by Five-Year Age Group, 2010

Age group	Respondents	Percent
15-19	2	1.7
20-24	4	3.3
25-29	16	13.3
30-34	22	18.3
35-39	32	26.7
40-44	20	16.7
45-49	24	20.0
Total	120	100.00

Source: Field survey, 2010

This study has covered the women of early reproduction age to late reproductive age to make the study reliable. The composition of the respondents by age has

displayed in table 4.1. The table shows that, the highest populations were found in age group 35-39 years which is (26.7%) whereas the second highest population (20.0 %) is in age group 45-49 years and lowest populations is only (1.7%) in age group 15-19 years.

4.1.2 Respondents Family Own Home

Home is the basic need of every human being that protects the people to get shelter and save their life from different disasters. Some people live in the house that they have made and their own whereas some are the dependents to their relatives. According to the respondents in my study area the livelihood has found as follow:

4.2 Percentage Distribution of Respondent Family Own Home, 2010

Family own home	Respondent	Percent
Yes	118	98.3
No	2	1.7
Total	120	100.00

Source: Field survey, 2010

It is found that the highest percentage (98.3%) respondents live in their own family home who are in upper middle class and middle class whereas (1.7%) have not own their family home; who are living in the house of their relatives and working in other's field.

4.1.3 Age at Marriage

Marriage marks the point in a woman's life when childbearing becomes socially acceptable. Age at marriage has a major effect on childbearing because a woman who marries early has on average a longer period of exposure to the risk of becoming pregnant and a greater number of life time births. Then main

reason for marrying an early age is the religious and cultural influence of Hindu caste system that exists strong especially among the Brahmins.

In the current situation of Nepal, it has adopted that who has completed 20 years of age is considered as legal age marriage for both men and women. However, it is violated in almost all communities the provisions for compulsory registrations of marriage and separation events implemented through the local bodies have been largely underreported due to the hesitation, ignorance, negligence and non-operation. The table below shows that age at marriage of respondent in my study area.

Table 4.3: Distribution of Respondents Age at First Marriage, by Age group and Educational Status, 2010

Age group	Age at first marriage				
	<20	20-24	25+	Total (%)	N
15-19	100.0	-	-	100.0	2
20-24	100.0	-	-	100.0	4
25-29	56.3	37.5	6.3	100.0	16
30-34	40.9	36.4	22.7	100.0	22
35-39	62.5	34.4	3.1	100.0	32
40-44	70.0	25.0	5.0	100.0	20
45-49	79.2	16.7	4.2	100.0	24
Educational Status					
Illiterate	81.8	9.1	9.1	100.0	22
Primary	65.1	34.9	-	100.0	43
L. secondary	71.4	21.4	7.1	100.0	14
Secondary	64.3	28.6	7.1	100.0	28
SLC+	23.1	46.2	30.8	100.0	13
Total	64.2	28.3	7.5	100.0	120
Mean age at marriage=19 years					

Source: Field survey, 2010

This study has found on the basis of education and its impact on marriage regarding the early age to late age at their marriage which is composed in table no. 4.3. Examining the age group at their first marriage, the highest percentage (64.2%) is under 20 years, (28.3%) is between 20-24 years, whereas above 25 years is the less percentage (7.5%) whereas mean age at marriage is 19 years. On the basis of education, among 22 illiterate, (81.8%) women married before they were 20 years, the less percentage (9.1%) is the same rate between 20-24 and 25+. At their primary education, among 43 respondents, the highest percentage (65.1%) married under 20 years, (34.9%) married between 20-24 years and no percentage is found between the age of 25+. 14 respondents in their lower secondary education (71.4%) married under 20. The more females are educated the more percentage is increased to marry above 25 years which proves that the educational impact remains to determine the age factor at their first marriage.

4.1.4 Kind of Marriage

Marriage is a kind of ritual which ties the relationship between men and women for their durable connection. It is a stable relationship in which men and women are socially and legally permitted to have children impaling that right to sexual relation. Edward West Ermark defines “Marriage as a more or less durable connection between male and female, lasting beyond the mere act of propagation till after the birth of offspring”. The definition also supports that the marriage is compromise between spouses for their durable connection.

In my study area, most of the respondents have their arrange marriage which is considered as a legal and accepted socially for the Brahmin family who are deeply rooted by the cultural and religious obligations that is socially accepted. Other types of marriage are in less number of respondents in my study area.

Table 4.4: Distribution of Respondents by Kind of Marriage, 2010

Kinds of Marriage	Respondent	Percent
Arrange	106	88.3
Love	12	10.0
Court	2	1.7
Total	120	100.00

Source: Field survey, 2010

Table 4.5 shows that the highest percentage (88.3%) respondents have got arrange marriage; (10.0%) have love marriage and the less percentage of respondents are court marriage (1.7%). It proves that the respondents should follow the ritual for the marriage that is inside the Brahmin family.

4.1.5 Decision about bridegroom

Brahmin family follow the cultural norms ritual values regarding Hinduism where females don't have decision power of the decision about bridegroom in arrange marriage in study area maximum father decide about bridegroom of the respondents marriage. Below table shows who decides about bridegroom of the respondents.

Table 4.5 Distribution of Respondents about the bridegroom, 2010

Decide about bridegroom	Respondent	Percent
Grand father	18	17.0
Grand mother	17	16.0
Father	60	56.6
Mother	3	2.8
Others family member	8	7.5
Total	106	100.0

Source: Field survey, 2010

About the decision of bridegroom, among (106) respondents who have got

arrange marriage, (56.6%) respondents responded their father decide about bridegroom for their marriage; for (17.0%) respondents their grandfather decide about bridegroom, for (16.0%) respondents their grandmother decide, for (7.5%) respondents their others family member decide about bridegroom for their marriage and least number found that for (2.8%) respondents their mother decide about bridegroom. The above data proves that in study area father is most important person to decide about bridegroom for their marriage.

4.1.6 Dowry Asked for Marriage

Dowry system is deeply rooted in the Nepalese Society especially in Terai region. Dowry is given to the daughters by her parents after her marriage in principle it is her property. This practice prevails also in the Hill communities. Tilak is given to the bridegroom or his family, on which the girls has no claim even in principle. In the context of Juropani VDC, Dowry is not found much influenced in society the table presented about dowry is as follow:

Table 4.6: Distribution of Respondents by Dowry Asked for Marriage, 2010

About Dowry	Respondent	Percent
Yes	9	7.5
No	111	92.5
Total	120	100.00

Source: Field survey, 2010

Among 120 respondents, the table shows (92.5%) respondents said that their husband didn't ask about dowry in their marriage. But on the contrary few respondents (7.5%) said that they are asked dowry for marriage. It is proved that in study area there is not prevalence of dowry system in Brahmin community.

4.2 Fertility and Family planning Status of Respondents

4.2.1. Communication between husband and wife about child birth.

Both male and female are equally responsible for the selection of the children they require. In my study area, males have been given authority to conduct each and every decision. Despite of this fact, the awareness in female is gradually coming up. According to the respondents that I have taken here shows that less females have not communicated between husband and wife to decide for their child born.

Table 4.7: Distribution of Respondents Communication between Husband and Wife about child birth by Age and Educational Status, 2010

Age group	Communication between husband and wife about child birth.		Total	
	Yes	No	(%)	N
15-19	100.0	-	100.0	2
20-24	75.0	25.0	100.0	4
25-29	100.0	-	100.0	16
30-34	95.5	4.5	100.0	22
35-39	87.5	12.5	100.0	32
40-44	70.0	30.0	100.0	20
45-49	62.5	37.5	100.0	24
Educational Status				
Illiterate	59.1	40.9	100.0	22
Primary	79.1	20.9	100.0	43
L. secondary	92.9	7.1	100.0	14
Secondary	92.9	7.1	100.0	28
SLC+	100.0	-	100.0	13
Total	82.5	17.5	100.0	120

Source: Field survey, 2010

The above study observes the communication between respondents and their husband about child birth. The above table shows that the highest percentage (82.5%) has communicated about childbirth whereas (17.5%) have not communicated for child birth. Examining their age factor, both 15-19 and 25-29 years respondents have equally (100%) communication about childbirth whereas the least (4.5%) age between 30-34 years doesn't have.

Education status has positively affected to communicate between husband and wife about child birth. S.L.C+ educated women have the rate of (100%) secondary educated, lower secondary primary and illiterate have gradually (92.9%), (92.9%), (79.1%) and (59.1%) they communicate. Here, in the table we find that there is the impact of education to communicate between husband and wife about child birth.

4.2.2 Number of Live Birth

Birth is the biological process that arrives in the life of human beings. In Hindu culture and system a woman becomes a family member only after the birth of child. If not she is not considered as a family member rather she has to be blamed by her society and family members so she has to give birth of child for her identity in the family. It proves that childbirth is very important. In the studies all 120 women given live birth but the giving birth is difference or it is affected by other factors as like culture, educational status, family background etc. The following table shows how many children are there in the family of the respondents in my study area.

Table 4.8: Distribution of Respondents Number of Live Birth by Age and Education Status, 2010

Age group	Number of live birth				Total	
	None	One	Two-three	More than three	(%)	N
15-19	100.0	-	-	-	100.0	2
20-24	-	75.0	25.0	-	100.0	4
25-29	6.3	31.3	56.3	6.3	100.0	16
30-34	-	9.1	77.3	13.6	100.0	22
35-39	-	-	75.0	25.0	100.0	32
40-44	-	-	55.0	45.0	100.0	20
45-49	4.2	4.2	29.2	62.5	100.0	24
Educational Status						
Illiterate	-	9.1	50.0	40.9	100.0	22
Primary	-		55.8	44.2	100.0	43
L. secondary	7.1	7.1	57.1	28.6	100.0	14
Secondary	3.6	14.3	67.9	14.3	100.0	28
SLC+	15.4	30.8	53.8	-	100.0	13
Total	3.3	9.2	57.5	30.0	100.0	120

Source: Field survey, 2010

The above study has analyzed from early age to late how many children have got birth in their life and rate of education to decide how many children are required for them. The highest percentage (57.5%) is in two-three children and the lowest (9.2%) is in one child. Likewise (3.3%) respondents have not their children. Examining age group shows (100%) none child is age between 15-19 years and least percentage (4.2%) remains at the age between 45-49 years. Average percentage shows that many of the respondents have two-three children. On the dependency of education status, (67.9%) is the highest percentage of two –three children of the secondary education respondents where as the lowest rate (3.6%) have not child is the secondary level respondents.

4.2.3 Age at first pregnancy

Age at first pregnancy also plays the vital role of decision making power of women in family. Early age at first pregnancy is the killer and hindrance of development in many terms though variations depend upon the physiological condition, women body is not ready enough to conceive and give birth to a healthy baby normally before the age of 20, from the table we can show the age at first pregnancy in the study area:

Table 4.9 Distribution of Respondents Age at first Pregnancy by Age and Educational Status, 2010

Age group	Age at first pregnancy				Total	
	<20	20-24	25-29	30+	(%)	N
20-24	75.0	25.0	-	-	100.0	4
25-29	20.0	60.0	20.0	-	100.0	15
30-34	22.7	50.0	27.3	-	100.0	22
35-39	37.5	53.1	9.4	-	100.0	32
40-44	30.0	65.0	-	5.0	100.0	20
45-49	52.2	39.1	8.7	-	100.0	23
Educational Status						
Illiterate	40.9	45.5	9.1	4.5	100.0	22
Primary	39.5	55.8	4.7	-	100.0	43
L. secondary	30.8	61.5	7.7	-	100.0	13
Secondary	40.7	44.4	14.8	-	100.0	27
SLC+	-	54.5	45.5	-	100.0	11
Total	35.3	51.7	12.1	0.9	100.0	116

Source: Field survey, 2010

This study has covered age at first pregnancy from early age to late age, their educational status and present age group. The highest percentage among 116 respondents (51.7%) is age between 20-24 years, (35.3%) have age at first pregnancy while they were less than 20 years, (12.1%) have age between 25-29

years, and only (0.9%) respondents have age at first pregnancy above 30 years. In the study area, early age at first pregnancy has not been found. On the basis of age group under 20 years they were at their first pregnancy, the highest percentage (75.0%) is age group between 20-24, (52.2%) is 45-49 and the lowest percentage (20.0%) is the age between (25-29%). Likewise, on the basis of 20-24 age groups, the highest percentage (65.0%) is age group between 40-44, (60.0%) is 25-29, and the lowest percentage (25.0%) is 20-24 whereas On the basis of age group under 25-29 years, the highest percentage (27.3%) is age group between 30-34 and the lowest percentage (8.7%) is the age between (45-49%). No one is found 30+ except (5.0%) age between 40-44 years. According to respondents' education status, the highest percentage (61.5%) is of lower secondary level who were age between 20-24 and the lower percentage (4.5%) is of illiterate age between 30+. No one was found 30+ at their first pregnancy in primary, lower secondary, secondary, SLC+ level as well less than 20 in SLC+ educational status.

4.2.4 Decision upon the Selection of Family Size.

Both male and female are equally responsible for the selection of the Family Size they require. As the patriarchal society in the context of my study area, males have been given authority to conduct each and every decision. Despite of this fact, the awareness in female is gradually coming up. According to the respondents that I have taken, shows that less female have decided upon the selection of family size. Women have also right to decide upon the selection of family size but in our society males are superior in family. Number of children and their education health and future depend upon the couple.

Table 4.10 Respondent Decision upon the Selection of Family Size, 2010

Age group	Decides upon the selection of family size				Total	
	Yourself	Husband	Equally	Other family member	(%)	N
15-19	-	50.0	50.0	-	100.0	2
20-24	50.0	-	50.0	-	100.0	4
25-29	12.5	37.5	50.0	-	100.0	16
30-34	13.6	45.5	36.4	4.5	100.0	22
35-39	21.9	40.6	37.5	-	100.0	32
40-44	10.0	40.0	50.0	-	100.0	20
45-49	4.2	75.0	20.8	-	100.0	24
Educational Status						
Illiterate	13.6	63.6	22.7	-	100.0	22
Primary	4.7	60.5	34.9	-	100.0	43
L. secondary	7.1	57.1	35.7	-	100.0	14
Secondary	14.3	21.4	60.7	3.6	100.0	28
SLC+	53.8	15.4	30.8	-	100.0	13
Total	14.2	46.7	38.3	0.8	100.0	120

Source: Field survey, 2010

The study has analyzed the role of decision making power of family size and the role of education on it. The highest percentage (46.7%) is the role of husband and least percentage (0.8%) is the others family members to decide upon the selection of family size. Examining the age group, (75%) is age between 45-49 determined by husband and the least percentage (4.2%) is age between 45-49 determined by female. Educational impact has supported the respondents to determine for the selection of family size. (63.6%) rate is illiterate respondent among (22) respondents they depend upon the decision of husband where as they have (13.6%) dependency but the rate after their S.L.C + education falls down in (15.4%) to depend on the decision of husband where they can

themselves decide in the rate of (53.8%). The lowest percentage rate to decide family size is (3.6%) decided by other family members in the case of secondary level educated respondents. Except (3.6%) decided by other family members in educational status, no one is found. So for the selection of family size, education can play a very important decisive role inside a family.

4.2.5 Use of Family Planning

The wide spread adoption of family planning represents one of the most dramatic change of the 20th century. The growing use of contraception around the world has given couples the ability to choose the number and spacing of their children and has tremendous life saving benefits. Most of the people are worried about large family size, since they wanted to manage their family with higher living standard. Family planning methods are available for females than for males. The use of family planning in the study area is given below:

Table 4.11 Distribution of Respondents to Use of Family Planning, 2010

Use of Family Planning	Respondents	Percentage
Self (respondents)	88	85.4
Husband	15	14.6
Total	103	100.00

Source: Field survey, 2010

From the table it is observed that the highest percentage (85.4%) used family planning respondents self in the number of 88 whereas the percentage of their male partner is less by (61.4%), only (14.6%) used family planning their male partners and the number of their male partner is 15 among 103 respondents. The above data helps us to prove that the number of female is more conscious about the use of family planning.

4.2.6 Cause of Husband not to use Family Planning.

Family planning helps gradually reducing the population growth rate promoting the concept of family norm to the population in general and the rural population more especially. Family planning methods are available for females rather than it is available in the case of males. In my study area where males are in less number to use family planning due to the causes of health, cultural norms, family pressure and others. Below table shows why most of the males don't use of family planning.

Table 4.12 Cause of Respondents Husband not to use Family Planning, 2010

Cause of Husband not use of Family Planning	Respondents	Percents
Cause of health	59	67.0
Cause of cultural norms	12	13.7
Cause of family pressure	13	14.8
Not provided	4	4.5
Total	88	100.00

Source: Field survey, 2010

As table 4.12 shows that in study area (67.0%) male partner don't use family planning by the cause of health, maximum respondents said that using the family planning method side effect will be on the male health and they can't work hard. Likewise, (14.8%) males don't use due to the family pressure, only (13.7%) males do not use caused by cultural norms and (4.5%) males do not use due to the lack of family planning.

CHAPTER-V

SOCIO- ECONOMIC, EDUCATIONAL AND POLITICAL ASPECT OF RESPONDENTS

This segment of dissertation deals with the information regarding the source of family income, land, livestock, role of decision, decision on cooking, and participation in political and community activities.

5.1.1 Main Source of Family Income

Economic power is considered as the basic requirement for the family. It also determines the level of decision- making. Therefore, almost all of the family less females exercises for decision making power as they do not have grief on the economic sources. On the contrary they have to take part in the income source of the family but they are used in the antique method in the agricultural sectors.

Table 5.1 Distribution of Respondent main source of Family Income, 2010

Main Source of Family Income	Respondents	Percents
Agriculture	98	81.7
Service	8	6.7
Business/Industry	4	3.3
Foreign Labor	8	6.7
Others	2	1.6
Total	120	100.00

Source: Field survey, 2010

This study is done to find out the economic source of the respondent's family. Agriculture is the main source of family income in my study area. (81.7%)

respondent's source of income is agriculture. (6.7%) respondent's source of income is equally in foreign labor and service, (3.3%) respondent's source of income is business/industry. Likewise, (1.6%) respondent's source of income is lowest source of income in others. In the study area agriculture is done by traditional systems that should be changed with the skilled manpower, training and modern technology.

5.2 Respondents Own Land

Land has been always a vital for the farmers for their living which is considered as an important property in Nepal. Most lands are registered in the name of a head of a family or on the name of husbands in Nepalese society which is also practiced in Brahmin community. Very few numbers of people have registered their land into their wife's name when buying new land otherwise registering into males name is practiced in every society. The data shows that the property is owned by husband and father's name in study area.

Table 5.2 Distribution of Respondent Own Land by Age and Educational Status, 2010

Age group	Respondent own Land			Total	
	No land	<10 kattha	10-20 kattha	(%)	N
15-19	100.0	-	-	100.0	2
20-24	75.0	-	25.0	100.0	4
25-29	75.0	6.3	18.8	100.0	16
30-34	77.3	9.1	13.6	100.0	22
35-39	90.6	3.1	6.3	100.0	32
40-44	75.0	15.0	10.0	100.0	20
45-49	79.2	8.3	12.5	100.0	24
Educational Status					
Illiterate	68.2	18.2	13.6	100.0	22
Primary	90.7	2.3	7.0	100.0	43
L. secondary	85.7	-	14.3	100.0	14
Secondary	82.1	7.1	10.7	100.0	28
SLC+	61.5	15.4	23.1	100.0	13
Total	80.8	7.5	11.7	100.0	120

Source: Field survey, 2010

The above study considers the respondents from age 15 to 49 for their land ownership by their educational status (80.8%) are without their land ownership (11.5%) are with land 10-20 khatha and the least percentage (7.5%) are with less than 10 kattha. The age factor also proves that age between 15-19 (100%) don't have land likewise, (90.6%) they don't have land is he age between 35-39 years, (79.2%) is between 45-49, (77.3%) is between 30-34, (75%) is the least percentage in both age factor between 25-29 and 40-44 years, Among 43, primary educated respondents have not occupied the land they have highest percentage (90.7%), Lower secondary (85.7%), secondary is (82.1%), illiterate (68.2%) even if the education more than S.L.C + are in (61.5%). It shows that the higher educated respondents have their more percentage land they have their own.

5.2.1 Decision about Sell the Animals without anyone Permission

Animals are kept for the different purposes but they are used for the economic source in the agricultural field. Though the respondents are the owner of the livestock they are not allowed to sell their property according to their own wish. They have to ask either their senior male or the junior males like son or grandson. If it is not asked before selling the animal without male support the clash occurs inside the family so most of the female use to ask before they sell it. But some females decide themselves they have the right to sell their own property by their own wish.

Table 5.3 Distribution of Respondents Sell the Animals without any One Permission by Age and Educational Status, 2010

Age group	About selling animals		Total	
	Yes	No	(%)	N
15-19	-	100.0	100.0	1
20-24	100.0	-	100.0	3
25-29	50.0	50.0	100.0	10
30-34	42.9	57.1	100.0	21
35-39	35.7	64.3	100.0	28
40-44	36.8	63.2	100.0	19
45-49	39.1	60.9	100.0	23
Educational Status				
Illiterate	56.3	43.8	100.0	16
Primary	31.6	68.4	100.0	38
L. secondary	38.5	61.5	100.0	13
Secondary	35.7	64.3	100.0	28
S.L.C	70.0	30.0	100.0	10
Total	41.0	59.0	100.0	105

Source: Field survey, 2010

Examining livestock selling decision with the educational status of the respondent's age factor from 15 to 49 makes the research reliable by Table 5.4. The highest percentage (59%) has no livestock and (41%) have their own selling decision. The highest percentage (100%) in the age factor is between (20-24) and (35.7%) lowest percentage is age between (35-39) they have selling decision. Age from 15 to 19 respondents has no selling decision which arrives (100%) and the lowest percentage (50%) is age between (25-29).

On the basis of educational status to selling decision of livestock shows SLC+ respondents have highest parentage (70.0%) and Primary have (31.6%) that is the lowest percentage of the respondents they sell the livestock . The study proves higher education makes strong and decisive for decision making power to sell livestock.

5.2.2 About taking the Loan

Loan is used by the people to conduct and fulfill the basic requirements of the human being which should be returned being limited in the periphery of time. People can take certain amount of money either from bank, finance or from their relatives by the condition that they have to return with the interest of the amount they have taken. The loan which is taken by the people is for different objectives. Sometimes loan is taken for the business motive and sometimes for the scarce to conduct household activities. Due to the poor economic status people should be in the compulsion to take loan. If not it would be too much difficult to handle their daily life. But the nature of loan depends upon the nature of purpose so they take the loan with different size of loan. I have got the following table according to the support of the respondents in my area:

Table 5.4 Distribution of Respondents can take Loan by age group and Educational Status, 2010

Age group	About taking the loan		Total	
	Yes	No	(%)	N
15-19	-	100.0	100.0	2
20-24	25.0	75.0	100.0	4
25-29	62.5	37.5	100.0	16
30-34	63.6	36.4	100.0	22
35-39	65.6	34.4	100.0	32
40-44	70.0	30.0	100.0	20
45-49	58.3	41.7	100.0	24
Educational Status				
Illiterate	50.0	50.0	100.0	22
Primary	65.1	34.9	100.0	43
L. secondary	64.3	35.7	100.0	14
Secondary	71.4	28.6	100.0	28
SLC+	46.2	53.8	100.0	13
Total	61.7	38.3	100.0	120

Source: Field survey, 2010

This study has found the evidences with the role of age factor and educational status to take loan. (61.7%) among 120 respondents take loan and (38.3%) don't take loan themselves. Age group between 15-19 have (100%) rate they don't take loan themselves. The lowest percentage (30.0%) age between 40-44 also doesn't take loan themselves. Expect age between 45-49, the more age group increases the percentage has also increase to take loan of respondents themselves. On the basis of education is also similar with the age factor, expect S.L.C+ the percentage rate is in ascending order. (71.4%) respondents among 28 respondents who have got secondary level education, they take loan themselves, the second, third and fourth highest is gradually (65.1%), (64.3%),

and (50.0%) they take loan themselves and qualification is respectively primary, lower secondary and illiterate.

5.2.3 Distribution of Respondents by Level of Education

Education is recognized as a major instrument in empowering women. Education empowers through indirect channels of employment and earnings. The intuition is that when women have access to resources, mainly earnings, their bargaining power within the household increases and they have a greater say in decisions related to their health, their children and other family matters. Several studies have, however, found the link between education and employment or earnings to be weak. Studies have shown that education is one of the major socio-economic factors that influence a person's behavior and attitudes. So in general the level of education of women the more knowledgeable she is about the use of health facilities, family planning methods, and the health of her children. Inspired by the collection commitment expressed in the Dakar framework for Action (DFA) 2000, below table shows the distribution of respondents by level of education in study area.

Table 5.5: Distribution of Respondents Level of Education by Age group, 2010

Age group by five years	Educational Status					Total
	Illiterate	Primary	L. secondary	Secondary	SLC+	
15-19	-	-	7.1	-	7.7	1.7
20-24	4.5	-	-	7.1	7.7	3.3
25-29	13.6	7.0	7.1	25.0	15.4	13.3
30-34	9.1	11.6	35.7	25.0	23.1	18.3
35-39	-	39.5	21.4	25.0	38.5	26.7
40-44	18.2	20.9	14.3	17.9	-	16.7
45-49	54.5	20.9	14.3	-	7.7	20.0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
N	22	43	14	28	13	120

Source: Field survey, 2010

Above table shows that educational status of respondent by age group Table 5.7 shows the percent distribution of married woman who married after their low education less than secondary level which comes in the percentage of (71.7%) and (28.3%) respondents have only high level education from secondary to master level. No married Hindu woman found who has taken doctorate degree in my study area. It has found that female use to drop back their school after their lower secondary level education which is the (25.8%), Primary level is (22.5%), secondary level is (16.7%), informal education is (14.2 %), illiteracy is (9.2 %) and less number of respondents is found after their certificate level. (8.3%), (2.5%) and (0.8%) percentages are of gradually certificate, bachelor and degree level. The lowest percentage is in master level which shows that (9.2%) are with their master level education.

5.2.4 Distribution of Respondents by cause of drop out from School

The respondent's dropout rate is calculated as the percentage of women who are reported to be no longer enrolled in school who had enrolled in school. The major factor of dropout includes early marriage, household burden, lack of money and others.

Table 5.6: Distribution of Respondents by Cause of Left or Dropout, 2010

Causes of Dropout	Respondents	Percent
Marriage	59	69.4
Household Burdon	10	11.8
Lack of money	10	11.8
Others	6	7.1
Total	85	100.00

Source: Field survey, 2010

The table shows that the main cause of female dropout is marriage. Out of the total respondents, (69.4%) respondent's dropout from school due to marriage. Respondents, dropout from household burden found as (11.8%) and dropout from lack of money is found (11.8%). likewise respondents dropout from other cause is (7.1%) are found in the study area.

5.2.5 Decision Making on Children's Education

For the brightness of children, parents should play very important role. Education is must for the children to uplift their life style. According to information of respondent who is responsible to choose where and which school is appropriate for their children. It seems both male and female should be equally responsible to decide for their children's education. But the situation of study area is different. We can find the main responsibility is to be given to male in the study area Even if females are able to decide about children

education. The decision upon children education in my study area is mentioned below.

Table 5.7: Distribution of Respondents to Decision Making on Children’s Education by Age group and Educational Status, 2010

Age group	Who decides children should go to school?				Total	
	Husband	You	Husband and you equally	Others	(%)	N
20-24	50.0	25.0	-	25.0	100.0	4
25-29	69.2	23.1	7.7	-	100.0	13
30-34	59.1	18.2	22.7	-	100.0	22
35-39	71.9	6.3	21.9	-	100.0	32
40-44	63.2	21.1	15.8	-	100.0	19
45-49	69.6	4.3	21.7	4.3	100.0	23
Educational Status						
Illiterate	85.7	4.8	9.5	-	100.0	21
Primary	72.1	9.3	18.6	-	100.0	43
L. Secondary	53.8	15.4	23.1	7.7	100.0	13
Secondary	53.8	15.4	26.9	3.8	100.0	26
SLC+	50.0	40.0	10.0	-	100.0	10
Total	66.4	13.3	18.6	1.8	100.0	113

Source: Field survey, 2010

The study has covered the role of respondents to decide whether their children should go to school or not. Altogether the higher percentage (66.4%) is decided by male and the least percentage (1.8%) is by others. On the age factor, (71.9%) is the highest rate age between 35-39 husband decides whereas least (4.3%) equally both 45-49 respondents and others do.

Examining education status, the highest (85.7%) believe upon husband they are illiterate, the rate gradually decreases by the additional qualification

second, third and fourth highest percentage (72.1%), (53.8%) and (50.0%) believe upon husband they are gradually primary, lower secondary, Secondary and SLC+ education. It shows that the more education respondents have achieved increases the percentage on their own decisive role whether children should go to school or not. The lowest percentage (3.8%) determined by other is the result of secondary level education of respondents.

5.2.6 Decision about Participation in Adult Literacy Class

Adult literacy can play very important and crucial role to increase literacy rate of Nepal. The rate of the illiterate high in rural area of Nepal who are not able to get education due to the lack of family supports, lack of money, household burden and socio-economic status.

Table 5.8 Distribution of Respondents Decision participation in Adult Literacy, 2010

Decision about Participation in Adult Literacy	Respondent	Percents
self (Respondents)	8	36.4
Husband	14	63.6
Total	22	100.00

Source: Field survey, 2010

Table 5.9 shows that the majority of the people (81.7%) are not taking part in adult literacy classes. The role of male partner and family support, lack of the informal classes conducted in my study area and unaware about the importance of education by female are found as the main causes for the adult literacy. Among 120 respondents, (18.3%) are only joining there in the adults literacy classes. (63.6%) husband of the respondents decided about participation in adult literacy class and (36.4%) respondents self decide about participation in adult literacy class. According to the respondents that they are not motivated to continue their adult literacy classes due to the irregular program they are lunched by different organizations, NGOs and INGOs.

5.2.7 Believe in Doctor or Faith Healers

Nepal is deeply rooted in the religious beliefs, superstitious dignity and conservative ideas. Though the world has implemented different scientific technologies in medical sectors but Nepalese people are still in 21st century believing upon the faith healer that is practiced but the member comparatively is lower percent in the comparison the people who believe upon dhami/ jhakri. In my study area few respondent found to believe dhami/ jhakri cause of literate. The following table proves that the awareness about the medical line of the respondents in my study area is as follow:

5.9 Distribution of Respondents Believing Doctors or Faith Healers and Both, 2010

About Believe of respondents	Respondents	Percents
Doctor	22	18.3
Dhami/Jhakri	9	7.5
Both	89	74.2
Total	120	100.00

Source: Field survey, 2010

From the above table, maximum respondents are conscious and aware about the importance of doctor and Dhami/Jhakri the rate is (74.2%) and (18.3%) respondents believe doctor and few (7.5%) respondents are left who believe upon dhami/jhakri.

5.3 Political Awareness

Politics help people to be self aware about their life, liberty, duty, responsibility and their status. Nepal as a republic county, minimum 50% female members are elected from all political parties. Even in the local government there is the reservation seat for the female which is the golden opportunity to them. Despite of all these lack of education can play very important role to take part in

political sectors. So they feel that they are not able to take part and make their job as political leader. In my study area few respondents found involved in political party. The following table shows involved in any political party.

Table 5.10 Distribution of Respondents involved in any political party, 2010

Involved political party	Respondents	Percents
Yes	5	4.2
No	115	95.8
Total	120	100.00

Source: Field survey, 2010

In this study there are less numbers of respondents (4.2%) involved in political party and large numbers of respondents (95.8%) have not involved in any political party in my study area where literate women and the woman who has got freedom from family and support of their male partner can involve in political party. Maximum women have not involved in any political party because of lack of education, lack of confidence and awareness as well they have not supported from their family.

5.3.1 Participation of Respondents in Decision Making Level in household activities

Before marriage, female as a daughter is high rate in decision making power and status in the family which will change into daughter in law with low decision-making power after their marriage. As a daughter-in-law, women involvement in decision-making is rare because they are not accepted as a decision maker. Women have to involve in households activities and reproductive activities. Women performing the role as a mother or mother-in-law, she can take part in decision-making process. Expect for a few percentages, most the women have no authority or say on economic decision making. Women who have subordinated status by patriarchal society, they are

not allowed to out as a decision -maker in the family. A less number of women only have decision-making power in political sector. Role of women in decision-making power also impact on educational status of women. Below table shows the respondents involvement indecision-making level.

Table 5.11 Distribution of Respondent’s Participation in Decision Making Level, 2010

Involvement in Decision Making	Respondent	Percent
Yes	42	35.0
No	78	65.0
Total	120	100.00

Source: Field survey, 2010

Above table shows that a less number of women (35.0%) participate in decision making power in different sectors they arrive in their life. The large numbers of respondents (65.0%) have not decision-making power who has to follow the determination and decision that is composed by their seniors and male partners.

5.3.2 Involvement of Female in Social Group

The social group they are conducted in the society will be beneficial for all people they are in the society where most of the personnel are males. For the development and decision making power of female, women should freely participate in the every activities such as political program, female social group and outside of the household activities. Although there is an increasing trend of women attending meeting it is often women and men from the better –off household who have more free time. The poorer females do not have time to attend meeting due to the need to earn wages. Almost female could not involve in female social group due to the lack of education, time, confident, family support and shy. From the table we know about the involvement in such type of female groups.

Table 5.12 Distribution of Respondent's Participation in Female Social Group by Age group and Educational Status, 2010

Age group	Participation in Female Social group.		Total	
	Yes	No	(%)	N
15-19	50.0	50.0	100.0	2
20-24	25.0	75.0	100.0	4
25-29	50.0	50.0	100.0	16
30-34	27.3	72.7	100.0	22
35-39	15.6	84.4	100.0	32
40-44	5.0	95.0	100.0	20
45-49	12.5	87.5	100.0	24
Educational status				
Illiterate	9.1	90.9	100.0	22
Primary	7.0	93.0	100.0	43
L secondary	21.4	78.6	100.0	14
Secondary	32.1	67.9	100.0	28
S.L.C	61.5	38.5	100.0	13
Total	20.8	79.2	100.0	120

Source: Field survey, 2010

The above table makes the research reliable collecting the rate of respondent's age group, education status and their social participation. (79.2%) have no social involvement whereas (20.8%) have only involvement in any type of female group. On the basis of age group age group between (15-19) and (25-29) have the highest percentage equally (50%) and age between (40-44) have less (5.0%) they involvement percentage is very less in the comparison of uninvolvement .(95%)age between (40-44) and (50%) both age between (15-19) and (25-29) gradually highest and lowest percentage for uninvolvement in social program conducted by female. On the basis of education, (61.5%) of SLC+ respondents have involvement and respondents they have primary education is the least

percentage (7%). it also proves that the higher educational status makes women stronger to involve in any type of female group.

5.3.3 Decision making for household purchase

Goods are basic needs for the human beings. People produce the things themselves but to conduct the house they have to depend upon the goods they are there in the market. But the question rises who decides to purchase the goods that should be bought generally by women and use to involve in purchasing the goods in household that is required for daily needs. Many women are found with decision making power on selling/purchasing goods. The data I have collected in my study area is mentioned below:

Table 5.13 Distribution of Respondent's making large household purchases by Age group and Educational Status, 2010

Age group	Who purchases for daily needs?					Total	
	You	Husband	Both You and husband	Someone else	You and someone else jointly	(%)	N
15-19	-	-	50.0	-	50.0	100.0	2
20-24	-	75.0	-	25.0	-	100.0	4
25-29	6.3	56.3	25.0	12.5	-	100.0	16
30-34	4.5	72.7	18.2	-	4.5	100.0	22
35-39	3.1	59.4	37.5	-	-	100.0	32
40-44	5.0	65.0	30.0	-	-	100.0	20
45-49	16.7	37.5	45.8	-	-	100.0	24
Educational Status							
Illiterate	18.2	50.0	31.8	-	-	100.0	22
Primary	2.3	67.4	30.2	-	-	100.0	43
L. Secondary	-	50.0	50.0	-	-	100.0	14
Secondary	10.7	50.0	28.6	7.1	3.6	100.0	28
SLC+	-	61.5	23.1	7.7	7.7	100.0	13
Total	6.7	57.5	31.7	2.5	1.7	100.0	120

Source: Field survey, 2010

The above table has found the rate of respondents' household purchase for daily needs and impact of educational status and age factor on it. In the total, (57.5%) is the highest percentage respondents are depending upon husband to purchase daily needs for household activities where as only (6.7%) percentage are buying themselves in which the lowest percentage rate (1.7%) have involved both respondents and someone else jointly. On the basis of the age factor, the highest percentage (75.0%) age between 20-24, second highest (72.7%) age between 30-34 is the rate of husband for household purchase and lowest percentage (3.1%) is found the rate of female to purchase daily needs the age

between 35-39. Educational status has not much impressed on household purchase. The highest percentage (67.4%) respondents depend upon their husband for purchase for daily needs and (2.3%) is the lowest rate they have lower secondary education and respondents buy the daily needs themselves.

5.3.4 Decision-Making on cooking Each Day

In the context of Nepal, most of the female are engaged in household activities. Especially, female can play the decisive role in cooking usually for household. The less number of male are participated in choosing the food to be cooked in household because the society has already classified the work male and female should do. There will be the great role of female to do the work inside the house like cooking, sweeping, washing and the work inside the house. But sometimes male also involve in cooking if the difficulties arrive on females.

Table 5.14 Distribution of Respondent's decision –Making on cooking each day by Age group and Educational Status 2010

Age group	Who decides to cook food each day				Total	
	You	Husband	Both You and husband	Both You and someone	(%)	N
15-19	50.0	-	-	50.0	100.0	2
20-24	75.0	25.0	-	-	100.0	4
25-29	43.8	31.3	18.8	6.3	100.0	16
30-34	68.2	31.8	-	-	100.0	22
35-39	68.8	9.4	21.9	-	100.0	32
40-44	70.0	5.0	25.0	-	100.0	20
45-49	91.7	-	4.2	4.2	100.0	24
Educational Status						
Illiterate	81.8	4.5	9.1	4.5	100.0	22
Primary	65.1	16.3	18.6	-	100.0	43
L. secondary	78.6	7.1	7.1	7.1	100.0	14
Secondary	64.3	21.4	14.3	-	100.0	28
SLC+	69.2	15.4	7.7	7.7	100.0	13
Total	70.0	14.2	13.3	2.5	100.0	120

Source: Field survey, 2010

The above table has found the decision making power for who decides to cook food each day. To cook food, the evident shows (70.0%) have used to decide themselves, (14.2%) is by their husband and the lowest percentage (2.5%) is determined by both respondents and someone else jointly. On the basis of age group, age between 45-49 is (91.7%), (75.0%) age between 20-24 and (70%) age between 40-44 have gradually first, second and third highest percentage rate to decide. The lowest percentage (5%) is found age between 40-44 husband decide up on it. On the basis of educational status the highest percent (81.8%) respondents determine o choose food and (4.5%) is the lowest rate determined by male decision both is achieved in the case of illiterate respondents.

CHAPTER- VI

SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The purpose of this chapter is to summarize the major findings of the study related to educational status and household decision making in the Juropani VDC along with the conclusion and recommendation of the study.

6.1 Summary

In this study an attempt has been made to study the education status of women and decision making of married women in aged group (15-49) years.

This research was conducted in Juropani VDC of Jhapa district the study is based on the basis of structured questionnaires through direct interview to the married women in age group (15-49) years.

-) Among 120 respondents, I have categorized them into where (80.0%) of them have nuclear family and they Hindu in the study area.
-) Early marriage is prevalence in the study area where (64.2%) respondent are married before 20 years and (7.5%) are married at the age of 25 years and above.
-) In the study area, literacy and educational qualifications are vital indicators of women's social status but respondent's education is not satisfy where as maximum respondents are concentrate in primary level and few of respondents (18.3%) have illiterate.
-) Majority of respondents (69.4%) dropout from school because of their marriage.
-) The main source of family income is agriculture.
-) Among 120 respondents, (88.3%) got arrange marriage and (56.6%) fathers decide about bridegroom of respondents.

-) Majority of the respondent (82.5%) have communication between husband and wife about child birth.
-) Among 22 illiterate respondents (40.9%) have not communication between husband and wife about child birth.
-) Most of the respondents (85.8%) have use family planning while their husbands use only (14.2%) cause of health problem, cultural norm, family pressure and cause of others factors.
-) Very few respondents have their own agricultural land or the houses they live where only (19.2%) respondents have own land almost land were register their husband and son and others family members.
-) (41.0%) respondents can sell livestock without other's permission.
-) On the basis of educational status to sell livestock, the decision shows SLC+ respondents have highest percentage (70.0%).
-) Only (20.8%) respondents' involvement in female social group is found.
-) Among 120 respondents, (57.5%) are depending upon husband to purchase daily needs for household activities.
-) Among 22 illiterate, (81.8%) respondents self determine what food should cook each day.
-) 35.0% respondents can involve to the decision making level in household activities.
-) Large number (87.5%) respondents self care of own health.

6.2 Conclusion

This study has discussed and analyzed the educational status and household decision making power of Brahmin married women age group (15-49) years. Large numbers of respondents are literate but most of the respondents concentrated in primary level. Dropout situation is one of the major problems of education for females. Early marriage is the major cause of dropout education.

Large numbers of respondents have livestock but only few numbers of respondents can sell their livestock without others permission.

As discussed in the study, the majority of respondent's main source of income is agriculture. Study shows that the positive relationship between educational status and decision making power of married women is higher the educational status and higher the decision making power. Large numbers of their male partner have registered the land in their own name. They are tied by the cultural norms of the Nepalese society where females are not considered as the owner of the property. Before their marriage they have to tell their property is the property that has been registered in the name of their father and after their marriage they have to tell the registered property of their husband is their own due to the designation of patriarchal norms, system, and continuity.

Few respondents have own land use of family planning is highest in female than maximum male partners don't use of family planning cause of health problem, culture norms, family pressure and others reasons, majority of respondents take decision with their counter part or their husbands themselves.

In my study area, decision making power of women is very low in every sector. Likewise about ownership of land, family planning, fertility, education, economic and social aspects are the major causes. Majority of respondents have not taken part in such type of female social group due to the low education, lack of time, household burden and lack of confidence not to the support of family members. Men have major role of decision making inside the households as well as outside.

The decision making power of women of study area is weak because their socio-economic as well as political status is very low compared to their counterparts. Lack of decision-making power, majority of respondents is engaged in household surroundings. Few respondents found self decision making power of every sector.

6.3 Recommendations

The lower literary status of women in my research area has been found as they are backward due to the religious, economical, social, cultural, and political reasons. Household burden, early marriage, cultural taboos and prohibition, conservative thinking, ignorance of parents and their ideal life are the significant reasons from which decision-making power of women is low.

-) Education for female is most to empower the female that aware them.
-) There should be motivation in education equally for male and female that leads their family to the prosperous and happy life for whole family members.
-) Maximum females have dropped out from primary level. They did not give continuity further after their marriage, so it should be made environment to conduct the classes for their re study.
-) Non- formal education conducted by different organizations/ institution has not found relevant for the long- term process. They should organize systematically in study area.
-) There is low numbers of female participants in female social-groups due to lack of education, unsupported of their husband and family members so social awareness and empowerment should be lunched equally for both sex male and female.
-) There is a big hand of male to increase the decision making power of female should be supported by them.
-) Most of the female found they are involved in agriculture tradition. And in unproductive activities skill manpower training should be lunched using modern technology.
-) Along with the saving and credit facility other employment oriented training programs should also be introduced to the women farmers in order to boost up their economic productive ability. Special emphasis should be given on agricultural training since majority of the people are dependent on agriculture.

-) In view of low participation of girls in higher education, they should be provided to encourage those providing facilities like hostel facilities, seat reservation etc.
-) Social workers and local leaders should play active role to motivate girls and women for getting education.
-) Additionally, women from the programmed are not found to have mobility, more confident with increased self-esteem and increased decision-making power than women outside of the programmed. They are not participating more in community and political activities having better social status in the community than women outside the programmed.
-) Increasing women's political power through women's organizations, solidarity, collective action and effective voice and presence in decision-making positions.

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