



**EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN IN NEPAL: FROM THE CA MEMBERS'  
PERSPECTIVE**

**A DISSERTATION SUBMITTED TO:  
THE FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES  
Tribhuvan University, in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the  
DEGREE of Arts  
In  
POPULATION STUDIES**

**By  
Durga Subedi**

**Central Department of Population Studies  
Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences  
Tribhuvan University  
Kathmandu  
May, 2010**



Tribhuvan University

Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences

**Central Department of Population Studies**

**Recommendation**

This is to certify that the dissertation entitled "*Empowerment of Women in Nepal: From the CA Members' Perspective*" by Durga Subedi has been completed under my supervision.

The work has been prepared for a partial fulfillment of the Master of Arts in Population Studies. To the best of my knowledge, this study is original and carries useful information for the topic.

I have forward her dissertation to Dissertation Committee for its evaluation with recommendation.

Dr. Pushpa Kamal Subedi  
Supervisor

May, 2010

## Approval Sheet

The dissertation work entitled "Empowerment of Women in Nepal: From the CA Members' Perspective" by Durga Subedi has been accepted as a partial fulfilment of the requirement for the Degree of Master of Arts in Population Studies.

Dissertation Committee

.....

Prof. Dr. Prem Singh Bishta  
(Head CDPS, TU)

.....

Mr. Bhumidatta Poudel  
(External Examiner)

.....

Dr. Pushpa Kamal Subedi  
(Supervisor)

May, 2010

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

At first, I would like to express hearty gratitude to Dr. Pushpa Kamal Subedi, Associate Professor of Central Department of Population Studies (CDPS) for this guidance and suggestions to complete this dissertation in this field. This would not have been possible without his constant support and encouragement.

Dr. Prem Singh Bista, professor and head of the department and the department members are equally thankful for providing opportunity and environment to make analytical study and fulfill this dissertation. This study would not have been completed without the valuable suggestions of all my respected teachers, I'm also thankful to all of them.

I would like to thank all the respondents for responding and providing the information with valuable expressions regarding this field. The non-respondents are also thankful who encouraged me a lot in completing this thesis without their support and inspiration.

I am thankful for the Ministry of Information and Communication as well who has provided me gate pass for the entrance in Singh Durbar and BICC respectively to meet the respondents. I would like to thank to CDPS library and librarians, CCD (Centre of Constitutional Dialogue) library and librarians, Parliamentary library and librarians, Parliament and Constitution Assembly as well as all NGOs, and INGO's who have provided me necessary materials and information for this dissertation.

I shouldn't forget to my friends who have helped me for data entry to making tabulation and encouraged me to choose this field for study. I would like to thank to my brother in law who has translated some reviews and my family members and relatives who have helped and inspired me.

Especially, I would like to express my heartiest and deepest gratitude to my parents and younger brother who have encouraged and supported me in every moment and steps for forwarding academic and social career; and my husband who has always encouraged and supported me for choosing the field, filling up the questionnaire and completing this dissertation.

Durga Subedi

## ABSTRACT

This study entitled "Empowerment of Women in Nepal: From the CA Members' Perspective".

Women's empowerment is that combination of words which carries the meaning of strange power in every sector of women. However, Nepal is male dominating society where females are always marginalized; it is processing to be empowered. All the political parties talk about gender rights, equality, non-discrimination etc which are limited in speech rather than in practical. Are the female leaders who talk about rights, equality and nondiscrimination free from socio-cultural and economic discriminations in the family and society? Which is the subject matter of the study.

The specific objectives of the study are: a. to examine the empowerment of women by demographic, socio-economic and political variables in the study of population; b. to evaluate the empowerment of women by their participation and access in political, socio-economic sector and their decision making process; and c. to compare the empowerment of women among the different political parties in Constitution Assembly.

Based on primary source of data using by questionnaires 74 sample sizes are taken from the purposive sampling method. The respondents are taken from different demographic, socio-economic and political characteristics.

In the study of respondent population, women's participation is not as equal as men in the top position of party. More than half respondents have not completed the higher education. Most of the respondents are not access to economic ownership, and they have not strong decision making power in every sector like the slogan or speech of political parties. All the respondents are not empowered in the studied populations. However, they are more empowered than as whole Nepalese women. How many they are and what they have, this is the good starting, but they are not so perfect or well empowered what they had to be as a leader of political party or the leader of whole Nepalese women.

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## ACRONYMS

<b>CA:</b>	<b>Constitution Assembly</b>
<b>CBS:</b>	<b>Central Bureau of Statistics</b>
<b>CCD:</b>	<b>Centre of Constitutional Dialogue</b>
<b>CDPS:</b>	<b>Central Department of Population Studies</b>
<b>CEB:</b>	<b>Children Ever Born</b>
<b>FWLD:</b>	<b>Forum for Women, Law and Development</b>
<b>HH:</b>	<b>Households</b>
<b>ICPD:</b>	<b>International Conference on Population and Development</b>
<b>INGO:</b>	<b>Inter National Governmental Organization</b>
<b>MA:</b>	<b>Masters in Arts</b>
<b>MDG:</b>	<b>Millennium Development Goals</b>
<b>NGO:</b>	<b>National Governmental Organizations</b>
<b>No.:</b>	<b>Number</b>
<b>PSSN:</b>	<b>Population Students' Society of Nepal</b>
<b>SLC:</b>	<b>School Leaving Certificate</b>
<b>TU:</b>	<b>Tribhuvan University</b>
<b>UN:</b>	<b>United Nations</b>
<b>UNDP:</b>	<b>United Nation for Development Program</b>
<b>UNFPA:</b>	<b>United Nation Population Fond</b>
<b>UNIFEM:</b>	<b>United Nations Development Fond for Women</b>

## CHAPTER-ONE

# INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 General Background

Empowerment of women indicates to the women's capacity to participate as equal partners as men in all walks of life in the society. They are empowered when get equal opportunity and access to control over material resources and social resources. In Nepalese society, the role of women is in different form than developed countries. Nepalese society is male dominating society. There is social discrimination against women that can be observed directly as well as indirectly. Though they are playing their roles and responsibilities very sincerely and patiently as mother, daughter, sister, wives etc. they are not able to make their self-identity .It is much debated about the citizenship of children and women of property in the context of women in Nepal. The action of women is wide-spread not only in the form of gender but also witnessed among caste and ethnicity.

In order to understand women empowerment, the study is focused on women members in Constitution Assembly. Constitution Assembly is the first history of Nepal which comprises of 601 members from direct election system, proportionate election system and nominated by cabinet respectively. In CA, the participation of women is 32.8 percent; this is the first representation of women in Parliament. The women are representing from different cast and ethnicity, different language and regions, different culture and religions, different marital status and age groups, and not only that different historical, political, social, economical, educational and professional background. This is the interesting area for the research, therefore the area is chosen for this study.

The Constitution Assembly is not made only for the purpose of Parliamentary approach; it is made mainly to draft the new Constitution. Therefore they are directly related to the draft of the Constitution. The members raise the issues in the periphery of them to draft the Constitution as their knowledge, ability and capacity. They can play the most important role to draft the Constitution if they are knowledgeable about their rights and duties. If they have political awareness, educational knowledge and knowledge about their rights and duties, they can fight for establishing their rights in the Constitution. Educated and awared women can feel the discrimination and negligence of people, of society, of nation as well as of law. Therefore, those women are participating in CA to establish the rights which treat woman equally as a man. Not only that, they can play the most important role to draft the Constitution in other aspect as well.

Thus, this study is measured their empowerment based on their access, participation and decision making process in political, social, economic, demographic as well as their personal life. The most important things is that, they able or not to draft the Constitution firstly as a women perspective as well as others. What does nation expect from them? Can they draft the Constitution by including all of the Nepalese rights? Can they draft the Constitution based on the Nepalese geography, Nepalese culture, and Nepalese dignity including the social

inclusion? According to this study, measuring their empowerment, what they can guarantee in the Constitution for Nepal and Nepalese, it can be guessed.

Thus, this study deals with the issues of women's empowerment. Women empowerment is the process by which the powerless gain greater control over the circumstances of their lives. It includes both control over resources and means not only greater extrinsic control, but also a growing intrinsic capability, greater self confidence and an inner transformation of one's consciousness that enable one to overcome external barriers to accessing resources or changing traditional ideology.

## **1.2 Statement of the Problem**

For the sustainable development, the empowerment of women is very essential. In the context of Nepal, women population is more than half, although they live in an oppressive, backward and feudal environment which is caused by patriarchal system, unequal power relation and socio-religious and cultural norms and values. The religions, cultural as well as existing laws of Nepal permit male to be superior, which set free to man to govern over women. Therefore, women are largely excluded from education, economic ownership, social and political participation, legal aid and feel to have lost their own identity in the family or society, not only those they are still treated as second citizens or commodities.

Women's access, to land and property is deprived through her marriage relationship. They have no right of parental property, they have no decision making power in every aspect as well as right of their own life, they are far from the education and freedom, which creates economic and decision dependency of women, marginalization of women and breaks over all their empowerment (Pradhan, 2009).

The right of women in 'The Interim Constitution of Nepal, 2063' is included as "no women shall be discriminated against in any way on the basis of gender, every women shall have the right to reproductive health and other reproductive rights, no physical, mental or other form of violence shall be inflicted on any women, and such act shall be punishable by law, and sons and daughters shall have equal right to ancestral property." It is written only, not implemented.

In the Constitution, to make women empowered Nepal government has reserved 33 percent of seats for women in every sector. It is the good initiation. According to this law, now 32.8 percent women are in Constitution Assembly, to enhance the status of women and to decide their rights for making Constitution. The all members are not elected directly, some are elected by direct election system, some are elected by proportionate election system and some are nominated by cabinet. However they are CA members, all of them are empowered or not? This is the question. Are they able to access in every sector? For example, in education, economic ownership, employment, freedom from decision making process and participation and decision making power in party and CA. It is studied.

Education, awareness and equal participation play the most important role to enhance the capacity of the women. When women participate, they play active role at home and in the community, and decision making power of women would increased so that the families

would better equipped to confront the challenges of poverty. Participation improves the capacity to influence major events within the household, community and in the national affairs. The empowered women can play active role for the overall development.

If the research had been not done, we would not have got chance to identify the problem of those women, and have not been able to point out their problems and come out of them. The research is based on the political and social participation, economic access, marital status with cultural behaviors, fertility behaviors and their decision making power of women members in CA.

### **1.3 Objectives of the Study**

The specific objectives of this study examine the empowerment of women in the selected populations in Constitution Assembly. The specific objectives of study are as follows:

1. To examine the empowerment of women by demographic, socio-economic and political variables in the study population.
2. To evaluate the empowerment of women by their participation in socio-economic and political sector and their decision making process.
3. To compare the empowerment of women between different political parties.

### **1.4 Significance of the Study**

Empowerment of women is one of the burning issues in the field of the women issue. In Nepal, women are more than half of the population but their participation is very low in every sector. There is impossible to achieve the expected sustainable development of the nation without empowered women. Empowered women are able to perform their own duty with an honorable way or proficiently.

Many studies have been conducted in the issue of empowerment of women by various national and international agencies of organization, self-researcher and university students. It is the first study which makes analytical study of women member in Constitution Assembly. It is hoped that this study becomes another foundation in the field of women empowerment. This study is focused on women's (CA member) access, participation and decision making in household, socio-economic and political sector.

1. This study analyzes the status of women in demographic, socio-economic, political and decision making process.
2. This study can be helpful for the students of research who are interested to study in this field or issue.
3. This study can be useful for Government, NGOs, INGOs and everyone who are interested.

### **1.5 Limitation of the Study**

Limitation of the study controls the researcher to deviate from the content, sample and methodology. So, we have to determine the limitation of the study, which make study valid, systematic and specific.

The study is micro study. So, it is not included all the indicators of empowerment of women. This study aims to find out the women members' participation and decision making process in social, economic, political, education, fertility and child related sector. Therefore, the research is limited under the following condition.

1. The study populations are women members in Constitution Assembly.
2. The study limits within 74 women members in Constitution Assembly.
3. It limits in general demographic variables, socio-economic, political access and participation and decision making process.

### **1.7 Organization of the Study**

The study is presented in to six chapters. Namely introduction, review of literature, research methodology, introduction of the household population, analyze of the data and summary, conclusion and recommendations. The first chapter deals with introduction of the study. This chapter includes general background, statement of the problem, objectives of the study, significance of the study, limitation of the study as well as organization of the study. The second chapter deals with the literature review, which includes theoretical literature, empirical literature as well as conceptual framework with meaning, definition, theories and others. The third chapter deals with research methodology. It includes background of the study populations, data collection procedures and tools, sources of data, sampling size and sampling techniques, questionnaire design and data processing and analysis. The fourth chapter analyzes the demographic as well as socio-economic characteristics of the household population of the study populations. The fifth chapter analyzes the demographic, socio-economic characteristics, political, socio-economic access, and participation as well as decision making process of the respondents of the study populations. The sixth chapter analyzes overall the summary of the study, conclusions and recommendation of the study.



## CHAPTER- TWO

### REVIEW OF THE LITERATURE

This chapter reviews the literature on empowerment of women. Two types of literature are reviewed firstly theoretical and secondly empirical. Then another chapter deals with conceptual framework, which analysis to understand the women empowerment in CA members.

#### 2.1 Theoretical Literature

Women's empowerment is the centerpiece of overall empowerment process, worldwide women are the most disadvantaged and excluded group of population. Women, by and large, are the first victim of social, economic, political, legal and cultural barriers. And women's empowerment is the process of mainstreaming women in all spheres of social, economic, political, legal and cultural activities. Women empowerment can be defined as building capabilities of women enriched by political, economic, social, legal and cultural power so that they utilize their potentiality for optimum well-being. (Pokhrel, 2009).

The women empowerment have been very much emphasized by the international conference on population and development (ICPD) held in Cairo in 1994 and suggested that it is a basic tool for a country's overall development and improving the quality of people's life. The ICPD has also declared that advancing gender and the empowerment of women is the major tool of national development (Nepal Population Report, 2007).

Women's empowerment means reinforcing their capacity to participate as equal partners in cultural, social, economical and political system of a society; without empowering women, actual and effective development is impossible (Baral, 2004).

World bank (2002), advocates empowerment as "the expansion of assets and capabilities of poor people to participate in, negotiate with, influence, control and hold accountable institution that affect their lives." This definition has promoted the voice of those who are disadvantaged and marginalized.

The advancement of women and the achievement of equality between women and men are the matter of human rights and condition for social justice and should not be dealt in isolation as only related to women's issue. These are the ways to build a sustainable, just and developed society and also a necessary and fundamental prerequisite for equality, development and peace in a country or territory (Acharya, 2001).

Definition of women's empowerment and autonomy appear thus to coverage as for as the end is concerned: gaining control over their own lives vis-à-vis family, community, society and markets. Empowerment, however, is a more dynamic term, encompassing both process and the result of that process (Batliwala, 1994). What is also emphasized in the centrality of

empowerments as a collective or group process as well as an individual one (Sen and Batliwala, 2000).

Kabeer (1999) is concerned that “empowerment” matters in state of “disempowerment”. She argues that “empowerment is inescapably bound with the condition of disempowerment and refers the process by which those who have been denied the ability to make choices acquire such ability.”

Economic empowerment is defined as ‘economic change\ material gain plus increased bargaining power and\ or structural change which enables women to secure economic gains on an on gaining and sustained basis’ (Carr et al, 1996).

Many theorists interested in women’s empowerment have argued that there is a false dichotomy between the personal and the political: that, in fact, the personal is political; in other words, that personal relationship between men and women reflect a power relationship between them. In brief, economic empowerment involves changes in power relationships in both the economic sphere (as an input) and in the social and political spheres (as an output). (Carr et al, 1996)

The materialist approach of Blumberg (1984), Chafetz (1990), and Collins and Coltrane (1991) stress the importance of women’s control of resources. Wage work should increase women’s autonomy by giving them direct access to economic resources. (Morgan and B. Niraula, 1995)

Empowerment has been defined as ‘the process by which the powerless gain greater control over the circumstances of their lives. It includes both control over resources (physical, human, intellectual, financial) and over ideology (beliefs, values, and attitudes). It means not only greater extrinsic control, but also a growing intrinsic capability greater self-confidence, and an inner transformation of one’s consciousness that enables one to overcome external barriers to accessing resources or changing traditional ideology (Batliwala, 1994).

The empowerment and self sufficiency of women, and the improvement of their political, social, economic and health status, constitute an important dimension of their total being, the conglomeration of all this factors further determine the development among women. There should be full participation and partnership of both women and men in productive and reproductive life including maintenance of the household (ICPD, 1994).

According to Batliwala(1994), those who promote women’s empowerment through integrated rural development programmed ascribe women’s disempowerment to their lack of education, low economic status, lack of access to resources’ and low decision making power; those who promote women’s empowerment through economic interventions see women’s disempowerment as stemming from their low economic status (and consequent dependence) and their lack of decision making power; and those who promote women’s empowerment through awareness building and organizing women see women’s disempowerment as stemming from a complex interplay of factors- historical, cultural, social, economic and political.

Wartenberg (1990) defines empowerment as transforming of existing power relations in favor of those (women, disadvantaged groups and more generally, the poor) who face severe limitation in exercising power and making voluntary choices. Empowerment concerns the transformative use of power, in which a dominant agent exercises power in such a way that subordinate agent learns certain skills that undercut the power differential between him/her and dominant agent.

Empowerment refers to increasing the spiritual, political, social or economic strength of individuals and communities. It often involves the empowered developing confidence in their own capacities. Empowerment is a social action process that promotes participation of people, organization, and communities in gaining control over their lives in community and larger society. With this perspective, empowerment is not characterized as achieving power to dominate others, but rather power to act with others to effect change (Wallerstein and Bernstein, 1988).

Women's education is sometimes used as a general measure of 'women's statuses. Like Mason (1984), we eschew such broad measures of multidimensional concept. Given our focus on autonomy and the settings we study, we believe education may measure exposure to Western idea (Caldwell, 1982).

Empowerment (autonomy) has been variously defined as 'The ability to obtain information and use it is the basis for making decision about one's private concerns and those of one's intimates'(Dyson and Moore, 1983); and 'the degree of women's access to, and control over material resources (including food, income, land and other forms of wealth) and to social resources (knowledge, power and prestige) within the family, in the community, and in the society at large, (Dixon, 1978).

Cain et al (1979) define, "patriarchy" as "a set of social relations with the material base that enables men to dominate women....patriarchy describes a distribution of power and resources within families such that men maintain power and control of resources, and women are powerless and dependent on men.

Jain's (1970) cited in Mason 1984:28-9 studies of Indian overseas wage laborers. The power of men in this circumstance is so great that wives automatically turn over all income to men, thus relinquishing control of important material resources. The likelihood of context-specific effects leads us to test specifically for them.

Empowerment is to increasing the spiritual, political, social or economic strength of individuals and communities. It often involves the empowered developing confidence in their own capacities (<http://www.selfgrowth.com/articals-women-empowerment.html/>).

Women empowerment refers to the ability of women to transform economic and social development when empowered to fully participate in the decisions that affect their lives through leadership training, coaching, consulting, and the provision of enabling tools for women lead within their communities, regions and countries (<http://www.wiserearth.org/aof/346>).

## 2.2 Empirical Literature

In many parts of the world, women are treated as second class citizen, which value is often defined by their capacity to produce large families. Economic necessities and socio-culture mores have entrenched this view of women. In most developing countries, women labor between twelve to eighteen hours in a day like carrying for children, carrying wood and water, growing and preparing food, maintaining the home, caring the old and sick family members. In the case of Nepal, women have no access to parental property right, their access to property in their husband's household. In addition, women are victims of ill health, malnutrition, inadequate education and illiteracy, poverty, unjust laws, landlessness, and never ending duties of household and families (Subedi, P.K., 2000).

Based on an empirical analysis of Egyptian data, Sunita Kishor (2000) finds that empowerment relating to women's family environment affects infant survival, whereas empowerment relating to women's exposure to non-traditional ideas and behavior and their ability to manipulate the modern sector are more relevant determinants of child immunization.

In the context of empowerment, Nepalese women have made limited gains in the last couple of decades. Women's educational status and visible economic participation have improved in absolute terms. But on the other hand, gender disparity in access to modern resources and power structure is also increasing (Acharya, 1997).

In the context of Nepal, Morgan and Niraula, B. (1995) were explained the dramatic differences in women status across two villages and within them. More specifically, they have conducted surveys in two Nepalese villages. The first setting is in central hills 75 km south of Kathmandu; the second setting is in the plains, 200 km south of Kathmandu very close to India border. The plain setting they study is considered a cultural extension of India Gangetic plains (e.g. similar to the North Indian Pattern describe by Dyson and Moore (1983), and Basu, 1992). In this region women have low status and autonomy compare to and women are nearly invisible to an out side visitor. In Nepal Hills, where North Indian culture has joined with tribal with ethnic culture, this North Indian pattern is weakened. In hill setting, women clearly differ to men and sever them. But these women have greater freedom of movement and converse freely with other villagers, including men.

Women constitute the disadvantaged and powerless half of the world's population "the forgotten majority". Though they perform 67 per cent of the world working hours, they earn only 10 per cent of the world's income and own less than 1 per cent of the world's property. Two-thirds of the world's illiterates are women (UNFPA, 1989).

Woman autonomy may very over course (Mason, 1984). This claim is consistent with the one above in that, with age, women will become spouses of household heads instead of daughters-in-law. Further, with age women bear more children (and more sons), which may provide women with status and power.

### **2.2.1. Women's Empowerment in the Context of Nepal**

It is included that economic, employment, educational, health and political empowerment in this review.

#### **2.2.1.1 In Economy and Employment**

In Nepal only a few (14.9%) of women are household head and only 5.5% of women have their own named home and only 10.8% of women have their own land. Large proportions of women are engaged in agriculture i.e.48.1% and 34.3% of women are engaged in non-agriculture works. The 13.8% women are work in administration, 19.0% women are in technology work and 24.7% women are in the field of services and business (CBS, 2063).

In bureaucracy, total women participation is 10.88% there is only one woman in the top position among 51 people of the beaurocracy (Bureau book, 2064). In teaching profession, the participation of women is better than other. There are 35.5% of women in primary level, 18% of women are in lower secondary level, and 9% in secondary level (Education Division, 2063). The women participation in Police is 5.5% (Police Head Quarter, 2064). There are 1.2% of women in Nepal Army (Nepal Army, 2065). 12% of women are employed in communication sector.

Similarly in the judiciary, women judges all out for only 1.3 per cent of the total no. of judge. The Supreme Court has only 2 women-judges among 22 judges, the Appeal court has only 1 women-judge among 78 and among 218 governmental advocates only 2 women advocates (Supreme Court, 2065 and National women Commission, 2065). In other constitutional bodies women occupy some position at the middle management level, leaving all decision making position for men. Poor representation of women can also be observed in the Cabinet.

#### **2.2.1.2 In Education and Health**

The female literacy is 42.8 per cent (CBS, 2001). Women ratio is in pre primary education 46.2 percent, in higher secondary education 43.3 percent and in higher education 32.6 percent (2062/63). And it is in primary education 48.0 percent, in lower secondary education 46.6 percent and in secondary 46.6 percent (2063/64). According to Demographic and Health Survey 2006, the life expectancy of Nepalese people is 63.3 and female is 63.7.

#### **2.2.1.3 In Politics**

Nepalese society is male dominated society. In the past, women have not voting and standing for election rights still 1951s. Only in 1951 B.S., Nepalese women have got the voting rights as well as stand foe election. After then women started to participate in politics. Now women's participation in central level of political parties is 28.7% and in district level, 25.88%. In Constitution Assembly2064, participation of women are 197 (32.8%) among 601 members. Among 601 CA members 30, (12.5%) of women members are elected by direct election system, among 335 members, 161(48.1%) of women members are elected by

proportionate election system and among 26 members, 6(23.1%) women members are nominated by cabinet (Punarjagaran Samaj, 2065).

In the election of Parliament 2048, there are 8 women members in total among 205 members. In 2051, there are 7 women members in total among 205. In 2056, there are 12 (5.9%) women members and The Interim Parliament 2063, 57(17.3%) women members (Punarjagaran Samaj, 2065).

### **2.2.2 Women rights: From the Draft of Constitution**

Under women rights all sort of human rights achieved by the male like own physical or right to independence, franchise or political rights, rights to deserve the public position /post, rights to property, rights to work, rights to equal wages for same work, rights to education, rights to participate in military service, rights to legal compromise, rights to marriage, parental or religions rights including all the additional rights biologically availed to female or children come.

In USA, the struggle for achievement of the women's political rights was begun in 1820 AD, after the 19<sup>th</sup> amendment of the Constitution of America in 1920; the women seem to have achieved political rights all over the country. In 1918, women received franchise rights (rights to vote) in Great Britain, similarly, New Zealand in 1893, Australia in 1902, Finland in 1906 and Switzerland in 1959. But in some of the countries of Middle East the women are not able to achieve political rights.

The attempt of protecting the women's human rights was commenced from mainly 20<sup>th</sup> century. In 1946 the 'Commission on the status of women' was established as the executive commission of economic and social organization. It was handed over the responsibilities of preparing report or recommendation on economic, social, cultural and educational rights of women and steps to be taken regarding equality between male and female.

In 1993, The General Assembly of UN, declared to end all sort of crime against women which occur in their private and public life like physical, sexual or mental crime.

In 1995, the 4<sup>th</sup> convention has appealed the government, national or international organization and private sectors to pay attention on poverty, education, health, crime against women, access of women to means and resources, women in strength, gender inequality, female and environment and children emphasizing on gender equality and women empowerment with identifying 12 sector.

In 2000, 23<sup>rd</sup> special summit on women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century have declared 'Further actions and initiatives to implement the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action'. Such declaration has also emphasized on gender equality, development and peace dragging the attention of member countries on those 12 sectors.

### **2.2.3 Management in International Law: From the Draft of Constitution**

The article-1 of UN charter has described the one objectives of UN origin is to support for the promotion and development of human rights internationally without discriminating on the basis of caste, gender, language or religion. Similarly article-8 has guaranteed that the gender shall not become the matter of discrimination to work in any of the organs of UN. Article 13, 55, 62 and 76 have emphasized on equal consumption/ utilization of human rights and fundamental rights of all.

The article-1 of Universal Human Rights Declaration has declared that everyone is independent, respectful and has got equal rights from birth and article-2 has guaranteed distinguished rights are available for everyone without discrimination.

The article-2 of The Convention on the Political Rights of Women guaranteed the political rights like franchise rights (rights to vote), rights to contest in the election, rights to deserve public post and so on.

### **2.2.4 Comparative Study of Some of the Constitution: From the Draft of Constitution**

The article-14 of Indian constitution has managed rights to equality without discrimination on the basis of gender.

The article-33 of People's Republic China has managed all the citizens are equal. The article-48 has stated the women can utilize the political, economic, cultural and family life and rights related to all the aspects of life equal to men/male, state shall protect the women rights and initiate women welfare task, equal wages to equal works.

The article-9 of the constitution of South Africa has managed equal rights and stated that the state shall not discrimination anyone on the basis of gender, conceptual period, and marital state directly or indirectly.

The article-8 of Swiss Union States, which everyone is equal in law and no one, shall be discriminated on the basis of gender, and social status. Similarly, male and female are equal for rights; equal wages for equal or same work, real equality in the field work have been managed.

The article-29 of People's Democratic Republic of Algeria, in right to equality, all citizens are equal before the law. No discrimination prevails because of bind, race, sex, opinion or any other personal or social condition or circumstances.

### **2.2.5 Constitutional Practices in Nepal: From the Draft of Constitution**

The Rana Regime introduced the first ever written law, The Country Code in 1853. The Code was discriminatory in the application of law on the ground of religion, race, sex, caste and tribe. There was difference in punishment for men and women and for the person of "lower caste" and "upper caste" (FWLD, 2006).

Nepal Government, Legal Act, 2004 has guaranteed everyone shall be treated equally.

Interim Constitution of Nepal, 2007 has stated that equal rights for male and female for the consumption of resources in their lives, equal payment to equal work, laborers, male and female health, they shall not be forced to work if their age is not suitable, equal to law, no discrimination on the basis of gender.

Constitution of Nepal, 2015 has stated that all the citizens have rights to equal protection/preservation. In the use of general law no citizen would be discriminated and both male and female would not be discriminated on the basis of gender.

Constitution of Nepal, 2019 has stated every citizen shall be equal in law, in the use of general law and public post, not shall be discriminated.

Constitution of Nepal, 2047 has managed non-discriminatory activities on the basis of gender in the use of general use of law through its fundamental rights. But it was likely to manage new provision for the preservation or development of women through law. The nation had adopted the policy for female for maximum participation in nation building task through instructive principle.

Interim Constitution of Nepal, 2063 has stated that no citizen shall be discriminated on the basis of gender in the use of general law of the country with managing equality and equal preservation of law. But there is the management of women protection, empowerment and development through law. In this constitution no women shall be discriminated in the form of female/ women, every women shall have reproductive health and reproductive rights, no crime or disparity shall be done against physical and mental aspects of women, rights of women for parental property and under directive principle single (widow) female shall be protected and social security shall be managed for their development. Though private disparity disables and unemployed women shall be given allowances. Interim Constitution of Nepal has managed article 20 for women rights.

### **2.2.6 Government Policies for Women Development**

Planned development in Nepal begin in 1956 and special focus on WID, WAD and GAD since the 1970s. It was only in 1980 that the Women's Developments section (WAD) was established under the Ministry of Local Developments. The Plan of Action for Women in Development was prepared in 1982 and subsequently production Credit for Rural Women (PCRW) program was introduced. With the restoration of multi-party political system in 1990, His Majesty's Government of Nepal ratified the UN Convention on Elimination of ALL Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) IN 1991 without reservation. After the Beijing Conference in 1995, the Ministry of Women and Social Welfare was established and thus His Majesty's Government of Nepal committed itself to ending discrimination against women (FWLD, 2006)

Nepal's planned intervention uplift the status of women begins with the Sixth Five Years Plan (1980/81-1984/85). This plan attempted to increase employment for women but creating



opportunities in both formal and informal education, involving women in agricultural training, cottage and other small industries as well as population control activities. In addition, the plan took as a goal to reform laws and regulations that inhibit women's participation in developments. The seventh Five Year plan (1985/86- 1989/85) expanded the activities mentioned in the previous plan. The seventh plan stated that legal reforms would be affected remove provisions hindering women's participation in national development. The Eighth Five Year plan (1992/93-1996/97) made a commitment to create opportunities for equal and meaningful participation of women in the development process and to reform laws and by-laws that hinder the development of women. The Ninth plan was progressive to incorporate the policy of "creation of a developed society on the basis of women's empowerment and gender equality through mainstreaming women's participation in each and every aspect of national development" (FWLD, 2006).

Primary objective of the Tenth plan (2002-2007) is to create egalitarian society based upon women's right by improving GDI (the Gender Development Index), and by abolishing sort of discrimination against women for the realization of economic growth and poverty eradication. To achieve this objective, the government has, 'inter alia', expressed its commitment to undertake steps to reform the existing legal system related to women and set up legal arrangement and carrying out legal re-enforcement to stop crimes (such as bokshi, juma, deuki badi) (FWLD, 2006).

His Majesty's Government of Nepal has shown commitment for the upliftment of women through endorsement or ratification of various international declarations, work plan and conventions. These includes: the Work Plan of the First World Women's Conference held in Nairobi in 1975, the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), the Jakarta Declaration of 1994 and the Beijing Declaration of 1995 (FWLD, 2006).

### **2.2.7 Fields of Discriminatory Laws against Women**

The main area of discrimination against women are in relation to nationality, property, trafficking and sexual abuse, education, employment, health including reproductive health rights, marriage and family and legal procedures and court proceedings. Two additional areas of discrimination have been identified: discrimination on the basis of identity and in the use of language (FWLD, 2006).

#### **Some Discriminatory Laws of the Legislations**

**In Nationality** - The Constitution of the Kingdom of Nepal, 2047(1990), Article- 9(1) and 9(2), Women cannot provide citizenship to their children. Nepal Citizenship Rules, 2049(1992), Article- 4(3), Women cannot transfer citizenship to their spouse (FWLD, 2006).

**In Property** - Civil Services Act, 1992, Article-37(1), Women civil servants deprived of pension facility if entered into the service after the age of 39 years. Land Act, 2021(1964), Article 26(1), Tenancy right is transferable only to unmarried daughter after attaining the age of 35 years (FWLD, 2006).

**In Sexual Offence** - The Country Code, 2020(1963), Article-10, Rape of a married woman creating an end of family relation, husband considered as ex-husband by law. Human Trafficking Control Act, 2043(1986), Article-5(2), Prior approval of the Court required for investigation (FWLD, 2006).

**In Education** - Scholarship Rules, 2060(2003), Application Form, Guardian's approval is necessary for girls to study in foreign country (FWLD, 2006).

**In Employment** - The Army Act, 2016(1959), Article-10, Women can enjoy the Army only in certain non combatant positions. Foreign Employment Act, 2042(1985), Article-12, Permission of the guardian and the Government is a pre requisite for women to go aboard for employment (FWLD, 2006).

**In Health** - Nepal Health Service Regulation, 2055 (1998), Article-15, Discrimination in maternity leave. Rules Relating to Additional Post Offices, 2034 (1977), Article-10, No provision for maternity leave (FWLD, 2006).

**In Family** - The Constitution of the Kingdom of Nepal, 2047(1990), Article-27, Recognition of male descendents only for succession to the throne. Land Act, 2021(1964), Article-2(c), Unmarried daughters above the age of 16 and married daughters not included in the definition of family (FWLD, 2006).

**In Court Proceeding** - Appellate Court Rules, 2048(1991), Article-16, Identification by the name of father only in documents relating to legal proceedings. Revenue Tribunal Rules, 2030(1974), Article-31, Court dress for male judges only (FWLD, 2006).

**In Identity** - House of representative rules, 2054 (1997), Annexes- (5) & (6), Identification by the name of father and husband only on recording forms of personal data of the Parliaments. Financial Administration Rules, 2065, Schedule- 15, Personal identification by name of father and grand father only (FWLD, 2006).

**In Use of Language** - The Constitution of the Kingdom of Nepal, 2047(1990), Preamble, Male oriented word "Brotherhood" (Bhaichara) and in so many rules male oriented words such as "Elder Priest" (Bada Guruju), "Chief of Staff Army" (Pradhan Senapati), "Chairman" (Sabhapati), "Mister" (Shriman) etc. are used (FWLD, 2006).

### **2.2.8 Areas of Impact of Discriminatory Laws against Women**

There are many direct and indirect impact areas. The main impact areas are economical, social, political, psychological and legal. On the economic front, the significant issues are: inheritance, economic decision making and participation, work load, employment, human resource development, and access and control to economic resources. On the social front, the significant issues are: marriage and family, trafficking literacy and education, health including reproductive health, rural life, violence against women, and social position. On the political front, the significant issues are: political and public life, nationality (citizenship), and violation of human rights. On the psychological front, the significant issues are: mental torture, personality disorder, and depression. And on the legal front, the significant issues

are: restricted access to legal remedies and denial of recognition to women at par with men (FWLD, 2006).

According to analytical study of Nepal, patriarchal society in the past, exploitation of women, marginalization, discrimination and punishment regarded women status than male/men. There is low participation of women in national mechanism however the half of population of Nepal is covered by female. Therefore to end the discrimination against women on the basis of custom, tradition, religion or gender inequality, and domination there should be the management of the constitution or for the protection and empowerment there should be positive clarification of people for the participation in national mechanism.

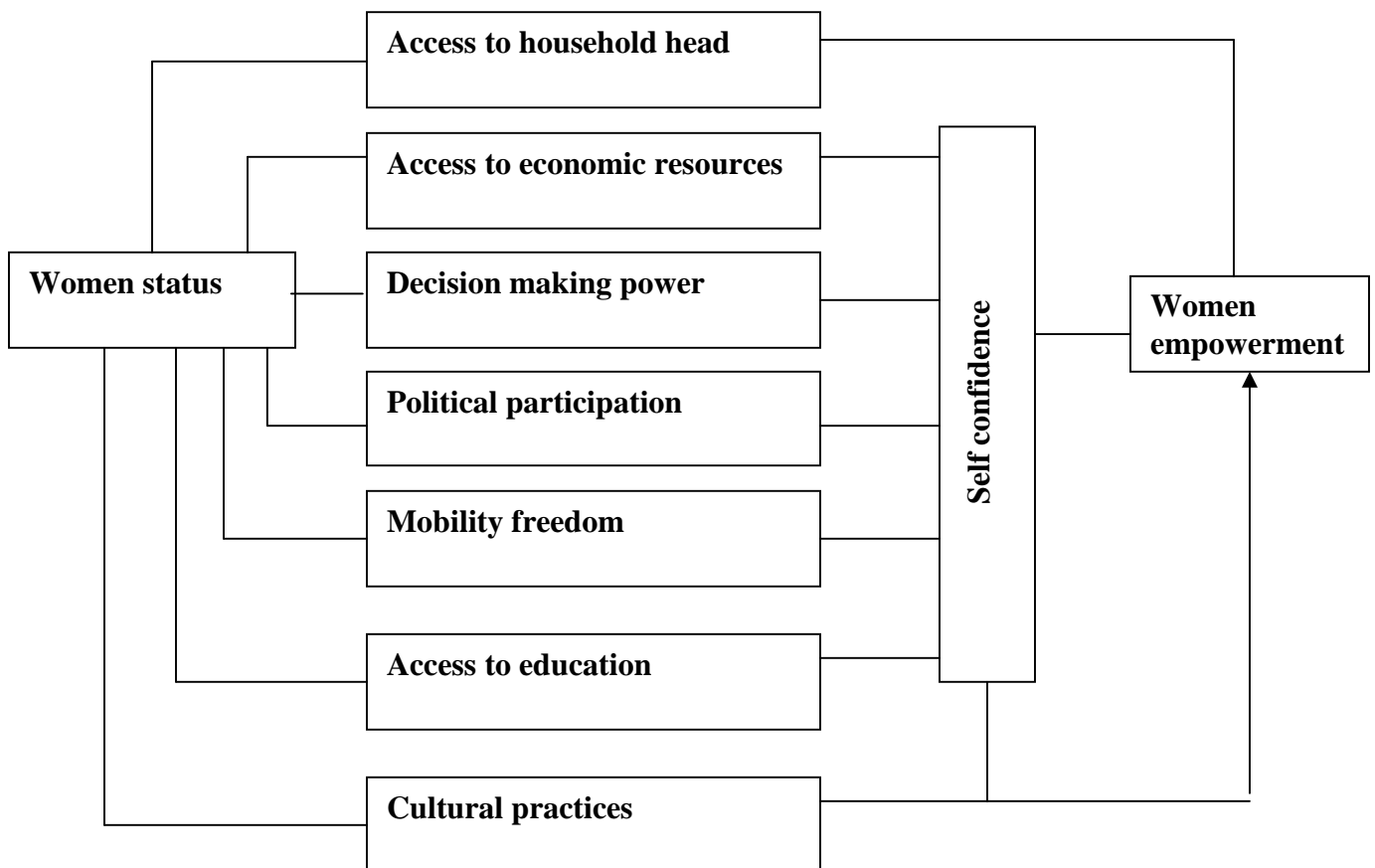
By reviewing literature theoretically and empirically, can be conclude that there are many dimension such as 'women in education', 'women access to economic resources', 'women's role in decision making', 'women's freedom of movement', 'authorities to household properties', 'cultural practice' 'constitutional practices' determine the empowerment of women.

In recent times, women's empowerment is increasing trend. The participation of women is slightly increased in every sector when the state formed a policy of positive discrimination but which is not in a satisfactory condition. The Interim Constitution of Nepal 2063 has provided 32.8 percent reservation in all mechanism based on the caste/ethnic composition of women through the amendment of relevant laws and policies.

### 2.3 Conceptual Framework

Empowerment of women is determined by their involvement and participation. In the framework, empowerment of women is the dependent variable. The framework advocates that education, income, land and other property ownership, decision making power in household, in community and in party, freedom etc. And they determine the women's empowered.

**Fig. 1: Conceptual Framework for Analysis**



In this framework the dependent variable and independent variables are analyzed with interlink. The empowerment of women is dependent on access to household head, access to economic resources, decision making power, political participation, mobility freedom, access to education and cultural practices. These independent variables improve the women status and increase their self confidence and who are prior to be empowered. These variables play the most important role to make women empowered.

## CHAPTER – THREE

# METHODOLOGY

This chapter gives the details of the procedures adopted for the research study. It begins by dealing with topics like background of the study populations, data collection procedures and tools, sources of data, sampling size and sampling techniques, questionnaire design and data processing and technique of data analysis.

The proposed study is a case study of women in Constitution Assembly based on primary sources of information. The information is collected by using quantitative tools. Both household and individual survey with women members of CA is conducted by meeting them personally and by taking help from other members of CA by providing the questionnaires and receiving the responses.

### 3.1 Background of the Studied Populations

Constitution Assembly has been selected for the study. It has got dual functions. One is to prepare the draft of constitution which is addressable to all groups of people whereas another function is the parliamentary function. This study not only shows the studied (targeted) population and their access in constitution preparation, but also in parliamentary work which has full decisive authority.

Constitution is the main law of the country. Constitution Assembly is an Assembly of the members who are elected by people and nominated by cabinet to make a new constitution.

Constituent assembly is a group of elected representatives that have the power to write or change their country's constitution (<http://www.doceonline.com/dictionary/constituent-assembly>).

A constituent assembly (sometimes also known as a constitutional convention) is a body composed for the purpose of drafting or adopting a constitution (<http://www.en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Constituent-assembly>).

The April revolution of 2006 brought a historical change in the politics of Nepal. The Constitution Assembly has been formed and election has been completed in April 2008, and Nepal is now a democratic republic. There are 601 members in Constitution Assembly. Among them 240 members are elected by direct election system, 335 members are elected by proportionate election system and 26 members are nominated by cabinet. Different caste and ethnicity, different languages and religions, different culture and regions, different sex and age groups of members are represented in CA. The members have come from different historical, political, economical, social, educational, professional background to make a new Constitution. There are around 32.8 per cent women members in CA. It is the first history of Nepal, the participation of women in Parliament (CA). CA is the reflection of whole Nepal. It can say, it is the 'Rainbow' because all colors represent in it.

The majority of the CA members are below the age of 50, i.e., 437; youth below 35 are represented in significant numbers, i.e., 72; in the terms of religion professed, Hindus form the majority and Buddhists, Muslim, Christian, Kirant, etc.; speakers of more than 50 languages are represented in CA, with the majority, i.e., speaking Nepali as their mother tongue; on the basis of birthplace, the largest number of CA members are from Kathmandu, i.e., 37, followed by Dhanusha, i.e., 20, while the smallest number is from Rasuwa, i.e., 1; the participation of women is 32.8 percent; and in terms of educational qualification, 87 of the CA members have not completed ten years of schooling (SLC), while there are 153 members with graduate degrees and 34 members have a low background (Samudaik Sarathi Nepal, 2008).

There are 197 (32.8%) women members in CA. this study was focused on all the women members but it was not possible because of time boundary, lack of economy, negligence and ignorance of the members, their carelessness and inaccessibility to meet them. Therefore, this study is focused on only 74 members. It is the 37.6 per cent of total women members. This study is focused on mainly their empowerment with measuring indicators.

### 3.1.1 Political Parties' Seat by Election System in Costitution Assembly

In the Constitution Assembly election, 74 political parties are registered and only 54 parties are participated. Out of these parties only 25 parties are elected in CA. The table shows the political parties' seat in CA by election system.

**Table 3.1.1: Representation of Political Parties' Seat by Election System**

Name of Party	Election System			Total	
	Direct	Proportionate	Nominated	No	%
UCPN (Maoists)	123	105	10	238	39.60
Nepali Congress	36	73	5	114	18.96
CPN (UML)	34	70	5	109	18.13
MPR Forum	29	22	2	53	8.81
TML Party	9	11	1	21	3.49
Sadvawana Party	4	5	0	9	1.50
Nepal Workers and Peasants Party	2	2	1	5	0.83
Independent	2	0	0	2	0.33
Rastriya Janamorcha	1	3	0	4	0.66
R P P	0	8	0	8	1.33
CPN (ML)	0	8	1	9	1.50
Others*	0	28	1	29	4.83
Total	240	335	26	601	100

Source: <http://www.election.gov.np>

Others\* CPN (Unified), RPP Nepal, Rastriya Janasakti Party, Rastriya Janamukti Party, CPN (United), Nepal Sadvawana Party (Anandidevi), Nepal Janata Dal, Sanghiya Loktantric Rastriya Manch, Samajbadi Prajatantri Janata Party, Dalit Janajati Party, Nepal Pariwar Dal, Nepa: Rastriya Party, Nepal Loktantric Samajbadi Dal and Churevawar Rastriya Ekata Party.

Out of 25 political parties of CA, only 9 parties are elected by direct election system. Out of these political parties, UCPN (Maoists) is the biggest party (39.60%) on the basis of obtained seat in CA followed by Nepali Congress (18.96%) and CPN (UML) (18.13%).

### 3.1.2 CA Members by Election System and Sex

All of the CA members' representation is below the table. There are three types of election system; direct, proportionate and nominate by cabinet. The third sex has also included in CA, it is the first representation in governmental sector.

**Table 3.1.2: Representation of CA members by Election System and Sex**

Election system	Sex			Total
	Male	Female	Third Sex	
Direct	210	30	00	240
Proportional	173	161	1	335
Nomination	20	6	00	26
Total	402	197	1	601

Source: Constitution Assembly, 2009

Among 601 members, 240 members elected by direct, 335 members are elected by proportionate and 26 members nominated by cabinet. Out of male members 210 are by direct, 173 are by proportionally elected and 20 are nominated by cabinet. Out of female members 30 are elected direct, 161 are elected proportionally and 6 are nominated. Only one third sex member represents in CA elected by proportional system.

### 3.1.3 CA Members by Caste/Ethnicity

Most of the caste/ethnicity groups represented in CA based on settlement of their numbers. In Constitution Assembly, there is a not only representation by Brahmin/chhetri, there are Janajati, Madhesi, Dalits, Muslim etc. There is majority of the respondents are from Hill Janajati.

**Table 3.1.3: Representation of CA members by Caste/ Ethnicity**

Caste/ Ethnicity	No.	%
Hill Bramhin/chhetri	189	31.44
Janajati (Terai/Hill)	218	36.27
Madhesi Brahman/ Chhetri	127	21.13
Dalit (Hiil/Terai)	50	8.32
Muslim	17	2.83
Total	601	100

Source: Constitution Assembly, 2009

In Constitution Assembly the highest percent of members falls (36.27%) in Janajati (Hiil/Tearai) followed by Hill Brahmin/Chhetri (31.44%), Madheshi Brahmin/Chhetri (21.13%), Dalit Hill/Terai (8.32%) and the lowest percentage of members falls in Muslim (2.83%).

### 3.1.4 CA Members by Educational Status

The educational status and level of CA members are representing the following table.

**Table 3.1.4: Representation of CA members by Educational Status**

Level of Education	No.	%
Illiterate / Not Stated	72	12.2
Literate	37	6.2
Below class 10	33	5.5
Class 10	17	2.9
Higher education	437	73.3
Total	596	100.00

Source: Samudayik Sarathi Nepal, 2008

Out of 596 CA members, 12.2 percent members are illiterate/not stated and the highest 73.3 percent members are completed their higher level of education (S L C and above).

### 3.2 Data Collection Procedures and Tools

This study is based on primary data in Constitution Assembly among female member. Data was collected by using structured and semi-structured interview and observation.

For collecting the information, a two staged interview was carried out in the CA women members. In the first stage, the questionnaires were prepared to obtain the basic information of the household such as family size, their demographic, socio-economic and educational status.

In the second stage, the detailed investigation through references and observation in the field was focused on the aspects needed to meet the objectives of the study. The information was collected from the respondents. The questionnaires were prepared to obtain general information, socio-economic condition, demographic and cultural conditions, and socio-political participation and decision making process, which mainly explore their empowering conditions.

For this research, the sets of questionnaires and observation were the basic tools of the study. During the study, the data were collected with the help of both structure and semi-structured questionnaires. The researcher has filled the questions based on the answers received from the respondents.

### 3.3 Sources of Data

Data has been obtained by using primary source of data. The data had been obtained from the field survey through individual survey, observations and informal interview. From the field



of survey, primary data had been collected from women members in Constitution Assembly. Secondary data had also been used wherever necessary.

### 3.4 Sampling Size and Sampling Techniques

This study was started to conduct in Constitution Assembly, with all women members which are 197, using by census method. But it was not possible because of the ignorance and non-response or negligence of the respondents. All women members did not response well. Some members ignored, some did not want to meet and some did not return the questionnaires. Who was response and agreed to fill the questionnaires those are included in this study. Therefore, only 74 respondents were included by using purposive sampling method in this study. According to purposive sampling method the following structure was obtained for this study.

The sampling size was 74 female respondents from 8 different political parties out of 19, from which parties female are representing in CA. the questions were based on targeted plan and there household related aspects.

**Table 3.4: Sample Size of the Respondents by Political Party**

Name of the political party	No.	%
Unified Nepal Communist Party Maoist	29	39.2
Nepali Congress	16	21.6
Nepal Communist Party United Marxist Leninist	19	25.7
Madhesi JanaAdhikari Forum	3	4.1
Tarai Madhes Loktantrik Party	3	4.1
Rastriya Prajatantra Party	2	2.7
Rastriya Janasakti Party	1	1.4
Rastriya Janamukti Party	1	1.4
Total	74	100.0

Source: Field Survey, 2009

Most of the respondents (39.2%) are from UCPN (Maoist) followed by CPN (UML) (25.7%) and Nepali Congress (21.6%). Representation of other political parties is very low.

This study was focused the process of empowerment of women in the studied population from decision making level as well as within the socio-economic, political, cultural, fertility and child related structure.

### 3.5 Questionnaire Design

The questionnaire design in such a way to meet the objectives of the study with considering limited time and resources. Data has been collected by preparing precise questionnaire sets. The structured and semi-structured questionnaires have been used as face to face interview and late interview. All individual questionnaires were asked to 74 women member in Constitution Assembly.

### **3.6 Data Processing and Analysis**

The data were collected through various tools, instruments and sources. To simplify the data analysis, the entire completed questionnaires had been edited for accuracy and completeness after completing each day's interview. Coding and editing had been done properly to make data entry and analysis easy. All responses were assigned to a numeric code. After that the collecting data had been processed using SPSS and EXCEL software, which is popular and reliable in analysis of social science research. Based on the software, the collected data were analyzed and statistically interpreted by using approved methods such as simple frequency distribution, percentage distribution, cross tabulation wherever necessary. Figure and pyramid have been also used to analyze the information. Most of the data have collected and tabulated with simple percentage.

## CHAPTER- FOUR

# HOUSEHOLD CHARACTERISTICS OF THE STUDY POPULATION

This chapter represents the demographic and socio-economic characteristics of the household population.

### 4.1 Age-sex Composition of the Household Population

The age-sex composition of a population is important in demographic analysis. A population's age and sex composition is considered as a map of its demographic history. The various demographic events differ in different age and sex. So, age- sex composition is important in every sector.

The information on age and sex of each household member are obtained from all the age and marital status of women. In 74 sampled of household of the total population are 356 with 144 male and 212 female populations (Table 4.1).

**Table 4.1: Distribution of HH population by age and sex**

Age group	Sex				Total		Sex Ratio
	Male		Female		Total		
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	
0-4	2	1.4	4	1.9	6	1.7	50.
5-9	14	9.7	18	8.5	32	9	77.8
10-14	15	10.4	14	6.6	29	8.1	107.1
<b>Below 15</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>21.5</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>18.8</b>	<b>53.7</b>
15-19	13	9	10	4.7	23	6.5	130
20-24	14	9.7	22	10.4	36	10.1	63.6
25-29	10	6.9	34	16	44	12.4	29.4
30-34	16	11.1	32	15.1	48	13.5	50.0
35-39	12	8.3	20	9.4	32	9	60.0
40-44	13	9	12	5.7	25	7	108.3
45-49	4	2.8	15	7.1	19	5.3	26.7
50-54	12	8.3	14	6.6	26	7.3	85.7
55-59	9	6.3	6	2.8	15	4.2	150
<b>15-60</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>71.5</b>	<b>165</b>	<b>77.8</b>	<b>268</b>	<b>75.3</b>	<b>62.4</b>
60-64	7	4.9	8	3.8	15	4.2	87.5
65+	3	2.1	3	1.4	6	1.7	100.0
<b>60+</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>5.2</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>5.9</b>	<b>90.9</b>
Total	144	100	212	100	356	100	67.9

Source: Field Survey, 2009

The majority of the targeted population is found in age group 30-34 years (13.5%) and lowest in age group 0-4 years (1.7%) and age group 65+ years (1.7%). The proportion of female

population is highest in age group 25-29 years (16.0%) and followed by age group 30-34 years (15.1%) and age group 20-24 years (10.4%) respectively. The lowest proportion of female population is found in age group 65+ years (1.4%). Similarly, the highest proportion of male population is found in age group 30-34 years (11.1%) and followed by age group 10-14 years (10.4%). The lowest proportion of male population is found in age group 0-4 (1.4%) (Table: 4.1).

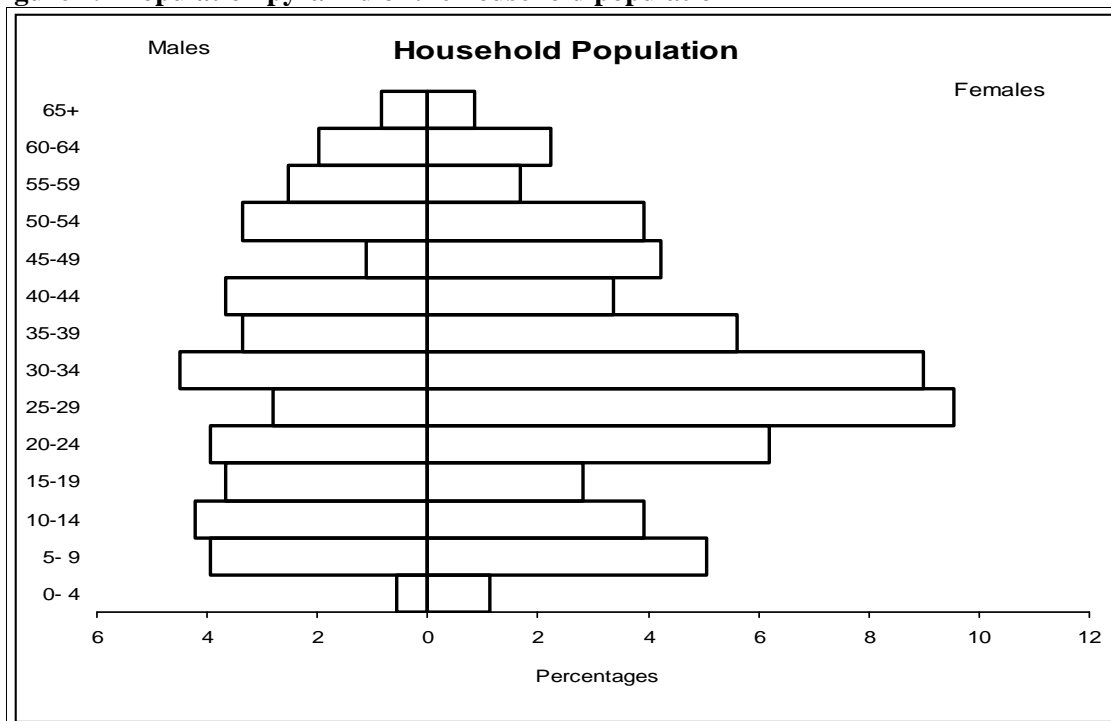
The sex ratio in the study population is found low. This indicates that the number of female is higher than males. The sex ratio is high in the age group 55-59 (150.0) and then in age group 15-19 (130.0). Similarly, it is low in the age group 45-49 (26.7) (Table: 4.1).

The economically active population 'independent population' age 15-60 years is found 75.3 percent in the study area and economically inactive population age below 15 and 60+ years is found 18.8 percent and 5.9 percent respectively (Table: 4.1).

#### 4.1.1 Population Pyramid

In general, population pyramid is a type of bar chart which graphically represents the population. The pyramid of the study area represents that the economic active population is high. The dependent population is lower than independent population. This pyramid also assures that the population in the younger age and elder age are also declining and the female age group of 25-29 and 30-34 much higher than others because most of the respondents are from the age group 25-34 years.

**Figure 4.1 Population pyramid of the household population**



## 4.2 Relation to the HH Head of HH Population

Nepal is a male dominating society. There are most of the males as head of the household family in Nepal. In the study population also male head of the household is higher than female. Though most of the females who involve in income generating activities and decide themselves at home, they respect their husband as a household head.

**Table 4.2: Distribution of population by relation to HH head**

RELATION TO HH	SEX				Total	
	Male		Female			
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Household head	53	71.6	21	28.4	74	100.0
Husband/wife	00	00	54	100.0	54	100.0
Son Daughter	77	44.3	97	55.7	174	100.0
Daughter in law	00	00	23	100.0	23	100.0
Grand Children	12	44.4	15	55.6	27	100.0
Brother Sister	1	100.0	00	00	1	100.0
Relative	1	33.3	2	66.7	3	100.0
Total	144	40.4	212	59.6	356	100.0

Source: Field survey, 2009

The majority of head of the household is male 53 (71.6%). Female head of the household is found only 21 (28.4%). According to data of CBS 2001, the female household heads are 14.9 percent in Nepal. The percentage of female household head of the study population is higher than CBS data because the females of the study areas seem to have been empowered than the other women of Nepal in the gap of ten years after census (Table 4.2).

## 4.3 Marital Status of the Household Population

Marriage is the universal. Marriage determines the social roles and responsibilities of the people. Therefore, it is called social institution to promote the family status.

**Table 4.3: Distribution of population age 5 and above by their marital status**

Marital status	SEX				Total	
	Male		Female			
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Unmarried	69	48.6	72	34.6	141	40.3
Married	73	51.4	115	55.3	188	53.7
Widowed	00	00	17	8.2	17	4.9
Divorced	00	00	2	1.0	2	.6
Separated	00	00	2	1.0	2	.6
Total	142	100.0	208	100.0	350	100.0

Source: Field Survey, 2009

In the household population age 5 years and above, majority of the population are married (53.7%). Similarly, (40.3%) unmarried, (4.9%) widowed and (0.6%) are divorced and separated (Table: 4.3).

The highest proportion of married population is female (55.3%) and the highest proportion of unmarried population is male (48.6%). The table shows that widowed, divorced and separated are found only from female that is (8.2%), (1.0%) and (1.0%) respectively (Table: 4.3).

#### 4.4 Educational Status of the Household Population

Education is the most important for the development of people, the nation and the world. Education plays the vital role to bring changes in socio-economic status of people, the nation as well as the world. Education enhances the ability and capacity of human beings. The higher educational status affects the people's participation in socio-economic, developmental activities as well as in policy making level.

**Table: 4.4 Distribution of the population by educational status age 5 and above**

Literacy status	SEX				Total	
	Male		Female			
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Illiterate	2	1.4	5	2.4	7	2.0
Literate	140	98.6	203	97.6	343	98.0
Total	142	100.0	208	100.0	350	100.0
<b>Educational Groups</b>						
Primary/no schooling	39	27.9	70	34.5	109	31.8
Secondary	9	6.4	19	9.4	28	8.2
Higher Education	92	65.7	114	56.1	206	60.0
Total	140	100.0	203	100.0	343	100.0

Source: Field Survey, 2009

In the sampled, there are 356 household populations. Among them 5 years and above 98.0% population is literate and 2.0% population is illiterate. And female literacy rate is 97.6 percent and illiterate percent is 2.4 (Table: 5). Female literacy rate (97.6%) of the study area is higher than the CBS data of 2001 (42.5%) because the families of the study areas were aware by politics.

Educational structure of Nepal is divided into three groups of level i.e. primary, secondary and higher education. Among the literate population, the highest 60.0 percent respondents are in higher education followed by primary/no-schooling education 31.8 percent. Only 8.2 percent population has got secondary education (Table 5.4).

Education by gender is found unequal among the study population. Female education attainment is lower than male. Female education is higher only in lower level than male i.e. in primary/no-schooling (34.5%) and in secondary (9.4%) whereas the male percentage is 27.9 and 6.4 respectively. In higher level male by (65.7%) is higher than females (56.1%).

This table shows that female educational attainment is still lower in the study population (Table 5.4).

#### 4.5 Caste/Ethnicity of the Household Population

Caste/ethnicity is the most important identity in the context of Nepal. Nepal is about to be restructured based on caste/ethnicity also. The seats are reserved for the backward caste/ethnicity in every mechanism of the nation.

**Table 4.5: Caste/ethnicity of the household population**

Caste groups	SEX				Total	
	Male		Female		No.	%
	No.	%	No.	%		
Hill Brahmin/Chhetri	40	27.8	63	29.7	103	28.9
Hill Janajaties	46	31.9	65	30.7	111	31.2
Hill Dalit	11	7.6	17	8.0	28	7.9
Terai Brahmin/Chhetri	24	16.7	33	15.6	57	16.0
Terai Janajaties	13	9.0	22	10.4	35	9.8
Terai Dalit	8	5.6	9	4.2	17	4.8
Muslim	2	1.4	3	1.4	5	1.4
Total	144	100.0	212	100.0	356	100.0

Source: Field Survey, 2009

In the study populations most of the population is found from different caste/ethnicity. The highest 31.2 percent population is of Hill Janajaties, followed by 28.9 percent of Hill Brahmin/Chhetri and lowest 1.4 percent from Muslim followed by Terai Dalits (4.8%). And others Terai Brahmin/Chhetri (16.0%), Terai Janajati (9.8%) and Hill Dalits (7.9%) (Table 4.5).

#### 4.6 Religion of the Household Population

Nepal is a multi-caste/ethnic, multi-languages and multi-religious country. Before 2008 (2065 B.S.), Nepal was a Hindu nation. Now Nepal is a secular Nation, although the majority of population is in Hindu religion. The study populations are following the religions like Hindu, Buddhist, Kirat and Muslim and some are secular.

**Table 4.6: Distribution of the household population by religion**

Religion	No.	%
Hindu	221	62.1
Buddhist	40	11.2
Kirant	35	9.8
Muslims	21	5.9
Secular	39	11.0
Total	356	100.0

Source: Field Survey, 2009

Based on household population, the majority of the population (62.1%) is in Hindu religion. In the population, Buddhists are 11.2 percent, Kirants are 9.8 percent and Muslims are 5.9

percent. Among 74 respondents, 39 percent are found secular in the study population (Table 4.6).

#### 4.7 Occupation of the Household Population

Economic condition of a person depends on his/ her occupation and the other economic sources. The following table shows that the occupation of the household population.

**Table 4.7 Distribution of the population by occupation age 10 and above**

Occupation	SEX				Total	
	Male		Female			
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Agriculture	21	16.4	44	23.2	65	20.4
Cottage Industry	9	7.0	14	7.4	23	7.2
Industry	1	.8	6	3.2	7	2.2
Service	25	19.5	12	6.3	37	11.6
Business	4	3.1	7	3.7	11	3.5
Foreign Recruitment	11	8.6	8	4.2	19	6.0
Student	40	31.3	46	24.2	86	27.0
Household Work	00	00	9	4.7	9	2.8
Politics	15	11.7	38	20.0	53	16.7
Others	2	1.6	6	3.2	8	2.5
Total	128	100.0	190	100.0	318	100.0

Source: Field Survey, 2009

In the study population, the higher percentage of household populations of age 10 years and above are students (27.0%) followed by farmers (20.4%). Other occupations of the household are politics (16.7%), service (11.6%) and cottage industries (7.2%). The lowest percentage of household population is in industries (2.2%) (Table: 4.7).

Broadly population is engaged in non-agricultural activities including service, industries, business, foreign recruitment, politics, household work and students. The higher proportion of female of the household population is in agriculture (23.2%) followed by politics (20.0%). It is also found that higher male proportion in service (19.5%) followed by foreign recruitment (8.6%). Only 4.7 per cent females are household workers. This table shows that female population also involve in income generating activities (Table: 4.7).



## CHAPTER – FIVE

### ANALYSIS OF DATA

This chapter represents the socio-economics, demographic and political characteristics and decision making process of the respondents in the study populations.

#### 5.1 Political and Social Participated Characteristics and Decision Making Process

In this chapter it is analyzed political and social participation and decision making process of respondents.

##### 5.1.1 Inspired by Whom

Most of the female involved in party after 2046 revolution. After that the issue of women right came into discussion, female got freedom in the field of politics. When Maoist started people's revolution then more female involved in politics. Politics is the social movement. So, it attracts to people. First of all, people are interested in politics by inspiration, by something or some moment. The table presents the respondents who are inspired by people who are their parents, relatives and so on.

**Table 5.1.1: Distribution of the respondents by inspired by whom**

Inspired by	No.	%
Father	11	14.9
Mother	2	2.7
Husband	25	33.8
Brother Sister	5	6.8
Self	2	2.7
Relatives Friends	17	23.0
Leaders/Others	12	16.2
Total	74	100.0

Source: Field Survey, 2009

In the study populations most of the respondents (33.8%) are inspired by their husband followed by relatives/friends (23.0%). It shows that most of the husbands who are in politics they want to involve their wives as well. The lowest percentage of the respondents (2.7%) seems to have been inspired by their mother and themselves respectively. It is observed that mothers don't want their daughters to involve in politics. In this population 16.2 percent respondents are inspired by political leaders and 14.9 percent by father. Father's role is also important for children involvement in politics (Table 5.1.1)

### 5.1.2 Decision on Involvement in Party

Politics is challenging field for all, for female it is more challenging than male because most of the parents or other family members and relatives don't want to give suggestion to females to become a leader of political party. Most of the people are inspired by others but decide by themselves. People don't want to choose the field of politics and other on others' decision.

**Table 5.1.2: Distribution of the respondents by decision on involve in party**

Decided by	No.	%
Father	3	4.1
Mother	1	1.4
Husband	2	2.7
Self	62	83.8
Relatives Friends	6	8.1
Total	74	100.0

Source: Field Survey, 2009

In the study populations the highest percentage of the respondents (83.8%) decides by themselves. The lowest percentage of the respondents (1.4%) is decided by their mother. It shows that mothers don't give suggestion and permission to their children to involve in politics especially for daughters (Table 5.1.2).

### 5.1.3 Position in Party and Involved in other Organization

In the context of Nepal most of the females are not interested in politics. Few females only involve, however, they are not in top position in the parties. After Interim Constitution 33 percent of seats has been reserved for female in every mechanism, after that only all the political parties seem to have reserved seats for the female in CA. But these parties have not given priority for them in the top positions.

National Election Commission conducted Mixed Type of election in the form of direct, proportionate and nomination process. So, all CA members have not come from political background. Before being the CA members, some were in other field. So, they are involved till now directly or indirectly in the politics. Most of the respondents who are the top leaders of parties are involved in other organizations, too.

In the study populations among 74 respondents, the highest percentages of respondents (41.9%) are in regional committee followed by central committee (32.4%). The lowest percentages of respondents (2.7%) are in area committee followed by standing committee (4.1%) (Table 5.1.3).

**Table 5.1.3: Distribution of the respondents by position in party and involve in other organization by party**

POSITION IN PARTY	Party groups								Total	
	UCPN(Maoist)		Nepali Congress		CPN(UML)		Others*		No.	%
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%		
standing committee	1	3.4	1	6.3	1	5.3	00	00	3	4.1
central committee	9	31.0	8	50.0	1	5.3	6	60.0	24	32.4
regional committee	16	55.2	6	37.5	8	42.1	1	10.0	31	41.9
district committee	2	6.9	1	6.3	8	42.1	3	30.0	14	18.9
area committee	1	3.4	00	00	1	5.3	00	00	2	2.7
Total	29	100.0	16	100.0	19	100.0	10	100.0	74	100.0
<b>Involved Organization</b>										
Governmental Organization	00	00	1	6.7	00	00	1	14.3	2	4.2
Non-Governmental Organization	5	45.5	5	33.3	12	80.0	4	57.1	26	54.2
Local and Social Organization	6	54.5	9	60.0	3	20.0	2	28.6	20	41.7
Total	11	100.0	15	100.0	15	100.0	7	100.0	48	100.0

Source: Field Survey, 2009

Others\* Madheshi Janaadhikar Forum, Terai Madhesh Loktantrik Party, Rastriya Prajatantra Party, Rastriya Janasakti Party and Rastriya Janamukti Party

In UCPN (Maoist), the highest percentages of respondents (55.2%) are in regional committee and lowest (3.4%) in standing and area committee. In Nepali Congress, the highest percentages of respondents (50.0%) are in standing committee and the lowest (6.3%) in standing and district committee. In CPN (UML), the highest percentages of respondents (42.1%) are in regional and district committee and lowest percentage (5.3%) are in others committees. The majority respondents' of other parties (60.0%) are in central committee (Table 5.1.3).

In the study area among 74 CA members, only 64.9 percent members are involved in other organizations for economical profit or without benefit. The highest (80%) members of CPN (UML) are involved in non-governmental organizations, and followed by Nepali congress (60.0%) in local and social organization and the respondents of UCPN(Maoist) and CPN (ML) are not in governmental organizations (Table 5.1.3).

Among 197 female members of CA only 2 members are president of drafting committee among 14 committees. Out of two one from CPN (UML) and another from UCPN (Maoist) (source: CA). In this study among 74 respondents only one found the president of drafting committee from UCPN (Maoist) (Field Survey, 2009).

## 5.2 Economic Characteristics and Decision Making Process

In this chapter decision making process and economic access of respondents are analyzed.

### 5.2.1 Main Source of HH Income by Political Party Affiliation

All people are involved in income generating activities to manage their family or live. Nepal is an agricultural country. Therefore, more than half Nepalese peoples' main source of income is agriculture. Nowadays, it is in decreasing trend because people are attracted in non-agriculture activities. In the study populations the majority of respondents' main source of income is agriculture. The table shows the main source of income of respondents according to their political parties.

#### 5.2.1: Distribution of the respondents by source of HH income

Main sources of income	Party groups								Total	
	UCPN(Maoist)		Nepali Congress		CPN(UML)		Others		No.	%
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%		
Agriculture	9	31.0	5	31.3	11	57.9	3	30.0	28	37.8
Business	4	13.8	00	00	1	5.3	00	00	5	6.8
Service	1	3.4	7	43.8	2	10.5	4	40.0	14	18.9
Industry	00	00	00	00	00	00	1	10.0	1	1.4
Cottage Industry	2	6.9	3	18.8	2	10.5	1	10.0	8	10.8
Foreign recruitment/politics	13	44.8	1	6.3	3	15.8	1	10.0	18	24.3
Total	29	100.0	16	100.0	19	100.0	10	100.0	74	100.0

Source: Field Survey, 2009

The highest percentage of respondents (37.8%) is in agriculture followed by politics (24.3), by foreign recruitment (24.3%) and lowest in industries (1.4%) (Table 5.2.1).

Among the parties, the highest percentage (57.9%) of the respondents of CPN (UML) in agriculture followed by 44.8 percent respondents of UCPN (Maoist) in politics/foreign recruitment and lowest 3.4 percent respondent of UCPN (Maoist) in service. No one respondents of the UCPN (Maoist), Nepali Congress and CPN (UML) in industry (Table 5.2.1).

### 5.2.2 Monthly Income of the HH by Political Party Affiliation

According to NLSS (2003/2004), 31 percent Nepalese are under poverty line and 71 percent of women are in poverty line. Nepal is an agricultural country; however, most of the people have not got land and other income generating source as well. Therefore, they have an obligation to work for wages and their income is not sufficient for livelihood. Above table shows that most of the respondents' main source of income is agriculture. So, it can be said that most of the respondents' monthly income is also not more.

**Table 5.2.2: Distribution of the respondents by monthly income of the HH**

Monthly income	Party groups								Total	
	UCPN(Maoist)		Nepali Congress		CPN(UML)		Others		No.	%
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%		
Not response	14	48.3	1	6.3	5	26.3	1	10.0	21	28.4
Less than 10000	9	31.0	6	37.5	9	47.4	3	30.0	27	36.5
10000-20000	2	6.9	6	37.5	3	15.8	3	30.0	14	18.9
20000-50000	3	10.3	3	18.8	1	5.3	1	10.0	8	10.8
More than 50000	1	3.4	00	00	1	5.3	2	20.0	4	5.4
Total	29	100.0	16	100.0	19	100.0	10	100.0	74	100.0

Source: Field Survey, 2009

In the study population, most of the respondents did not make any response of the questions about monthly income. Out of 74, 28.4 percent respondents did not respond and others who responded were also not correct because they didn't want to give actual information. Among the information 36.5 percent respondents' monthly income is less than 10000, 18.9 percent respondents' income is 10000-20000. 10.8 percent respondents' monthly income is 20000-50000 and only 5.4 percent respondents' income is more than 50000. According to this data, it is observed that more than half respondents' monthly income is below 20000(Table 5.2.2). Among the information, the highest percentage of the respondents (47.4%) of CPN (UML) followed by Nepali Congress (37.5%) whose monthly income is less than 10000. only Nepali Congress has not any respondents whose HH monthly income is more than 50000 (Table 5.2.2).

### 5.2.3 Decision on Expenditure Money at Home by Political Party Affiliation

Decision on expenditure money at home is the most important decision making power in the household. In the context of Nepal women are controlled by their father or husband in household decision making task to manage daily utility things. Most of the women don't keep household income so that they will have to ask money to buy daily utility things. The table presents the decision making power of respondents on spent money at home.

**Table 5.2.3: Distribution of the respondents by decision on expenditure money at home**

DECISION ON SPENT MONEY AT HOME	Party groups								Total	
	UCPN(Maoist)		Nepali Congress		CPN(UML)		Others		No.	%
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%		
Father	6	20.7	00	00	1	5.3	00	00	7	9.5
Mother	3	10.3	1	6.3	1	5.3	1	10.0	6	8.1
Husband	3	10.3	3	18.8	4	21.1	2	20.0	12	16.2
Self	9	31.0	4	25.0	5	26.3	3	30.0	21	28.4
Brother sister	1	3.4	00	00	00	00	00	00	1	1.4
Husband and Wife both	7	24.1	8	50.0	8	42.1	4	40.0	27	36.5
Total	29	100.0	16	100.0	19	100.0	10	100.0	74	100.0

Source: Field Survey, 2009

In the study population among 74 respondents 36.5 percent both husband and wife make decision for expenditure followed by 28.4 percent themselves make decision, 8.1 percent mothers and only 1.4 percent respondents' brother/sister make decision on spending money at home (Table 5.2.3).

The highest 50.0 percent respondents of Nepali Congress make decision both husband and wife followed by CPN (UML) (42.1%) and the lowest 3.4 percent respondents of UCPN (Maoist) brother/sister make decision on spent money at home and brother/sister don't make decision in other political party (Table 5.2.3).

#### 5.2.4 Other Source of Income by Political Party Affiliation

All of the CA members are not come from political background. Therefore, some are still involved in other income generating professions. Not only is that, the political leaders also involved in other income generating activities. The table presents the other source personal income of respondents according to their parties.

**Table 5.2.4: Distribution of the respondents by other source of income**

Party	OTHER PERSONAL INCOME				Total	
	Yes		No		No.	%
	No.	%	No.	%		
UCPN(Maoist)	3	10.3	26	89.7	29	100.0
Nepali Congress	6	37.5	10	62.5	16	100.0
CPN(UML)	7	36.8	12	63.2	19	100.0
Others	3	30.0	7	70.0	10	100.0
Total	19	25.7	55	74.3	74	100.0

Source: Field Survey, 2009

In the study population out of 74 respondents only 25.7 percent respondents have other source of income and 74.3 percent respondents have not any other source of income (Table 5.2.4).

Among the parties, Nepali Congress has the highest percentage of the respondents (37.5%) who have other source of income followed by CPN (UML) (36.8%) and the lowest percentage of the respondents (10.3%) in UCPN (Maoist). According to the table it is observed that the respondents of Nepali Congress and CPN (UML) involve in other income generating activities than others and most of the respondents of Maoist (89.7%) are not involved (Table 5.2.4).

#### 5.2.5 Control on Personal Income by Political Party Affiliation

Most of the females have not decision making power in household and to control over household income. Not only household income, their personal income they can not spend as their wish because their parents or husband control them. It is in practical in Nepalese women's life. The table reveals the decision making power of respondents on their personal income.

**Table 5.2.5: Distribution of the respondents by control on personal income**

Party	WHO CONTROL PERSONAL INCOME						Total	
	Husband		Self		Husband and Wife both		No.	%
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%		
UCPN(Maoist)	3	10.3	24	82.8	2	6.9	29	100.0
Nepali Congress	00	00	15	93.8	1	6.3	16	100.0
CPN(UML)	3	15.8	12	63.2	4	21.1	19	100.0
Others	00	00	8	80.0	2	20.0	10	100.0
Total	6	8.1	59	79.7	9	12.2	74	100.0

Source: Field Survey, 2009

In this study population among 74 respondents, most of the respondents (79.7%) control themselves over their personal income, 12.2 percent both husband and wife control and only 8.1 percent husband control (Table 5.2.5).

The highest 93.8 percent respondents of Nepali Congress control themselves followed by 82.8 percent respondents of UCPN (Maoist) and lowest 6.3 percent respondents are of Nepali Congress both husband and wife control followed by UCPN (Maoist) (6.9%). The respondents of Nepali Congress and other political parties' husband don't control their personal income (Table 5.2.5).

### 5.2.6 Saving Account by Political Party Affiliation

In the study populations all of the respondents have bank account but income is not sufficient for all. Therefore, all the respondents cannot save after spending money at home for the future.

**Table 5.2.6: Distribution of the respondents by saving account**

Party	SAVING ACCOUNT				Total	
	Yes		No		No.	%
	No.	%	No.	%		
UCPN(Maoist)	5	17.2	24	82.8	29	100.0
Nepali Congress	12	75.0	4	25.0	16	100.0
CPN(UML)	7	36.8	12	63.2	19	100.0
Others	6	60.0	4	40.0	10	100.0
Total	30	40.5	44	59.5	74	100.0

Source: Field Survey, 2009

The study shows that out of the respondents 59.5 percent have not saving money. 30 (40.5%) who have saving accounts the highest percentage of the respondents (75.0%) of Nepali Congress followed by others party (60.0%) and lowest (17.2%) of UCPN (Maoist). Who have not saving account 82.8 percent respondents of UCPN (Maoist) and 25.0 percent respondents of Nepali Congress (Table 5.2.6).

### 5.2.7 Having Personal Property by Political Party Affiliation

Right of females in parental property is written only in 'The Interim Constitution 2063'. Not only in property right, after the constitution was made, had women started to be a bit of empowered. Nowadays, government policy is also implemented for buying property in women sake. These policies and laws are good starting in women rights. The table presents the having personal property of respondents according to political party.

**Table 5.2.7: Distribution of the respondents by having personal property**

Party	DO YOU HAVE OWN PROPERTIES								Total	
	Home		Land		Industry		No		No.	%
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%		
UCPN(Maoist)	4	13.8	00	00	00	00	25	86.2	29	100.0
Nepali Congress	5	31.3	6	37.5	1	6.3	4	25.0	16	100.0
CPN(UML)	3	15.8	7	36.8	00	00	9	47.4	19	100.0
Others	3	30.0	1	10.0	00	00	6	60.0	10	100.0
Total	15	20.3	14	18.9	1	1.4	44	59.5	74	100.0

Source: Field Survey, 2009

In the study populations out of 74 respondents more than half respondents (59.5%) have not any personal properties. Who have their personal properties the highest percentage of the respondents (20.3%) have home followed by land (18.9%) and only 1.4 percent respondents have industries (Table 5.2.7).

According to the party, the respondents who have home has got the highest percent (31.3%) in Nepali Congress followed by others party (30.0%) and lowest (13.8%) in UCPN (Maoist). The respondents who have land have got the highest percent (37.5%) in Nepali Congress followed by CPN (UML) (36.8%). The respondents of UCPN (Maoist) have not got land. The respondents of only Nepali Congress (6.3%) have industry (Table 5.2.7).

### 5.2.8 Decision on Buying or Selling HH Property by Political Party Affiliation

Most of the females don't sell or buy household properties without permission of their guardians because all the families don't give them full decision making power in the context of Nepal. In Nepalese family before marriage daughters have not power to make decision on property buying or selling except very few cases. Not only before marriage, after marriage also they have not strong decision making power because they are controlled by their husband and then son. The table analyzes the decision making power of respondents' according to their parties.



**Table 5.2.8: Distribution of the respondents by decision on buying or selling HH property**

WHO DECIDED TO BUY OR SELL PROPERTIES	Party groups								Total	
	UCPN(Maoist)		Nepali Congress		CPN(UML)		Others		No.	%
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%		
Father	7	24.1	1	6.3	1	5.3	1	10.0	10	13.5
Mother	2	6.9	00	00	1	5.3	00	00	3	4.1
Husband	2	6.9	2	12.5	4	21.1	2	20.0	10	13.5
Brother sister	3	10.3	00	00	00	00	00	00	3	4.1
Self	3	10.3	2	12.5	5	26.3	1	10.0	11	14.9
Husband and wife both	12	41.4	11	68.8	8	42.1	6	60.0	37	50.0
Total	29	100.0	16	100.0	19	100.0	10	100.0	74	100.0

Source: Field Survey, 2009

Decision on buying or selling property it was found that comparatively very less in females (14.9%) make decision to buy or sell property in the household. Out of the respondents 50.0 percent both husband and wife make decision on buying or selling property and mother (4.1%) and brother/sister (4.1%) have not strong decision making power to buy or sell property in the household (Table 5.2.8).

The highest 68.8 percent respondents of Nepali Congress both husband and wife make decision on buying or selling HH property followed by other party (60.0%) and the lowest 5.3and 5.3 percent respondents of CPN (UML)s' father and mother followed by respondents of UCPN (Maoist)s' mother and husband 6.9 and 6.9 percent respectively (Table 5.2.8).

### 5.3 Demographic and Social Characteristics and Decision Making Process

In this chapter analyzes about respondents' marriage, culture, dowry system etc. and their decision making process.

#### 5.3.1 Marital Status

Marital status is one important determinant, which changes the life cycle of a woman. Marriage is essential and universal in our society. It determines women position within family as well as their status within society. Females role are increased in family only after their marriage and their decision making power is accepted they are considered to be married.

**Table 5.3.1: Distribution of the respondents by marital status**

<b>Marital status</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>%</b>
Unmarried	7	9.5
Married	52	70.3
Widowed	11	14.9
Divorced	2	2.7
Separated	2	2.7
Total	74	100.0

Source: Field Survey, 2009

In the study populations out of 74 respondents 9.5 percent respondents are unmarried. The highest numbers of respondents are married (70.3%), followed by widow (14.9%) and divorced and separated are (2.7%) (Table: 5.3.1).

#### 5.3.2 Age at Marriage by Caste/ethnicity and Political Party Affiliation

Age at marriage is also an indicator of socio-economic and health status of the women. According to caste/ethnicity age at marriage is different. The following table reveals that the mean age at marriage of the respondents by caste/ethnicity and political party.

**Table 5.3.2 Distribution of the respondents by age at marriage**

<b>Caste group</b>	Mean	No.
Hill Brahmin/Chhetri	21.27	22
Hill Janajaties	22.26	23
Hill Dalit	22.67	3
Terai Brahmin/Chhetri	19.70	10
Terai Janajaties	17.83	6
Terai Dalit	25.67	3
Total	21.33	67
<b>Party groups</b>		
UCPN(Maoist)	21.76	25
Nepali Congress	22.27	15
CPN(UML)	21.11	18
Others	19.00	9
Total	21.33	67

Source: Field Survey, 2009

The table reveals that the mean age at marriage of the respondents is 21.33. Out of the respondents the highest mean age at marriage in Terai Dalits (25.67%) followed by Hill Dalits (22.67%). The data are not mutual in the context of Nepal, Brahmin and Dalits both Terai and Hill mean age at marriage is low and Janajaties' high but the table does not show that. The lowest mean age at marriage is in Terai Janajaties (17.83%) followed by Terai Brahmin /Chhetri (19.70) (Table 5.3.2).

According to political party, mean age at marriage of the respondents', Nepali Congress has highest (22.76) mean age at marriage followed by UCPN (Maoist) (21.76) and CPN (UML) 21.11). The lowest mean age at marriage (19.00) has found in others political party (Table 5.3.2).

### 5.3.3 Age at Marriage of Husbands

The age at marriage of husband plays the vital role of females' life. Husbands age and wife age similar or not and how many years differences that is the most important factor for the couple life and it plays the important role on decision making process.

**Table 5.3.3: Distribution of the husbands' age at marriage**

	No.	%
Less than 20	11	16.4
More than 20	56	83.6
Total	67	100.0
Mean age at marriage	<b>25.42</b>	
Median age for marriage	<b>25.00</b>	

Source: Field Survey, 2009

In this study the age at marriage of husband is categorized into two groups such as less than 20 and more than 20. It is observed that more than  $\frac{3}{4}$  (83.6%) of the respondents' husbands

have got married after 20 years and only 16.4 percent before 20s. the mean age at marriage of the husband is 25.42 and median age for marriage is 25.00 (Table 5.3.3). Analyzing the two mean tables it is observed that the differences between respondents and their husband mean age at marriage is mutual in the context of Nepal.

### 5.3.4 Decision on Marriage by Caste/ethnicity and Political Party Affiliation

Marriage is the process of socialization. After marriage people start to become responsible and matured. It is the most important event for the person, for others it is just social process. Decision on marriage is challengeable and most important also. In the context of Nepal, most of the parents make decision for their children's marriage. The table shows the decision making power of respondents according to their caste/ethnicity and parties.

**Table 5.3.4.1: Distribution of the respondents' decision on marriage by caste/ethnicity**

	DECISION ON MARRIAGE										Total	
	Parents		Brother sister		Self		Party		Other		No.	%
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%		
Hill Brahmin/Chhetri	12	54.5	1	4.5	7	31.8	2	9.1	00	00	22	100.0
Hill Janajaties	9	39.1	1	4.3	9	39.1	3	13.0	1	4.3	23	100.0
Hill Dalit	1	33.3	1	33.3	1	33.3	00	00	00	00	3	100.0
Terai Brahmin/Chhetri	7	70.0	1	10.0	1	10.0	1	10.0	00	00	10	100.0
Terai Janajaties	4	66.7	00	00	2	33.3	00	00	00	00	6	100.0
Terai Dalit	00	00	1	33.3	1	33.3	1	33.3	00	00	3	100.0
Total	33	49.3	5	7.5	21	31.3	7	10.4	1	1.5	67	100.0

Source: Field Survey, 2009

The table shows that in the study populations about half of the parents (49.3%) decide on children marriage followed by self (31.3%). The highest percentage of parents' decision on marriage (70.0%) in Terai Brahmin/Chhetri caste followed by Terai Janajaties (66.7%) and in Terai Dalits has not got any respondents who got married by parents' decision. Self decision on marriage seen highly (39.1%) in Hill Janajaties and lowest in Terai Brahmin/Chhetri (10.0%) (Table 5.3.4.1).

**Table 5.3.4.2: Distribution of the respondents' decision on marriage by party**

Decision to marriage	Party groups								Total	
	UCPN(Maoist)		Nepali Congress		CPN(UML)		Others		No.	%
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%		
Parents	7	28.0	10	66.7	9	50.0	7	77.8	33	49.3
Brother sister	1	4.0	3	20.0	1	5.6	00	00	5	7.5
Self	10	40.0	2	13.3	7	38.9	2	22.2	21	31.3
Party	7	28.0	00	00	00	00	00	00	7	10.4
Other	00	00	00	00	1	5.6	00	00	1	1.5
Total	25	100.0	15	100.0	18	100.0	9	100.0	67	100.0

Source: Field Survey, 2009

According to party, the highest percentage of the parents' decision (77.8%) in others political party followed by Nepali Congress (66.7%) and lowest in UCPN (Maoist) (28.0%). Self decision on marriage is seen highly in Maoist (40.0%) followed by CPN (UML) (38.9%) and lowest In Nepali Congress (13.3%) (Table 5.3.4.2). It is observed that most of the respondents got married by the decision on parents and self not others (Table 5.3.4.2).

### 5.3.5 Types of Marriage by Political Party Affiliation

Marriage is conducted in universal by their culture. Culture is developed by their caste/ethnicity, religion, regions and others. In Nepal there are different types of marriage are conduct but in this study population, three types of marriage are found arrange, love and Janabadi/Pragatishil which is based on the political party. Therefore, the table presents the marriage types according to political party.

**Table 5.3.5: Distribution of the respondents by types of marriage by political party**

Party	TYPES OF MARRIAGE						Total	
	Arrange		Love		Janabadi/Pragatishil		No.	%
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%		
UCPN(Maoist)	8	32.0	8	32.0	9	36.0	25	100.0
Nepali Congress	13	86.7	2	13.3	00	00	15	100.0
CPN(UML)	10	55.6	6	33.3	2	11.1	18	100.0
Others	7	77.8	2	22.2	00	00	9	100.0
Total	38	56.7	18	26.9	11	16.4	67	100.0

Source: Field Survey, 2009

In the study populations more than half (56.7%) respondents were found in arrange marriage and only 16.4 percent respondents in Janabadi/Pragatishil marriage (Table 5.3.5).

The highest percentage of arrange marriage (86.7%) in Nepali Congress followed by other political parties and lowest (32.0%) in UCPN (Maoist). The respondents of Nepali Congress and others party have not found in Janabadi/Pragatishil marriage because it is the only communist and modern culture. In this type the Maoist respondents are found more (36.0%) than other party and other marriage types. In love marriage CPN (UML) and Maoist respondents are more than others. The table shows that Nepali Congress and other parties conduct marriage by arrange and CPN (UML) and Maoists by others (Table 5.3.5).

### 5.3.6 Types of Marriage Practice by Caste/Ethnicity and Political Party Affiliation

In the context of Nepal Hill and Terai Brahmin/Chhetri follow the dowry system on their marriage. Mostly jewelers and other precious things or land are given by Hill Brahmin/Chhetri caste on their marriage and Terai Brahmin/Chhetri gives especially money the name of 'Tilak' or dowry. Nowadays, dowry system is not only following the Brahmin/Chhetri caste, Janajati and other castes also follow this culture.

### 5.3.6 Distribution of the respondents by types of marriage culture

Caste Groups	TYPE OF MARRIAGE CULTURE						Total	
	Dowry system		General		Janabadi/Pragatishil		No.	%
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%		
Hill Brahmin/Chhetri	8	36.4	9	40.9	5	22.7	22	100.0
Hill Janajities	6	26.1	10	43.5	7	30.4	23	100.0
Hill Dalit	00	00	3	100.0	00	00	3	100.0
Tarai Brahmin/Chhetri	4	40.0	4	40.0	2	20.0	10	100.0
Tarai Janajities	00	00	6	100.0	00	00	6	100.0
Tarai Dalit	1	33.3	1	33.3	1	33.3	3	100.0
Total	19	28.4	33	49.3	15	22.4	67	100.0
<b>Party Groups</b>								
UCPN(Maoist)	2	8.0	12	48.0	11	44.0	25	100.0
Nepali Congress	10	66.7	4	26.7	1	6.7	15	100.0
CPN(UML)	2	11.1	13	72.2	3	16.7	18	100.0
Others	5	55.6	4	44.4	00	00	9	100.0
Total	19	28.4	33	49.3	15	22.4	67	100.0

Source: Field Survey, 2009

In the study populations about half (49.3%) respondents got married in general followed by dowry (28.4%) and lowest percentage of the respondents (22.4%) are in Janabadi/Pragatishil (Table 5.3.6).

The 100 percent respondents got married in general of the Hill Dalits and Terai Janajities caste. In dowry system the highest percentage of respondents (40.0%) in Terai Brahmin/Chhetri followed by Hill Brahmin/Chhetri (36.4%) and lowest (26.1%) in Hill Janajities. Dowry system is not culture of Janajities, but in the study area 26.1 percents got married by dowry system it is the effect of Brahmin/Chhetri caste. Nowadays Janajities also following the dowry system by leaving their bride service culture (Table 5.3.6).

The highest percentage of the respondents (72.2%) in general system of CPN (UML) followed by in dowry system (66.7%) respondents of Nepali Congress and lowest percentage of the respondents (6.7%) in others of Nepali Congress followed by dowry (8.0%) respondents of UCPN (Maoist) (Table 5.3.6).

### 5.3.7 Dowry Types by Political Party Affiliation

Dowry is given in Hill and Terai both Brahmin/chhetri culture more than others. They give dowry according to their culture, caste/ethnicity and religion. All of the political parties talk about defense of dowry system but it is not in practice. The table presents the respondents who have got dowry according to political party.

**Table 5.3.7: Distribution of the respondents by dowry types**

Party	IF DOWRY YOU GOT				Total	
	Jewelers and other precious thing		Land		No.	%
	No.	%	No.	%		
UCPN(Maoist)	1	50.0	1	50.0	2	100.0
Nepali Congress	5	50.0	5	50.0	10	100.0
CPN(UML)	2	100.0	00	00	2	100.0
Others	5	100.0	00	00	5	100.0
Total	13	68.4	6	31.6	19	100.0

Source: Field Survey, 2009

In the study populations only two types dowry are found, jewelers and other precious things and land. More than two third (68.4%) respondents got jewelers and other precious things and only 31.6 percent respondents got land. The 100 percent respondents of CPN (UML) and others political party got jewelers and other precious things. The respondents of Nepali Congress and UCPN (Maoist) got 50-50% jewelers and land (Table 5.3.7).

### 5.3.8 Decision on Going Outside

Decision on going outside is also an important measurement of women freedom. It is a social affair also. In the context of Nepal most of the females are involved in household activities and they are always under of their father, husband and son. Therefore they have to ask to permission to go outside of house. Not only general women, the leader of political parties also are not free to make decision on going outside. They have to ask to permission their parents or guardians mostly father or father in law to go outside.

#### 5.3.8: Distribution of the respondents by decision on going outside

Decided by	No.	%
Father	44	59.5
Mother	1	1.4
Husband	3	4.1
Self	26	35.1
Total	74	100.0

Source: Field Survey, 2009

In the study populations more than half (59.5%) respondents ask to permission to their father (father and father in law) and 35.1 percent respondents decide their selves for going outside. Only 1.4 percent respondents ask for permission to their mother and 4.1 percent respondents follow their husband decision. From this table it is observed that the respondents who are the leaders of political party though they are not free for going outside without permission of the guardians (Table 5.3.8). In the study populations most of the respondents (79.1%) continued their study or service and work of before marriage among them most of the respondents (31.3%) are in household work followed by 25.4 percent are working in party. They continued by agreement from all of the family members (67.9%) (Annex)).

## 5.4 Fertility and Decision Making Process

In this chapter it is analyzed that fertility related like child birth, use of contraceptives and about their decision making. In the study population among the 74 respondents 67 are married included divorced and separated. Out of 67 respondents only 60 are given birth.

### 5.4.1 CEB

The no. of children ever born (CEB) to a particular woman is an aggregate measure of her lifetime fertility experience up to the moment.

#### 5.4.1: Distribution of the respondents by CEB

CEB	No.	%
1.00	18	30.0
2.00	17	28.3
3.00	13	21.7
4.00	7	11.7
6.00	3	5.0
7.00	1	1.7
8.00	1	1.7
Total	60	100.0

Source: Field Survey, 2009

In the study populations below 50 percent of the respondents have more than two children. The highest percentage of the respondents' (30.0%) CEB is 1; it is followed by 28.3 percent respondents whose CEB is 2. The respondents whose CEB is 7 & 8 that is 1.7 percent (Table 5.4.1).

### 5.4.2 Decision on Child Birth by Political Party Affiliation

The people who have decide about child birth is also important factor in decision making. Most of the female can not make decision their selves on child bearing in the context of Nepal because the male are superior in every decision making sector. However it is determine the level of education and awareness of females. The following table shows differentiate on decision on child birth according to different political party.

**Table 5.4.2: Distribution of the respondents by decision on child birth**

Party	DECISION ON HAVING CHILDREN						Total	
	Husband		Self		Husband and wife both		No.	%
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%		
UCPN(Maoist)	00	00	00	00	22	100.0	22	100.0
Nepali Congress	00	00	1	7.1	13	92.9	14	100.0
CPN(UML)	2	12.5	1	6.3	13	81.3	16	100.0
Others	00	00	00	00	8	100.0	8	100.0
Total	2	3.3	2	3.3	56	93.3	60	100.0

Source: Field Survey, 2009



In the study populations about child birth decision making most of the respondents (93.3%) decide both husband and wife. The 100 percent husband and wife both of the UCPN (Maoist) and other party decide on child birth and the lowest percentage (7.1%) self decide on child birth of Nepali Congress respondents (Table 5.4.2).

Out of 67 married respondents 6 respondents are not response about use of contraceptives, 20 respondents are use and 41 are not use the means of contraceptives tools. Among the users 75.0 percent of the respondents both husband and wife decide to use and 25.0 percent respondents' husband decide (Annex).

## 5.5 Children Related Decision Making Process

This chapter analyzes about the children related decision making education, health and about their marriage.

### 5.5.1 Attendant School of Children by Political Party Affiliation

Education makes the person, family, society, nation and the world awares. Nowadays, all the people are aware in the educations of children. Most of the people want to send school to their children.

**Table 5.5.1: Distribution of the respondents by children attendant school**

EVER ATTANDENT SCHOOL	Party groups								Total	
	UCPN(Maoist)		Nepali Congress		CPN(UML)		Others		No.	%
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%		
<b>SON</b>										
Yes	12	92.3	13	100.0	12	100.0	7	100.0	44	97.8
No	1	7.7	00	00	00	00	00	00	1	2.2
Total	13	100.0	13	100.0	12	100.0	7	100.0	45	100.0
<b>DAUGHTER</b>										
Yes	19	100.0	6	100.0	15	100.0	5	83.3	45	97.8
No	00	00	00	00	00	00	1	16.7	1	2.2
Total	19	100.0	6	100.0	15	100.0	6	100.0	46	100.0

Source: Field Survey, 2009

In the studied populations, most of the children go to school. Among son and daughter both 97.8 percent attend school and only 2.2 percent do not attend (i.e. 1 son and 1 daughter). The son who is not attendant at school is one of the Maoist's respondents and the daughter is the respondents of other political party. The reason of not attending school is not found from this study (Table 5.5.1).

### 5.5.2: Decision on Children Education, Treatment and Marriage by Political Party Affiliation

Most of the females are in household work so they look after of their children than males. They spend more time with children and household takecare also. But all females have not decision making power for their schooling, treatment, marriage and so on. The table presents differentiate on decision making power by different political parties.

**Table 5.5.2: Distribution of the respondents by decision on children education, treatment and marriage**

DECISION ON CHILDREN EDUCATION	Party groups								Total	
	UCPN(Maoist)		Nepali Congress		CPN(UML)		Others		No.	%
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%		
Self	3	13.6	00	00	4	25.0	1	12.5	8	13.3
Husband	10	45.5	3	21.4	2	12.5	2	25.0	17	28.3
Husband and wife both	9	40.9	11	78.6	10	62.5	5	62.5	35	58.3
Total	22	100.0	14	100.0	16	100.0	8	100.0	60	100.0
<b>DECISION ON CHILDREN TREATMENT</b>										
Self	3	13.6	00	00	4	25.0	1	12.5	8	13.3
Husband	10	45.5	3	21.4	2	12.5	3	37.5	18	30.0
Husband and wife both	9	40.9	11	78.6	10	62.5	4	50.0	34	56.7
Total	22	100.0	14	100.0	16	100.0	8	100.0	60	100.0
<b>WHO DECIDED TO MARRIAGE</b>										
Self	00	00	00	00	2	50.0	1	14.3	3	15.8
Their selves	2	66.7	00	00	2	50.0	1	14.3	5	26.3
Husband and wife both	1	33.3	5	100.0	00	00	5	71.4	11	57.9
Total	3	100.0	5	100.0	4	100.0	7	100.0	19	100.0

Source: Field Survey, 2009

In the studied populations more than half (58.3%) respondents' both husband and wife make decision on their children education followed by husband (28.3%) and only 13.3 percent their selves decide. In the treatment of children also more than half (56.5%) both husband and wife make decision followed by husband (30.0%) and only 13.3 percent their selves make decision. In decision on marriage of children 57.9 percent both husband and wife make decision followed by children their selves (26.3%) and only 15.8 percent respondent self make decision. It is observed that in most of the family both husband and wife make decision about their children (Table 5.4.2).

## CHAPTER-SIX

### SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

This chapter presents the summary of findings of the study and it also includes conclusion and recommendation.

#### 6.1 Summary of findings

This study is attempted to find out the empowerment of women by demographic, socio-economic, political variables and decision making process in women member of Constitution Assembly.

This study is based on the primary data. Using by purposive sampling method 74 respondents is taken from the different characteristics and the data are analyzed using frequency distribution, cross tabulation and pyramid.

##### 6.1.1 Socio-economic characteristics of the household population

- ) Among 356 household populations, 144 are male and 212 are female. The highest percentage of population in age group 30-34 (13.5%) and lowest in age group 0-4 and 56+ (1.7%).
- ) The sex ratio is low (67.9) in the study population. Child dependency ratio 53.7 and old age dependency ratio 90.9 is found.
- ) Economically active population is 62.4 percent in age group 15-60 years.
- ) Most of the male (71.6%) are household head and female (28.4%) are found.
- ) More than half household populations are married (53.7%), unmarried (40.3%) and others. The highest 55.3 percent female are married and 48.6 percent male are unmarried.
- ) The majority of the household populations are Hindu (62.1%) and lowest 5.9 percent are Muslim.
- ) Out of the total household populations, 98.0 percent are literate and 2.0 percent are illiterate. In higher education female attainment is low (56.1%) than male (65.7%).
- ) Most of the household populations are students (27.0%) and agriculture (20.4%) and lowest 2.2 percent are in industry.
- ) The highest 31.2 percent populations are Hill Janajatis and lowest 1.4 percent is Muslims.

##### 6.1.2 Political and social participated characteristics of the respondents

- ) Out of 74 respondents the highest 33.8 percent are inspired by their husband lowest by their selves (2.7%) and by mother (2.7%).
- ) Most of the respondents make decision their selves (83.8%) to involve in political party and lowest 1.4 percent mother decided.
- ) The highest 32.9 percent respondents are in central committee of party and lowest in area committee (2.7%). The majority of the respondents in central committee (60.0%)

- of others political parties and lowest in standing committee (3.4%) and area committee (3.4%) of UCPN (Maoist).
- ) Out of 74, more than half 54.2 percent respondents are involved in non governmental organization and only 4.2 percent in governmental organizations. Out of them 80.0 percent respondents of UCP (UML) are in non governmental organization.

### **6.1.3 Economic characteristics and decision making power**

- ) Out of 74 respondents, highest 37.8 percent respondents' household income is agriculture and 1.4 percents' is industry. The highest 57.9 percent respondents of CPN (UML) income source is agriculture and lowest 3.4 percent respondents of UCPN (Maoist) is service.
- ) It is found 36.5 percent respondents' monthly income is less than 10000 and only 5.4 percent respondents income is more than 50000. The highest 47.4 percent respondents of CPN (UML) income are less than 10000 and lowest 3.4 percent respondents; income is more than 50000.
- ) Majority of the respondents 36.5 percent are found who make decision on spent money at home both husband and wife followed by self (28.4%). The highest 50.0 percent respondents of Nepali Congress who make decision both husband and wife followed by 31.0 percent respondents of UCPN (Maoist) who make decision their selves.
- ) Out of 74 respondents, 74.3 percent respondents have not any other personal income source. Who have among them the highest 37.5 percent respondents of Nepali Congress and only 10.3 percent of UCPN (Maoist).
- ) More than half (59%) respondents control on personal income their selves followed by both husband and wife (12.2%). The highest 93.8 percent respondents of Nepali Congress control personal income their selves followed by 82.8 percent of UCPN (Maoist) also their selves.
- ) It is founds 59.5 percent respondents have not any saving accounts. Among 40.5 percent who have saving accounts the highest 75.0 percent respondents of Nepali Congress and lowest 17.2 percent respondents of UCPN (Maoist).
- ) Out of 74 respondents, 59.5 percent respondents have not personal property. The highest 37.5 percent respondents of Nepali Congress who have personal land and lowest 6.3 percent who have industry.
- ) It is found 50.0 percent respondents make decision both husband and wife on buying or selling HH property followed by self 14.9 percent. The highest 68.8 percent respondents of Nepali Congress make decision both husband and wife followed by 60.0 percent respondents of other political parties who also make decision both husband and wife.

#### **6.1.4 Demographic and social characteristics and decision making process**

- ) Out of 74 respondents 70.3 percent are married 9.5 percent are unmarried and others
- ) The mean age at marriage of the respondent is 21.33. Among the caste/ ethnically the high mean age at marriage is 25.67 of Terai Dalits and low 17.83 of Terai Janajatis. Among the political party high mean age of marriage is 22.27 in Nepali Congress and low in other political party.
- ) The mean age at marriage of husband is 25.00
- ) Among 74 respondents, about half percent (49.3%) respondents' parents make decision on marriage followed by self (31.3%). The highest 70.0 percent respondents of Terai Brahmin/Chhetri's parents make decision followed by 66.7 percent respondents of Terai Janajati's also parents make decision. Among parties, the highest 77.8 percent respondents of other political party whose parents make decision followed by Nepali Congress (66.7%).
- ) Out of 74 respondents, 56.7 percent got married by arrange followed by love (26.9%). In arrange marriage, Nepali Congress respondents are high (86.7%), in love marriage, CPM (UML) respondents are high (33.3%) and in Janabadi/pragatishil Maoist are high (36.0%).
- ) About half (49.3%) respondents got married by general system followed by dowry (28.4%). All of the Hill and Terai Janajati conduct their marriage by general and 40.0 percent Terai Brahmin/Chhetri conducts by dowry. The highest 66.7 percent Nepali congress respondents conduct their marriage by dowry.
- ) Most of the respondent (64.4) got jewelers and other precious things and 31.6 percent respondents got land in their dowry.
- ) Over 59.5 percent respondents ask permission to their father to go outside followed by their selves (35.1%) make decision to go outside.

#### **6.1.5 Fertility and decision making process**

- ) The highest percentage of the respondents (30.0%) CEB is 1, it is followed by 28.3 percent who's CEB is 2.
- ) Among the means of contraceptive user respondents, 75.0 percent respondents make decision both husband and wife to use and 25.0 percent husband decided.
- ) Out of 60 respondents make decision both husband and wife on child birth.

#### **6.1.6 Children related decision making process**

- ) Among son and daughter both 97.8 percent attend school and only 2.2 percent are not attend.
- ) Decision on children's education, 58.3 percent both husband and wife make decision and followed by husband (28.3%). Among the parties, CPN (UML) respondents (25.0%) have strong decision making power than others.
- ) Out of 60, 56.7 percent respondents make decisions both husband and wife on children health followed by self (30.0%).

- ) It is found 57.9 percent both decide on their children marriage followed by 26.3 percent children their self decide on their marriage. The highest 66.7 percent children their selves decide of Nepali Congress.

## **6.2 Conclusions**

Women empowerment is the foundation for the overall development of nation. This study is focused on the empowerment of women in demographic, socio-economic, political access and participation and decision making process from the CA members' perspectives. From this study it is concluded that the members of CA are not more empowered because only about 1/3 members are in top position in party, they are not economically strong, most respondents have not gained higher level of education. They don't get opportunity to make decision in party because they are not in decision making level. In household, most of the parents make decision then husband and then after only both husband and wife. Most respondents make decision their selves in which family there is no another parents or guardians (except few cases and in child related decision making). In child related decisions also both husband and wife make decision, self decision is in third rank. Among the parties the respondents of Nepali Congress more empowered in economic access as well as economic decision making than others. The respondents of UCPN (Maoist) are more empowered in their personal life related decision making like marriage, freedom etc. They have weak economic access than others.

## **6.3 Recommendations**

Based on the major findings and conclusions, some recommendations are made to improve the empowerment of women of CA members.

### **Recommendations for Government and Political Party**

- ) In the study respondents all are literate but they are not educated, so, to empower them, skillful training and workshop should be lunch by government also.
- ) Some few of the respondents follow the main leaders' conversation or slogan of party but they don't know what is the sense or meaning and they also don't know when and in which situation it is use. So all of the parties also teach them to improve their knowledge otherwise how do they lead the society?
- ) 33 percent preservation is not sufficient, 50 percent seat is must necessary for women in every mechanism of government, in party and not only those the policy should be make for private sector also.
- ) Constitutional Assembly also can conduct trainings and workshop for some especial members who are genuine to improve their empowerment.
- ) Many respondents are educated and knowledgeable also however can not make decision their selves because our society and family norms are guiding by parents or guardians.

### **Recommendations for Further Research**

The issue of women empowerment is very vague. In this study only the indicators of demographic, socio-economic access, political participation and decision making process are included. The study populations are 74 women members of CA so this study couldn't cover all indicators which measures empowerment. Therefore, other further researcher are suggested to take for other more indicators and cover all of the members of CA male and female both perspectives, it will be most reliable. The result of the study is not sufficient for empowerment however it is the reflection of whole Nepal



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## CODE

Relation	Sex	Religion	Marital status	Educational status	Main occupation
1. head	1. male	1. Hindu	1. unmarried	1. illiterate	1. agriculture
2. husband/wife	2. female	2. Buddhist	2. married	2. literate	2. industries
3. son/daughter		3. Kirant	3. widow/widower	write completed class	3. service
4. son in law/daughter in law		4. Christian	4. divorced		4. business
5. grand children		5. Muslim	5. separated		5. foreign recruitment
6. father/mother		6. others	6. others		6. student
7. brother/sister					7. household work
8. relatives					8. politics
9. others					9. others

## Individual Schedule

### 1. General Information

S. N.	Questions	Options	Code
1.	What is your name?	.....	
2.	What is the name of your political party?	.....	
3.	Who inspired you to be a member of political party?	1. Father..... 2. Mother..... 3. Husband..... 4. Brother/sister..... 5. Self..... 6. Relatives/friends..... 7. Leaders/others.....	1 2 3 4 5 6 7
4.	Who decided on choosing the party to be a member?	1. Father..... 2. Mother..... 3. Husband..... 4. Self..... 5. Brother/sister..... 6. Relatives/friends..... 7. Other.....	1 2 3 4 5 6 7
5.	When did you become a member of party?	In B.S. ....	
6.	In which post are you in the party?	1. Standing committee.... 2. Politburo committee... 3. Central committee..... 4. Regional committee.... 5. District committee..... 6. Area committee.....	1 2 3 4 5 6
7.	Have you explored new issue to draft the constitution?	1. Yes..... 2. No.....	1 2
8.	Are you involved any social or other organization?	1. Yes..... 2. No.....	1 2
9.	If yes, in which organization are you involved?	1. Go's..... 2. NGo's..... 3. INGo's..... 4. Local organizations.... 5. Others.....	1 2 3 4 5
10.	What do you think about fundamental rights?	..... ..... ..... .....	
11.	What do you think about women's rights?	..... ..... ..... .....	

## 2. Questions related to property ownership and economic decision making

S. N.	Questions	Options	Code
12.	What is the main source of income in your family?	1. Agriculture..... 2. Business..... 3. Service..... 4. Industries..... 5. Cottage industries/self employed..... 6. Others (specified).....	1 2 3 4 5 6
13.	Who are directly involved in?	1. Father..... 2. Mother..... 3. Husband..... 4. Self..... 5. Husband/wife both..... 6. Brother/sister..... 7. Son/daughter..... 8. All members..... 9. Other(specified).....	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
14.	How much does your family income per month?	In Rs.....	
15.	Except do you have other personal income?	1. Yes..... 2. No.....	1 2
16.	How much does your monthly income?	In Rs.....	
17.	Who controls the family income?	1. Father..... 2. Mother..... 3. Husband..... 4. Self..... 5. Brother/sister..... 6. Husband/wife both..... 7. Others (Specified).....	1 2 3 4 5 6 7
18.	Who controls your personal income?	1. Father..... 2. Mother..... 3. Husband..... 4. Self..... 5. Brother/sister..... 6. Husband/wife both..... 7. Others (Specified).....	1 2 3 4 5 6 7
19.	Who decided to buy daily utility things at home?	1. Father..... 2. Mother..... 3. Husband..... 4. Self..... 5. Brother/sister..... 6. Husband/wife both..... 7. Others (Specified).....	1 2 3 4 5 6 7
20.	Who decided to buy your personal things?	1. Father.....	1

		2. Mother.....	2
		3. Husband.....	3
		4. Self.....	4
		5. Brother/sister.....	5
		6. Husband/wife both.....	6
		7. Others (Specified).....	7
21.	Who decided to buy or sell household properties?	1. Father.....	1
		2. Mother.....	2
		3. Husband.....	3
		4. Self.....	4
		5. Brother/sister.....	5
		6. Husband/wife both.....	6
		7. Others(Specified).....	7
22.	Do you have PEWA or DOWRY?	1. Yes.....	1
		2. No.....	2
23.	If yes, what do you have?	.....	
		.....	
24.	Do you have own named properties?	1. Home.....	1
		2. Land.....	2
		3. Shop.....	3
		4. Industries.....	4
		5. No.....	5
		6. Others (specify).....	6
25.	Do you have saving account four the future?	1. Yes.....	
		2. No.....	
26.	Does your family income sufficient for household expenses?	1. Yes.....	1
		2. No.....	2

### 3. Questions related demographic and social characteristics and their decision making power

S. N.	Questions	Options	Code
27.	What is your marital status?	1. Unmarried.....	1
		2. Married.....	2
		3. Widow.....	3
		4. Divorced.....	4
		5. Separated.....	5
		6. Others(specify).....	6
28.	What was your age at marriage?	In complete year.....	
29.	What was your husband age at marriage?	In complete year.....	
30.	Who decided for your marriage?	1. Parents.....	1
		2. Brother/sister.....	2
		3. Self.....	3
		4. Relatives.....	4
		5. Party.....	5



		6. Others (Specified).....	6
31.	What is the type of your marriage?	1. Arrange..... 2. Love..... 3. Court..... 4. Janbadi/pragatishil..... 5. Others (specify).....	1 2 3 4 5
32.	In your family does conduct remarriage or polygamy?	1. Yes..... 2. No.....	1 2
33.	If Yes, whose?	1. Husband..... 2. Wife.....	1 2
34.	In which types of marriage culture does your marriage conduct?	1. Dowry system..... 2. Bride service..... 3. General..... 4. Janbadi/pragatishil.....	1 2 3 4
35.	If in dowry system, what did you get?	1. Jewelers and other precious things..... 2. Land..... 3. Home..... 4. Others (specify).....	1 2 3 4 5
36.	If in bridge system, what did you get?	..... ..... .....	
37.	What did you do at the time of marriage?	1. Study..... 2. Service..... 3. Self employed..... 4. Household work..... 5. Working in party..... 6. Others (specify).....	1 2 3 4 5 6
38.	After marriage did you continue?	1. Yes..... 2. No.....	1 2
39.	If yes, who made decision?	1. Parents..... 2. Husband..... 3. Self..... 4. Agreement of all..... 5. Others (specify).....	1 2 3 4 5
40.	If not, why?	1. Voluntarily discontinued... 2. Because of family obstacles..... 3. Because of early marriage. 4. Because of HH work..... 5. Because of pregnancy..... 6. Traditional thinking..... 7. Others (specify).....	1 2 3 4 5 6 7

#### 4. Questions related to fertility and their decision making power

S. N.	Questions	Options	Code
41	Have you given birth any child?	1. Yes..... 2. No .....	1 2
42	Who made decision to give birth child?	1. Parents ..... 2. Husband ..... 3. Self ..... 4. Both ..... 5. Other (specify) .....	1 2 3 4 5
43	How many children were born alive?	1. No. of sons ..... 2. No of daughter .....	1 2
44	Have you ever used family planning method?	1. Yes ..... 2. No .....	1 2
45	Which is a method having you used?	1. Temporary..... 2. Permanent .....	1 2
46	Who made decision on using this method?	1. Husband ..... 2. Self ..... 3. Both ..... 4. Other (specify).....	1 2 3 4
47	If no, why didn't use?	1. Not need ..... 2. Fear of side effect ..... 3. Need more children ... 4. Husband is out of home..... 5. Husband don't like ... 6. Pregnant currently ... 7. Cultural belief .....	1 2 3 4 5 6 7

#### 5. Questions related to decision making on their children education, health and marriage

S. N	Questions	Options	Code
48	Does your son go to school?	1. Yes ..... 2. No .....	1 2
49	If no, why?	..... ..... ..... .....	
50	Does your daughter go to school?	1. Yes ..... 2. No .....	1 2
51	If no, why?	..... ..... .....	
52	Who makes decision about	1. Parent .....	1

	children education?	2. Husband .....	2
		3. Self .....	3
		4. Both .....	4
		5. Other .....	5
53	Who makes decision about treatment of children if they are sick?	1. Parent .....	1
		2. Husband .....	2
		3. Self .....	3
		4. Both .....	4
		5. Other .....	5
54	Have your any children got married?	1. Yes .....	1
		2. No .....	2
55	If yes, who made decision about their married?	1. Parents .....	1
		2. Husband .....	2
		3. Self .....	3
		4 Both .....	4
		5. Relatives .....	5
		6. Themselves .....	6
		7. Other (specify) .....	7

## ANNEXES

### BEFORE MARRIAGE WHAT YOU DID

	NO.	%
Studying	15	22.4
in service	11	16.4
Own Profession	2	3.0
Household work	21	31.3
Working in Party	17	25.4
Other	1	1.5
Total	67	100.0

### DID YOU CONTINUE

	No.	%
Yes	53	79.1
No	14	20.9
Total	67	100.0

### IF YES WHO DECIDED TO CONTINUE

	No.	%
Husband	5	9.4
Self	11	20.8
Agreement from all	36	67.9
Other	1	1.9
Total	53	100.0

### USE OF CONTRACEPTIVES

	No.	%
Yes	20	32.8
No	41	67.2
Total	61	100.0

### DECISION ON USING CONTRACEPTIVES

	No.	%
Husband	5	25.0
Both	15	75.0
Total	20	100.0



**Pictures of CA**



## MAP OF NEPAL



LOCATED MAP OF  
NEPAL

