

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background of the Study

Child labor has existed in different types of human society at different stages of history and continues to exist in many part of the world. However, it has emerged as a major social problem in the less developed country where poverty and underdevelopment have compelled children to seek employment for the survival of families to which they belong (Gefont, 2001).

The development of the nation depends upon the development of the children. The healthy upbringing of children can sustain the healthy development of the nation. So, children should be protected from all social and economic exploitation and discrimination and have opportunities to develop their potential.

Unfortunately many children from the third world suffer a lot from hunger, malnutrition and are often exploited. Therefore they are far from enjoying their right. Child labor has emerged as a social problem in the developing world today. The rapid increased in population, economic stagnation, structural adjustment, drought, war, and disease have decreased the ability of the families to earn a decent living

Numerous children work in occupation and industries which are plainly dangerous and hazardous. They are found in mines, factory, making glass bangle, matches and fire work, fishing and in commercial agriculture and so on (ILO 1998).

Child labor, is an important part of Nepalese society, is consequence of exploitative socio- economic and political reality of the country which is a still a bitter reality of many third world countries Thus child labor is a cause and effect of the exploitative socio-economic and political structure of the world. Like other developing countries, the rural communities in Nepal are going through a painful period created by increasing social injustice, economic exploitation and backwardness. The growing marginalization among the rural population, rural migration and urbanization has also contributed to an increase in the magnitude of child labour exploitation (CWIN 1998).

Exploitation of child labor in this part of the world is inhuman and intolerable. The pattern of child labor in Nepal is similar to other developing countries where children work in undesirable's occupation, their wages are low as compared to the adult workers and their rights are not recognized. Child labor in Nepal has two different dimensions one is connected with rapid growth of urbanization. Children are engaged in various occupations such as manufacturing carpets, the construction of roads and buildings, quarrying, and mining and as a domestic servant. The other dimensions are the traditional areas of work such as agriculture, animal husbandry, pottery and other family operated business (CWIN 1998).

Child labor remains a major economic and social phenomenon in Nepal. According to the National Child labor Survey undertaken in 1997 1.660 million children out of 6.2225 million children aged between 5 and 14 years are economically active. The large parts of (1.576 million) of the economically active children are engaged in agriculture sector followed by service sector and communication and transportation sector. Based on several studies conducted under IPEC Time Bound Programme it is estimated there are 127,143 children working in the worst forms of child labor- as bonded labor rag pickers, porters, domestic workers, in mines in the carpet sector and being trafficked. According to the same studies the children involved in these forms of child labor start working between the ages of 10 and 14. In addition, more than one- third of them are illiterate, and majority are school drop outs, who have been brought to their present workplace by their parents or relatives, it also appear they all have come from landless and relatively from large families (ILO-IPEC 2008 [www.global.org](http://www.global.org)).

The harsh living conditions and frequent natural disasters force economically weak people to compel their children to work and earn a livelihood to support family. Children work for a variety of reasons, as the stated by various literature the most important being poverty and the encouraged pressure upon them to escape from this troubles. Though children are not well paid, they still serve as major contributors to family income in developing countries. It is not always the poverty but the cause of poverty such as social suppression, unfair distribution of land, unemployment, bonded labour and social discrimination is responsible for the pushing children into the difficult circumstance.

Schooling problems also contribute to child labor, whether it is the inaccessibility of schools or the lack of quality education which drive parents to enter their children in more profitable search. Traditional factors such as rigid cultural and social roles in further limit educational attainment and increase child labor. The supply of child labor is accommodated by the demand of employers for cheap and flexible work force. They are often employed as compared to the adult because they are more vulnerable, cheaper to hire and less likely to demand higher wages or better working conditions.

According to UN convention on the right of child a child mean “every human being below the age of 18 years under the law applicable to child majority is attained earlier” (1989). The ILO convention 182 defines the child on article [2] as the term “child shall apply to all persons under the age of 18 years. The children act of Nepal 1992 defines “Child means the children who have not completed the age of 16 years. The children act of 1992 has strictly prohibited to work as labour that are below the age of 14 years. The children below 14 to 16 can work when they get facilities like less working hour 6 hour per day and not more than 36 hours per week. In this way if they work for three hour they must get rest for half an hour.

The government has enacted the Children’s Act (1992) However; the problem of child labours is escalating. Different forms of child labours are seen in various sectors and mode of life. The Large numbers children are employed as household worker. In this study child labor is defined those workers who are under the age of 14 years, who work

in other people's household, doing domestic chores, caring for children's errands, among other task.

## **1.2 Statement of the Problem**

Childhood is the formative stage. A child begin in the formative stage can be modeled in anyway. It is the period to make them knowledgeable, capable, responsible citizen by including conducting values. If children are forced to work in the early stage of their life for their mere survival, they can't become the fully functioning member of the society nor can contribute to the society positively. It is the responsibility of the nation as well as the civil society, family and the individual to create the successful environments which protect them and their rights.

Through out the world, thousand of children are working as domestic helper, performing task such as cleaning, ironing, and cooking, minding children. In many countries this phenomenon is not only socially and culturally accepted but might be regarded positively as a protected and non stigmatized type of work especially for child.

Ignorance or disregards for the risk children might be exposed to in this kind of work is an alarming reality in many parts of world. Because of its hidden nature it is impossible to have reliable figures on how many children are globally exploited as domestic worker.

The root cause of child domestic labor are multiple and multi-faced. Poverty and its feminization, social exclusion, lack of education, gender and ethnic discrimination, domestic violence, displacement, rural urban migration and loss of parents are just some of the multiple "push factor" for child domestic workers worldwide. Increasing social and economic disparities, debt bondage, the perception that the employers is simply as extended family and protected environment for the child, the increasing need for the women of the household to have a replacement at home that will enable more and more of them to enter the labors market and that the illusion that domestic service gives the child worker an opportunities for education are some of its "pull factor".

The hazards linked to this practice are a matter of serious concern. The ILO has identified a number of hazards to which domestic workers are particularly vulnerable and the reason it may be considered to be one of the worst forms of child labor. Some of the most common risks children faces in domestic service are long and tiring working days, use of toxic chemicals caring heavy loads, handling dangerous items, insufficient or inadequate food and accommodation and humiliating or degrading treatment including physical and verbal violence.

These hazards need to be seen in association with the denial of fundamental right of the children such as example access to education and health care, the right to rest, leisure, play, recreation and the right to be cared for and to have regular contact with parents or peers. The study basically aims to answer the following question.

- ❖ Who the children are?
- ❖ Where did they come from?
- ❖ What are the factors that forced them to join the service sector?
- ❖ What is their educational background?
- ❖ What are the tasks undertaken by them?
- ❖ What are the major problems faced by them?
- ❖ What kind of relation do they share with their employers?

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

The specific objectives of the present study were set as following;

- 1 To describe the background characteristics of household child labor,
- 2 To analyze their employment and working conditions

### **1.4 Rational of the Study**

How can the children make their future bright? Since they have no time to read, the working environment is not good for their health, there are no legislations for their job security and there is always a high rate of turnover therefore there is a need to understand the problems of household child laborers. Since the issue of household child labor is the issue of invisible child workforce.

The trend of domestic child labour is ever on increasing and creating an untold number of problems. It is a single most important source of child exploitation and child abuse in the world today resulting in a high risk condition for children. It is because the children are much susceptible to all physical as well as psychological dangers and they are not much aware of their rights and protection against their lives.

As Kathmandu metropolis is the largest municipality in the country with the best modern amenities available thus having the highest pull factor for children as well as adults from the rural areas of Nepal? Due to unfair and unbalanced development between urban and rural, growing unemployment, landlessness and lack of opportunities in the rural areas,

many people tend to migrate to the urban areas. Thousand of children leave their village for better opportunities in the city areas. Some children are brought by their parents and some are brought by contractors for the employment as domestic worker.

### **1.5 Organization of the Study**

The text of this research report consists of five chapters. The first chapter deals with the introduction of the study, statement of the problem, objectives of the study, rational of the study and the plan of presentation. The second chapter is devoted to review of literature related with the research issues, which also presents the conceptual framework of the study and operational definitions and operational measures of the selected variables.

The third chapter describes the research methodology adopted for the study such as site selection, research design, nature and sources of data, techniques of data collection, data processing and analysis and limitations of the study. The analysis and findings of the empirical research are presented in the fourth chapter. The fifth chapter is on summary and conclusion. Finally, References, Annexes are also given.

## CHAPTER II

### REVIEW OF LITERATURE

#### 2.1 Review of Empirical Studies

The issue of child labor has been a neglected issue for a long time. International approach to the children has now changed dramatically. Issues pertaining to the rights of child have received more attention than even before from both government and non government sector. In this chapter, the relevant literatures pertaining to child labor and child domestic workers are reviewed.

##### 2.1.1 Child Labor and Child Work

Children are engaged in wide variety of works. The conditions and nature of their work vary from occupations where children are able to develop responsibility and skills, and combine work with schooling, to conditions of extreme hazards and exploitation. The extent to which work is harmful or beneficial to children depends on number of factors. A distinction is therefore necessary to be made between “Child Labor” and “Child Work”. The former is defined as “work for wages” and carries the implication of being detrimental to the growth and development of children whereas the latter is thought to be as “work in the context of the household” and is positively evaluated (Poudyal, 1995).

Child work can be beneficial and can enhance a child’s physical, mental, and spiritual, moral and social development without interfering with schooling, recreation and the rest. Helping parent in their household activities and business after school in their free time contributes positively to the development of child. When such work is truly part of socialization process and means of transmitting skills from parents to child it is not child labor. Through such work children can increase their status as family members and citizen and gain confidence and self esteem.

The distinction between child labor and child work largely depends on the conditions under which children work rather than the type of work they do. In practices many children work and have positive influence on child development. The problem is that when the conditions of work change the picture changes dramatically. The conditions under which child work can be viewed as a process of learning skills development and as educative in nature, and child labor as hazardous , exploitative and intolerable as shown in the above table. Any work situation where there is violation of child’s right is a situation of the child labor.

Child labor however is the opposite of child work. The distinction between child work and child labor can be summarized briefly as given below.

### **Distinction between the Child Work and Child Labor**

<b>Child Work</b>	<b>Child Labor</b>
Work is appropriate to child's age physical and mental capabilities	Work burden the child ,too heavy for child 's age and capabilities
Supervised by responsible and caring adults	Child works unsupervised or supervised by abusive adults
Limited hours of work, does not hinder the child from going to school, playing or rest	Very long hours of work, child has limited or no time for school, play or rest
Workplace is kept safe and child friendly, does not pose hazards to health and life of the child	Workplace poses hazards to child's health and life
Child's physical, emotional and mental well-being nourished even in work environment	Child is subjected to psychological, verbal, of physical/ sexual abuse
Child works voluntarily to participate in the family responsibility of maintaining the household, developing the family enterprise augment family income	Child is forced by circumstances or by coercive individuals to work
Child is just compensated materially and psychologically	Limited or no positive rewards for the child
Child's work is regulated by law or governed by family /community norms and values	Child's work is excluded from legislation, social security and benefits
Child's work as vehicle for social advancement and improvement in child's quality of life	Binds the child to poverty and misery
Child's work is utilized for purposes	Child's work is utilized for exploitative, subversive or clandestine operations, or disguised illegal activities

*Source: "Invisible Children Child Work in Asia and Pacific" Child Workers in Asia and Save the Children (UK, 1997).*

Bequele and Boyden (1990) state child labor is a humanitarian issue which has achieved a world wide attention in recent years and the concept is emerging. As human every child has inherent right to justice, peace, freedom and to all kind of necessary for life such as education, health care, protection, love and respect. Information about child labor is relatively scarce because of the general tendency to conceal it since child labor is illegal. Therefore, presenting a comprehensive picture of child labor is a complex task. On the contrary, there is a serious outcry against child labor exploitation and demand for speedy action to prohibit it. Exploitation of child labor is not a new occurrence but it perception as a social evil is of recently origin.

Hirway et al (1991) states the phenomenon of child labor is a consequence of the exploitative systems operating at national and international levels, not only closes the future of millions of children in third world countries, but it also drastically restricts the

development prospects of these countries. The existence of child labor is a threat to world development and to solidarity and peace in the world. Eradication of child labor from the world is therefore a goal which must be achieved at the earliest.

Employers capitalize on the docility of the children recognizing that these laborers cannot legally form unions to change their conditions. Such manipulation stifles the development of youths. Finally, these children are deprived of the simple joys of childhood, relegated instead to a life of drudgery.

Children's work is considered essential to maintaining the economic level of households, either in the form of work for wages, of help in household's enterprises or of household chores in order to free adult household members for economic activity elsewhere. Families need money to survive, and children are a source of additional income. Poverty is one of the main determinants of child labor as stated by Bequele and Boyden (1988).

Working children are the objects of extreme exploitation in terms of toiling for long hours for minimal pay. Their work conditions are especially severe, often not providing the stimulation for proper physical and mental development. Many of these children endure lives of pure deprivation. Though restrictions on child labor exist in most nations, many children do work. This vulnerable state leaves them prone to exploitation. Children work the longest hours and are the worst paid of all laborers (Bequele and Boyden 1988).

### **2.1.2 Child Right**

In 1989, the General Assembly of the United Nations adopted the Convention on the Right of the Child, which makes it clear that all children have the same right as adults and also distinct rights that apply to all human beings under the age of 18 years. These include:

1. Provisions for growth and development- through health and education services;
2. Protection against exploitation and abuse and
3. Participation in decision made on their behalf

The ways these rights are interpreted depend on the age and maturity of children, but one of the most important principles is that adults should promote the "best interests" of a child or a group of children, before considering the concerns of adults. This means taking children's opinion into account wherever possible.

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In the decade since it was adopted the CRC has had three main effects:



1. Children are seen as subject of rights with their own ideas and opinions;
2. Children are seen as people who contribute to society, rather than objects of concern or passive victims and
3. More and better information is sought about all aspects of children's lives.

A further outcome has been the development of a wide range of new international human rights agreements concerning children that extends support to the standards set out in the CRC. Some of these include special provision for children working as prostitutes or soldier. Some general human right legislation against slavery as well as forced labor applies to child labor, while agreement to suppress trafficking is must be for the benefit of children and it must also take children's perspectives, experiences or opinion into account.

### **2.1.3 Child Labor in Nepal**

Child labor is a significant problem of Nepal and situation of child labor is similar to other developing countries. Child labor is a consequence of the exploitative socio-economic structure of the country. Getting a clear picture of child labor is a difficult job because information on child labor is relatively scarce since child labor is illegal.

Agriculture is the main source of livelihood for the rural Nepalese people. However the condition of this sector is very poor. The agriculture sector can not provide adequate livelihood for its rural population. In such a stage, the lives of the poor and marginalized families and their children are forced to leave their homes and go to cities in search of work. With abject poverty in rural areas and lack of opportunities, people are migrating from the rural areas into town.

A study conducted by CWIN (1998) shows that the migration of Nepali children to urban areas has been increasing tremendously and this has ultimately contributed to an overwhelming increase in the magnitude of child labor. CWIN (1998) cited information on types of sector based on the migration status of children in urban Nepal. It noted five major sectors, namely carpet industry, domestic servants, shoe shining, porters and tempo helpers. All these sectors absorbed an overwhelming majority of migrant child labours. Domestic labourers absorbed the second highest migrant child labourers.

According to Suwal et al (1998), children migrate from those families, which are socio-economically poor, but it is not that children from all poor households do migrate for the purpose of employment. The attitudes of the parents and children, knowledge about the work place, availability of jobs, and medium of contact with the employer, distance to migrate and mode of transportation play an important role in the decision on child migration for the purpose of employment.

CWIN has also estimated that there are at least 1 million children in Nepal working as child labourers in difficult circumstances, often in slavery, in carpet industries, brick

kilns, domestic service, agriculture, plantation, construction, transportation, stone quarry, and mines as migrant workers.

Misery behind the looms talks about child labor in the carpet industries in Nepal. According to the study of total 300,000 laborers in the sector 50 percent are children between the ages 6 to 15 years with an average of 13. Most of the children working in carpet factories were found to be illiterate and working an average of 15 hours a day. The study also reveals that the working and living conditions of the children were far from satisfactory. Children were found to be suffering from different health problems (Pradhan, 1993).

Chapagain et al (1998) found 3 major classes of factor for the children which drive them go to carpet factories. These include push factors, pull factors and interactive factors. The push factors are identified as acute poverty, lack of work opportunities in village due to seasonal nature of agriculture and the traditional concept of parents, that a child is a “helping hand”. The pull factors include attraction of urban life, earning that can be used to buy cloth or other personal amenities at the worker’s own discretion and industry preference of child and minor labors as they are cheaper and easier to manage. Similarly the interactive factors are specified as food and meat intakes get to eat much more than at home, parental preference of learning and earning rather than formal education, socialization and friendship making or following friends and socializing among other workers and no alternative activities at home like study, play etc.

Many studies do suggest that poverty is one of the main contributing factors to child labor. There is also argument that child labor can be seen not only as a result of poverty but also cause, as the low wages of child labor reduces the purchasing power of the family (compared to a better paid adult counter part). Whatever the actual cause and effect relationship is the commonly held view that poverty causes child labor raises the question of whether poor children should work while middle and upper middle class children should attend the school. Poverty is seen as a justification for the continuance of child labor, and the attitude that is acceptable for poor children to work instead of studying is common.

Illiteracy and families lack of awareness is another cause of child labor. Many parents who have had no education and skills training themselves do not see the need for their children to have such opportunities. Some parent sees child labor as useful apprenticeship for the children to acquire knowledge and experience which will help them as adult workers. Some parents prefer their children working to other alternatives, especially when school is not seen as a viable investment for future gains (Crawford, 1995).

Child labor is an integral part of Nepalese society. The magnitude of the problem is very high and more transparent in south Asia. Exploitation of child labor is not a new occurrence but its perception as a social evil is of recently origin. Child labor is the social problem which prohibits the natural growth of the children. The rights of child are both need and demand of the era. While there has been a lot of development in socio-cultural, political, and economic attitudes of the people, community and the government of Nepal

in the direction of child's right to compared to the earlier years. CWIN in this regard explains both governmental and non governmental agencies of the country have been making attempt to convert the spirit of UN convention on the right of child into reality. In spite of all these positive efforts and initiatives different form of child labour exist as the matter of the fact.

#### **2.1.4 Domestic Child Labor**

Domestic child labor is defined internationally as children working in an employer's house with or without wages (ILO, 2002, 5). Domestic child labors are employed to perform domestic chores such as washing dishes, cooking, cleaning the houses, looking after younger children and other household activities. The domestic child labor may be considered as helping hand or may be sole responsible for the variety of activities.

Child domestic labor entails the employment of children by adults other than their parents, who often also house them children constitute a cheap and docile source of labor, working long hours (sometime up to 20 hours a day, seven day a week) at a range of domestic tasks for little or no pay and minimum benefits such as food, accommodation and clothing (Black 1997).

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

People hire young children as domestic servant because they are cheaper than adults and they are young, obedient, easy to control, exploit and even manipulate and less likely to try and negotiable a fixed wages or demand respect for their wages. Child domestic workers are familiar sight in most developing countries where many children are sent out of the home when they are too young to earn money and to supplement the family income.

As well in our country domestic service is one of the easily available jobs for the children in urban areas. It is not only in rich community but also the middle class and lower middle class also own the child labour. But it is not known when, how and from where the tradition and practice of keeping domestic servant actually started. It's from and natures have changed in different times and at different stages depending upon the historical period and the structure of the government.

In most places where the practice is common, it is regarded as so normal this is only mainly because of its traditional roots. A child domestic labor occurs in societies where the use of domestic assistance in the home is commonplace. This may be connected to a traditional value system, which holds that one ethnic group or caste should serve another or it may be simply a traditional value system, which holds that one ethnic group or caste should serve another or it may be simply a traditional part of local economic life. In many

places today, increasing number of children is being engaged because they are a cheaper and more malleable source of household labor than adults (Black, 1997).

Child domestic workers are almost invisible among child laborers. They work alone in individual households, hidden from public examination, their lives controlled by their employers. Child domestics work long hours for little or no pay. Many have no opportunity to go to school, or are forced to drop out because of the demands of their job. They are subject to verbal and physical abuse. They may be fired for small infractions, losing not only jobs, but their place of residence as well process, depriving the child of rights to mental, moral and physical developments and his or her protection, participation and survival in the society.

### **2.1.5 Working Situations and Conditions of Domestic Child Labor**

Every child is delicate and greatly needs love, care and emotional support in order to grow in a healthy manner. But many domestic child labors are denied of love and affection, the right to play and make friends, the right to go school and to be educated. Instead they are isolated from the world. These children are isolated from the outside world since they spend the majority of time inside the employer's house. In addition to this isolation from the outside world child servant are also often isolated within the home where they work as they are treated differently and viewed as inferior to the family members.

Domestic child labor is often characterized by the cruel treatment that is inflicted upon the children. Several domestic children are mentally scared from the verbal, physical and sometimes sexual abuse that they must endure and many signs of physical trauma remain with them for the rest of their life.

Domestic child labor is one of the worst forms of the child labor if the following conditions exist as defined by the spirit of CRC and ILO convention 29,138, 182 if the child is sold, is bonded, works without pay, works excessive hours, works in isolation or night, is exposed to grave safety or health hazards, is abused, is at risk of physical violence and sexual harassment and work at a very young age. The present of any or combination of these elements would render domestic child labor a worst form of child labor.

Domestic child labors are in great deal of personal danger. Their safety can be never assured because these children are working behind the closed door of private home are invisible, alone, difficult to reach and count. A majority of child domestic workers live in exclusive around the clock control of their employers. These child labors are in workplace- even if that workplace is someone else's home –hidden from public view and labor inspection. These children are consequently at risk not only of exploitation but also of abuse and violence as stated by Dr June Kate (Kate 2002).

According to Innocent Digest, child domestic labors in Bangladesh rarely have a place of their own to sleep, and are expected to sleep in any available space, such as kitchen floor. The digest also say referring to a 1998 survey, 16% received their wages in hand, 45% never saw their wages, which were given over to parents or guardians and about 25% received no wages at all. A study in Bangladesh found that 25% of the girls' child domestic labors had been sexually abused. Often families reject these 'spoiled girls' because their behavior has brought dishonors to families (Blanchet, 1999).

In Srilanka, the migration of large numbers of women and adolescent as domestic workers mostly in Middle East has created a demand for younger children to work in their place. Moreover, the ethnic conflict has left many children displaced or abandoned and consequently easy prey for 'job placement agents' who pick them up on streets in villages or even from refugee camps and then sell them into employment. Violence also often takes the various forms of attack on these labors. The cases of Juvenile Court have revealed brutality by employers towards their child domestic workers including branding, dousing in boiling water, rubbing chili powder on the mouth, beating and stabbing (Goonesekere, 1993).

Most of the children are unaware of their employment contract, especially when they have been employed through brokers. Brokers often cheat the parents as well as the child, keeping for them the bulk of the child's earning. Many children work just for food and shelter and find the idea of payment in each absurd. Even when the child is supposed to be paid, it is not uncommon for the employers to have the money safe keeping, promising to buy gold or jewelry. The child never sees the money (Sattur, 1993).

Exploitative employment practices need not involve the exchange of money many domestics child under the age of 12 have been given by parents or guardians to another person to be looked after. This may be called fostering but as false adoption- such children are often the most difficult of all domestic children to reach because they are regarded as part of the employer's family children and often live large distances away from their homes and parents. Although employers may allow visit from parents and relative, few can afford to travel to be away from home. They only contact with a member of the family or with the home village may be thought until (informal guardian) and or recruiter living nearby. The relationship may be caring, but can also be seen as exploitative as already explained often, the child worker does not see a parent or close relative for many months at a time domestic child are really given enough time off to go home, often they make the journey home once a year, usually a major festivals (Black, 1997).

According to a book on child domestic workers for research and action by Black (1997), the working conditions of domestic child labor is as follows, Lack of time off, hazards violence, abuse and separate treatment.

CWIN researcher have found that children employed as domestic workers are frequently abused. They are humiliated, beaten and even sexually abused. They are fed poorly, are treated unkindly. For example they have to eat separately and may be looked out of the

house when the family goes out others may be kept in the house at all times expect to shop. Surprisingly, the smaller the family the more the workload appears to be in large families, washing dishes, cooking and shopping take up most of the time. But in smaller families, working couples with babies, for example the workers have to wash clothes, baby sit and guard the house as well (Sattur, 1993).

The foregoing observations, thoughts patchy and sporadic, amply indicate that domestic child labor is one of the worst forms of child labor.

### **2.1.6 Problems of Child Labor**

Child labor is pervasive problem in Nepal. As revealed by a study carried out by CWIN the pioneer movement for the right of child working children in Nepal come across with the following problems such as work at night, too young to work in appropriate work for children, low wages and long working hours, economic exploitation by adults, lack of basic education opportunities, separation from parents, abuse and neglect, physical and emotional exploitation, no rest or entertainment, not having their basic needs met, inappropriate child rearing atmosphere, lack of adequate parental love, care and understanding, lack of social security and attention and violation of child's right law.

Child welfare is a nebulous concept. The child, being the nation's pride, mirror and a supremely important asset, has to be properly cared for and nurtured. Like most problems in Nepal, child labour, is a by-product emerging out of the socio-economic structure of society. Whether the children are forced for economic considerations or otherwise, they frequently work under conditions detrimental to their health, welfare and development.

The assumption that child labour, a chronic and deep-rooted problem, is peculiar to developing countries. It is a complex reality, a burning problem and a universal phenomenon. It is, in fact, a betrayal of child's rights as a human being and an offence against civilization. It persists in its most dehumanizing form, especially in an unorganized sector. By and large, it is an employment of children (5 to 14 years) engaged in hazardous and other gainful occupations, which are injurious to their development.

Nepal has ratified the convention of the Rights of the child and the ILO minimum age conventions. On the basis of these conventions, Nepal has adopted the Labour Act 1992 and the Children Act 1992 and has declared that employing children the age of 14 is illegal. However, the concerned authorities have neither effectively implemented the law nor formulated any plans of action for the children welfare. Problem of child labour is a consequence of social injustice, economic exploitation and anti development programmed.

### **2.1.7 Causes and Consequences of Child Labor**

Child labor is a result of unjust system and structures within a society. Some of the causes of child labor are poverty and gross inequality, unjust income distribution or land distribution, political instability, discrimination, migration, crime and failure to enforce the law, traditional cultural practices, employer's desire for cheap and flexible labour, gender inequity, adult unemployment, inadequate social protection, poor and inadequate education, desire for consumer goods, crisis situation like national disaster, economic recession, armed conflict. Child labor has significant consequences for children, their families, the communities and the countries in which they live. Although some type of work by children can be beneficial in terms of a child's growth and development, on the whole child labor in South Asia is extremely detrimental to children.

Child labor is a product of low living standard of the population resulting from the low level of income, illiteracy and increasingly lack of means of subsistence food, shelter and clothing and inadequate basic schooling and education. Thus, the practice of child labor is considered as effective means of augmenting the current level of income among the poor families so as to enhance, by and large their economic well- being (CDPS 1999).

Large family sizes contributes to child labor and many parents may face financial difficulties and are so compelled to send at least one child to work. Due to the family break up for the several reasons many children face exploitation, beating, neglect and verbal abuse from their step parents. Children then run away to the towns and end up in working in some form or another to survive. Much of the publicized child labor work has a direct correlation with migration from rural areas. Migration itself is caused by many factors, such as poverty, domination by powerful land lords, low literacy rate, lack of schools, maltreatment by step parents and death of the main income earner.

Traditionally the caste system has led to exploitation and discrimination of children of low caste or outcast families are often compelled to work only as street cleaners, black smiths, cobblers etc are deprived of their right to education and are trapped in vicious circle of poverty and social injustice (IPEC, 1995).The unequal power relationship in communities between the traditional money lenders and landholders and borrowers and tenants cases many economic difficulties for households (INSEC, 1996).

Child domestic service is a wide spread practice in many developing countries with employers in urban areas often recruiting children from rural villages through family, friends and contacts. While most child domestic workers come from extremely poor families many have been abandoned are orphaned or come from single parent's families.

Child labor reflects underinvestment in education and the future of a nation. Education is at the heart of development. Historically, the universal achievement of free education of good quality has been identified as the key to economic growth. Child laborers are automatically denied their right to education.

Many working children do not have opportunities to go to school which seriously handicaps their education and the upward social mobility leads to poverty, since low educational attainment reduce lifelong earnings. These child worker often grow up to be unskilled adults trapped in poorly paid jobs and in turn will look to their own children to supplement the family's income. Work injurious to the development of children perpetuates poverty by degrading the stock of human capital necessary for economic and social development. Child labor hinders the full development of human capital.

A less skilled workforce results in low productivity and income for countries. Educational attainment has played an important role in the rapid economic growth of many countries. Millions of child laborers miss a critical time in their physical and mental development to work day and night. Primary and secondary education imparts not only the knowledge and skills children need to obtain adequate employment as adults. Moreover, education empowers children by enabling them to gain knowledge of their basic right and their potential. Findings disprove the claim that children benefit later in life from working at a young age. Child laborers often end up draining national economies. With no to little education, they grow up to be less healthy and less productive than adult who did not work until they reached adulthood.

Some groups advocate protecting the right of children to work and to bargain for better working conditions. However, the very concept of children working violates standards set by international conventions related to children. A child's rights are non-negotiable. All children are equally entitled to their rights without discrimination, regardless of their economic, social or biological background. Their need to work because of economic necessity, or other reasons, does not create a new children's "right" to work replacing their rights to education, play, and protection from economic exploitation. Forcing children to work for their own survival is society's denial of their fundamental right.

## **2.2 Conceptual Framework of the Present Study**

Based on the review of the available literature on different issues related to domestic child labor, an attempt has been made to develop a conceptual framework for the present study by identifying various possible factors that directly or indirectly determine the conditions of household child labor. The conceptual framework has included personal and family characteristics, employment background and working conditions at present. The conceptual framework, which has been developed in the form of a flowchart, is presented in Fig 2.1.

As envisaged in the conceptual framework, present working conditions of the domestic child labors are dependent variables which are determined by a number of social, cultural, demographic and economic factors. The ultimate determinants 'of the job of the child labors are the characteristics of the rural household such as illiteracy, small landholding size, low productivity , lack of skills poverty, broken family, political conflict and non farm employment opportunities 'which pushed them from native place to migrants to the urban areas. In urban areas there is high choice of getting job as there are different kind of livelihood strategies like Construction industry, Transportation



services, Trade, Carpet industry, Rag pickers, Domestic child labor but, the mirrors' migrating from the rural areas are of lack of education, lack of skill, lack of employment opportunities' but physically capable therefore forced to worked as domestic child labor.

It has been the tradition of the Nepalese society, to recruit the household child labor not only by rich families but also by middle and lower middle class society. In many cases, the family needs the income of the working children in order to survive. Parent argues that in some situation that child is learning skill early, which will help them in adult employment. Although the consequence of putting a child to work can appear attractive to parents, most families are not aware of the long term consequence of the working children. As these children are illiterate or less educated as a successive generation grows up to be adult lacking education and higher skill, who will continue to live in poverty, have large families' members and put their children to work.

However, this study did not make any attempt to empirically establish the relationships between the variables as envisaged in the conceptual framework. The envisaged relationships between the variables were not formulated as hypothesis for testing. They were not empirically verified. The conceptual framework was treated as an abstract framework to describe the situation of children at work.

### 2.3 Operational Definition and Operational Measures of Selected Variables

In the view of the objectives of the study, the review of available literature related with the research problem, and the conceptual framework of the study a number of variables were taken into consideration. Some of the variables were unidimensional. They did not need any definition, as such age caste\ ethnicity etc. they were some others variables which were multi- dimensional. They were treated as concepts and were operationally measures and defined and their operational measures were identified. The operational definitions and operational measures of the selected variables are summarized in Table 2.2.

**Table 2.2: Operational Definitions and Operational Measures of Selected Variables**

<b>Numbers of Variables</b>	<b>Operational Definitions</b>	<b>Operational Measures</b>
Personal and family Background of Child Worker	Education	a. Literacy: Literate\ Illiterate b. Level of education c. Reasons for not joining the school
	Family Size	Number of members in the family
	Family Structure	Composition of the family members
	Parent's Occupation	Types of work for livelihood taken by the family members
	Food Sufficiency Status	Whether the family is able to meet their food adequacy or not

Background of the employment	Working experience in the past	a. Previous work: yes\ no b. Reasons for leaving the work
	Decision to take up the work	a. Parents b. Others c. Self
	Reasons for taking up the work	a. Supplement family income b. Insufficient food at home c. To study further d. Anticipation of better life
	Arrival at the present work place	a. Employers or with their relatives b. Parents c. Relatives d. Others
	Age at entering into the work	Age from which the child involved into the work
	Duration of involvement in the work	Time period of child labor involved in the work
	Changes in the work place	a. First time b. Once c. Twice d. Thrice
Working Condition at the Present	Nature of the work	Types of work
	Earning from the work	Wages Remuneration per month
	Arrangement of the shelter	Where did they sleep and have food
	Health and hygiene Situation	Suffer from any kind of illness or not
	Recreation Facilities	a. Yes \ No b. Activities done in the leisure time
	Leaves and Holidays	a. Yes \ No b. How often
	Behavior of employers	a. Good b. Indifferent
	Nature of Punishment	a. Yes\No b. Nature of punishment
	Perception towards the work	Are they happy with their work a. Future Plan

## **CHAPTER- III**

### **RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

#### **3.1 Rational for the Selection of the Study Area**

The present study was conducted in Bhimsengola residential area of Baneshwor as the present study is related with issues of household child labor and their work. The population of this area is composed of different caste\ethnic groups and socio-economic classes. The majority of these are Brahmin and Chettri. The large numbers of household workers are recruited here. The area has been selected due to availability of the sample and easily accessible to regular visit in the study period this area has been chosen.

#### **3.2 Research Design**

The study was a case study of Baneshwor area of Katmandu. Keeping in view the problem formulation, more particularly the objectives of the study was chosen as a descriptive survey design. This would cover a sample of the children working as household labors and the issue related with children and their works. On the whole, the study was descriptive in nature. To get depth information a few case studies were done to explain more about that domestic child labor to collect exhaustive as well reliable information on their past and present situation of them which helped to know the reasons that pushed them to this field.

#### **3.3 Nature and Sources of Data**

The present research was based upon both primary and secondary data. The primary data were collected from field work. And the secondary data were collected from published and unpublished literature i.e. various books, journals, publications, articles, research report and report of different national and international organizations.

#### **3.4 Universe and Sampling Procedure**

The universes of this proposed study comprised all children working as helpers in other's house in Baneshwor area of Katmandu. The number of such children in the area is not known. Hence, the size of universe is not known. From among the different clusters in Baneshwor residential area of Katmandu, Bhimsengola was selected as sample cluster on purposive basis. The area was selected as sample cluster because of the availability of the sample and easily accessible to regular visit in the study period. As in the case of Baneshwor area, the number of household child labor in Bhimsengola residential area is not known. From among the domestic child labors in Bhimsengola residential area a sample of 50 child labors was selected as per convince of the researcher. Those children who are up to the age of 14 were selected for the study. Of the total 50 children 50 percent were boys and 50 percent were girls.

### **3.5 Techniques of Data Collection**

The present study is mainly based on primary data. To gather the primary data, a field survey was conducted in the month of July to October 2006. During the field survey, interview and observation were the main techniques used to collect the primary data.

#### **3.5.1 Interview**

Most of the information about domestic child labor and their work were collected through face to face interview with the sample respondents. An interview schedule with a set of questions was developed for interviewing the domestic child labor to collect both qualitative and quantitative data. The questions were both structured and unstructured with focus on the objectives of the study. The questions were focused on different issues such as family background, causes of arrival in Katmandu, work experience, education, attitude toward their work and their future aspiration.

#### **3.5.2 Observation**

Besides collecting data with the help structured questions, observation and unscheduled questions was used to gather the required data and information. During the field work, non participant observations were adopted to gather same qualitative information. This technique was used to get information on their working conditions, physical appearance of the child worker behavior of owner was observed. Such observations have helped to make judgment on the information provided by the respondents.

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

The collected data were being processed manually. They were edited, coded and tabulated manually. Univariate tables of almost items were obtained to look into the distributions. The univariate tables were interpreted on the basis of simple statistical tools, such as percentage. In some cases bi- variate tables were also developed to explain the differential in the issues. The bi- variate tables were interpreted on the basis of the percentage distributed over the cells of the cross- tables.

### **3.7 Limitations of the Study**

1. Although the scope of the study was defined as Baneshwor are of Kathmandu, yet sample could not be distributed to cover different parts of Baneshwor areas as a whole. The sample was confined to Bhimsengola Area. Selection of Bhimsengola area as the site of the study was made purposively. Hence, the findings of the study may not be generalized for Baneshwor area as whole.
2. Even within the study site (i.e. Bhimsengola) the sample respondents were selected through accidental or convenience sampling. The non- probability sampling design with non random selection procedure adopted for the present

study could not ensure a representative sample of the domestic child labors of Bhimsengola area.

3. The sample size of 50 domestic child labors also seems too small to represent the whole universe.
4. The variables selected for the study were operationally defined and their operational measures were identified in view of general characteristics of the study universe. The contextual definitions and indicators of measurement of the variables may not be equally applicable to other situations.
5. Conceptual Framework developed for the present study has been taken as an abstract framework for the description of the issues under the study. The relationship between the variables as envisaged in the conceptual framework have not been tested and verified empirically.

## CHAPTER IV

### DATA ANALYSIS AND PRESENTATION

#### 4.1 Personal and Family Background of the Child Workers

Children are the mankind's greatest treasure. Today children are regarded as a marked period of life, the most vulnerable and formative one. Children are the future citizen of the country on which the development of a society and country depends.

Children should be provided with proper food, care, affection, education and shelter that will help them to develop their physical, social and mental development. But many children are forced to work in the early stage. So in this section an attempt has been made to find out the personal and family background of child labor which includes age and sex structure, caste\ ethnic composition, native place, education, family structure, parent's occupation and food sufficiency status.

##### 4.1.1 Age and Sex Structure

Age is one of the most important characteristics of an individual. Age may not only refer to that the length of time that organism has lived but it also implies one's mental and physical maturates and roles and responsibilities in the family.

From the child development perspective the age under 14 is a very important period for their overall development which they will carry into their adulthood. In this regard an attempt has been made to know the age structure of the household child labor. Distribution of the sample respondents by their age groups is presented in Table1

**Table 1: Age and Sex Structure of Respondents**

Age (Years)	Male		Female		Total	
	No	%	No	%	No	%
10	3	12.0	4	16.0	7	14.0
11	1	4.0	3	12.0	4	8.0
12	7	28.0	2	8.0	9	18.0
13	4	16.0	5	8.0	9	18.0
14	10	40.0	11	20.0	21	42.0
Total	25	100	25	100.0	50	100.0

*Source; field Survey, 2006*

Of the total 50 children interviewed, 42 percent of 14 years age group followed by 12 and 13 years age group followed with 18 percent each. Children with 10 years group were also found to be quite significant 14 percent. This shows that the older children are more involved in domestic service than the younger ones.

#### 4.1.2 Caste \ Ethnic Composition

Caste\ ethnicity refers to the belongingness to distinct socio-cultural group. An individual inherits the membership of this group by birth. It gives an ascribed status to an individual.

In a caste society the job to individuals to places in the social hierarchy is decided by social groups and cultural heritage. Caste can be defined as an early system of social grouping distinguished by degrees of purity, social status and exclusiveness. In a traditional rural society, caste\ ethnic status of the people directly influences their access to any occupation. In view this; caste\ethnic composition of the sample of household child labor was taken as important characteristics. The caste\ ethnic composition of household child labor is given below.

**Table 2: Caste \ Ethnicity of Respondents**

Caste\ Ethnic	Male		Female		Total	
	No	%	No	%	No	%
Brahmin	3	12.0	2	8.0	5	10.0
Chettri	9	36.0	7	28.0	16	32.0
Newar	*	*	1	4.0	1	2.0
Ethnic groups	10	40.0	14	56.0	24	48.0
Dalit	3	12.0	1	4.0	4	8.0
Total	25	100.0	25	100.0	50	100.0

*Source; Field Survey, 2006*

Of the total 50 children, interviewed nearly one half 48 percent were from ethnic group such as Rai, Limbu, Tharu, and Gurung. The Brahmin and chettris constituted the second largest group of 42 percent by Dalits and Newar were 8 percent and 2 percent respectively.

#### 4.1.3 Native Place

Native place of the domestic child labor indicates their physical mobility. It reflects availability of access to livelihood options in their own locality. Hence, native place of household was taken as an important personal characteristic. Distribution of the household child labor over their native place is given in Table 3.

**Table 3: Native Place of Respondents**

Native Place (District)	Male		Female		Total	
	No	%	No	%	No	%
Jhapa	1	4.0	3	12.0	4	8.0
Okhaldhuynga	1	4.0	1	4.0	2	4.0
Solukhumbu	2	8.0	*	*	2	4.0
Sunsari	2	8.0	1	4.0	3	6.0
Siraha	*	*	1	4.0	1	2.0
Kavre	1	4.0	2	8.0	3	6.0
Sindupalchowk	1	4.0	1	4.0	2	4.0
Sindhuli	2	8.0	*	*	2	4.0
Ramechhap	1	4.0	*	*	1	2.0
Sarlari	1	4.0	1	4.0	2	4.0
Mohottari	1	4.0	1	4.0	2	4.0
Bara	2	8.0	2	8.0	4	8.0
Parsa	1	4.0	2	8.0	3	6.0
Chitwan	2	8.0	4	16.0	6	12.0
Makampur	2	8.0	*	*	2	4.0
Dhading	1	4.0	*	*	1	2.0
Nepal Jung	1	4.0	1	4.0	2	4.0
Dang	2	8.0	1	4.0	3	6.0
Syanja	*	*	2	8.0	2	4.0
Tanahun	*	*	1	4.0	1	2.0
Kapilbastu	1	4.0	1	4.0	2	4.0
Total	25	100.0	25	100.0	50	100.0

Source; Field Survey, 2006

The domestic children they have come from 21 districts to work as child domestic workers. The data shows that most of the children came to Kathmandu from different districts. Out of the survey the maximum number of children came from Chitwan 12 percent and after that 8 percent of the children came from Bara and Jhapa.

#### 4.1.4 Education

Education is one of the important factors for the social and economic development of human being. Education is the right of the children. Every child has right to be educated and without education no one can achieve success in his or her life. In common interpretations, those who can read or write are considerate as literate.

Various researchers and policy maker are convinced that in order to eliminate child workers, a policy towards implementation of compulsory primary schooling is the most important measure to take. In the context of this it is interesting to find out their educational status and whether free education has any effect. Literacy statuses of the respondents are given below.



**Table 4: School Enrollment of Respondents**

Status of School Enrollment	Male		Female		Total	
	No	%	No	%	No	%
Enrolled	9	36.0	6	24.0	15	30.0
Drop out	14	56.0	9	36.0	23	46.0
Not enrolled	2	8.0	10	40.0	12	24.0
Total	25	100.0	25	100.0	50	100.0

*Source; field Survey, 2006*

Of the total 50 children interviewed assuming the children who were once enrolled also literate, 76 percent of the children were literate. Proportion of the literate was higher among the male children 92 percent than among the female children 60 percent. As can be seen from the table 12 children (2 males and 10 females) were never enrolled to school in the past.

As mentioned by the respondents main reason for not being enrolled to any school was that they could not afford it economically 41.7 percent. The others reasons were need to work 33.3 percent and no interest 25 percent.

When asked about their present educational status, of the total 50 respondents, a large majority 70 percent were not getting education after they join their job as work similarity with their school time and 30 percent children were presently going to school.

**Table 5: Level of Education of Respondents**

Level of Education	Number	Percentage
1-3 class	26	52.0
4-7 class	11	22.0
Above 7	1	2.0
No schooling	12	24.0
Total	50	100.0

*Survey; Field Survey, 2006*

The above table shows their study clearly. In this table the domestic child labor who have attained up to one to grade three is 52 percent. Among the literate domestic child labors who have attained four to seven grade is 22 percent. It was found that 2 percent of the domestic child labor has been able to study above the seven.

#### **4.1.5 Family Structure**

Family denotes a group of people affiliated by consanguinity affinity and co residence. Many sociologist and anthropologist believe the primary function of family is to reproduce society either biologically, socially or both. In this context family structure is defined in term of Parent's status and Household size.

From the perspective of children the family is a family of orientation, the family serves to locate children socially and plays major role in enculturation and socialization.

Disharmony and break up of family structures also compel children to work. Family background is also a strong factor to examine the causes of child labor. That is why it is important to examine the family background of child labor. The parental status of the sample respondents are shown in the table as follow.

**Table 6: Parental Status of Respondents**

<b>Parent's Status</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Both Alive	37	74.0
Father Dead	5	10.0
Mother Dead	6	12.0
Both Dead	2	4.0
Total	50	100.0

*Source; Field Survey, 2006*

It was found that 74 percent children have their parents alive. Twelve percent replied that their mother died and 10 percent replied that their father has died. Only 4 percent mentioned that both of their parents had died. Some of them informed that absence of their parents forced them to leave their home and become a child labor.

It was also revealed that 24 percent children have step parents. However, majority 76 percent do not have step parents. While family break up due to separation or death could be the major cause for children needing to work, either one or both of the parents death leads to fulfill the vacancy by step parents which is one of the reasons for driving children out of their home. This observation may not be true in all cases because most of respondents of this study are from families of both parents alive. But it is definite that the death of any one of the parent bring stress and strain beyond the management of the child, and the family dissolution may the child and drive him\ her away from the family.

The term household refers to all individuals who live in the same house.

“A household includes all persons who occupy a housing unit. A housing unit is a house, an apartment a groups of room or single room that is occupied as separate living quarters. Separate living quarters are those in which the occupants live and eat separately for many other persons in the building and which have direct access from the outside of the building or through a common hall. The occupants may be single family, one person living together, or any other group related or unrelated person who share living arrangements” (Wikipedia).

Household directly influence the socio- economic life of the members of the house. Most of the activities of the member of the family are guided by the households’ rules so in this table we have tried to examine the household size of the child domestic labor.

**Table 7: Family Size of the Respondents**

<b>Family Size</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Up to 5	19	38.0
6-8	25	50.0
9+	6	12.0
Total	50	100.0

*Source: Field Survey, 2006*

Family size of the respondents, ranged from 3 to 11. The average family size was 6.25 which is larger than the national figure of 5.45 as recorded in the Census Report of 2001 (CBS, 2006). One half 50 Percent of the sample respondents lived in middle sized family with 6 -8 members while 38 percent lived in small size family (i.e., up to 5 members), 12 percent were from relatively large family (i.e, 9 and above members).

#### **4.1.6 Parent's Occupation**

By large children are sent to work because of the inability of the families to feed them. Therefore it is necessary to find out the parental occupation of the child domestic worker. Table 8 shows the frequency distribution of the major occupation of child domestic workers.

**Table 8: Occupation of Parents of Respondents**

<b>Parent's Occupation</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Agriculture	23	46.0
Wage labors	15	30.0
Service	5	10.0
Pottering	3	6.0
Others	4	8.0
Total	50	100.0

*Source; Field survey, 2006*

Of the total 50 children interviewed agriculture has been the main occupation for the parent of the 46 percent child domestic worker followed by wage labour at 30 percent. This matches up to the livelihood of the rural population of Nepal where agriculture is the major economic activity and agriculture and other type of manual labor constitutes the primary occupation of the rural people. These farmers or cultivators are tenant farmers or are living on share cropping.

Most of the child domestic workers were not able to say about land status of their parents. They were not able to provide information on that therefore, no separate analysis has been done on land status.

#### 4.1.7 Food Sufficiency Status

Food is the most basic need. Food sufficiency is a great problem for the low income people. If a family faces the food deficits, the entire activities of the family member revolve around the struggles for two meals a day. Hence the food sufficiency status of the respondents was taken into consideration.

**Table 9: Food Sufficiency Status of Respondents' Family**

<b>Food Sufficiency Period</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
For less than 3 month	6	12.0
3 to 6 months	10	20.0
6 to 9 months	10	20.0
9 to 11 months	11	22.0
Whole year	10	20.0
No response	3	6.0
Total	50	100.0

*Survey; Field Survey, 2006*

Out of the total 50 children interviewed only 20 percent of the child domestic worker's family, have sufficient food for round the year. Eighty percent do not have adequate food for the whole year. Quite significant 32 percent families of the children do not have sufficient food for even half a year. This implies that poverty is also the one reason compelling the children to leave their home and work in the urban centers as household child workers.

#### 4.2 Background of the Employment

Children are the citizen of tomorrow. Like the morning shows the day, the status of the children show the future of the country. Children are the important part for the social and economic betterment of the country. However such children have come on the street, factories and at other house by depriving themselves from their own families' affection and opportunities for education. This section analyses and discusses why the children have to come to work as domestic servant.

##### 4.2.1 Working Experience in the Past

Children were asked about their work experience in the past which is as follow.

**Table 10: Work Experience of the Respondents**

Work Experience	Male		Female		Total	
	No	%	No	%	No	%
Went to school	7	28.0	*	*	7	14.0
Went to school and helped in house work	3	12.0	6	24.0	9	18.0
Went to school and worked in farm	8	32.0	8	32.0	16	32.0
Worked in farm	1	4.0	8	32.0	9	18.0
Went to school and herded animals	5	20.0	1	4.0	6	12.0
Manual labors	1	4.0	2	8.0	3	6.0
Total	25	100.0	25	100	50	100.0

Source; Field Survey, 2006

Of the total 50 children respondent that 14 percent of respondents were going to school regularly. Other 18 percent were helping their in household work and at the same time were enrolled in school. Thirty -two percent and 12 percent were working farm and herding animals were also enrolled in school.

Before entering the domestic sector, the majority of the children were engaged in household work as well as in education. However, the pattern is not same for both the sexes. Before joining the domestic service unlike male, all female were involved in variety of works. Among males, 28 went to school while the female percent was zero. Even at back home male had more access to education compared to that of girls. This shows that different attitude of parent toward their children socialization.

#### 4.2.2 Decision to Take up the Work

**Table 11: Distribution of Respondents by Decision Maker**

Decision Maker	Male		Female		Total	
	No	%	No	%	No	%
Parents	6	24.0	10	40.0	16	32.0
Others	13	54.0	15	60.0	28	56.0
Self	6	24.0	*	*	6	12.0
Total	25	100.0	25	100.0	50	100.0

Source; Field Survey, 2006

Of the total 50 children interviewed, 56 percent revealed that their relatives or peers are the main contributors for taking the children from their home to domestic service sector. While 32 percent of the children mentioned that it were the parents who decided that they should take up domestic service. It was also found that 12 percent children responds that they themselves decided to leave their home and joined the service sector.

Some of the decisions are made by parents while some other are made by relatives and friends whereas some of them join the labor force on their own desire.

In case of the female the decision was made by either parents or relatives while in the context of male the decision maker were their relatives, peer or themselves.

#### 4.2.3 Reasons for Taking up Domestic Work

**Table 12: Distributions of Respondents for Taking up Domestic work**

Reasons	Number	Percentage
Supplement family income	16	32.0
Insufficient food at home	11	22.0
To study further	7	14.0
Anticipation of better life	9	18.0
Others	7	14.0
Total	50	100.0

*Source; field Survey, 2006*

Of the total 50 respondent's interviewed that, the major reason cited for the children to work as servant was to supplement family income 32 percent. Twenty two percent children reported poverty was the major reason which compels to join the domestic service sector. However, 14 percent children joined with a sole purpose of studying further. Eighteen percent children joined the service sector with the anticipation of better life in the city, While 14 percent of the children did not give any specific reason for joining this work.

#### 4.2.4 Arrival at the Work Place

Children are forced to join the domestic child labor for the various reasons. Most of these children came from the village. When asked about how they arrived at the present work place the response is as following. Table 13 shows the mode of coming at the present work place.

**Table 13: Arrival of Respondents at the Present Work Place**

Came With Whom	Number	Percentage
Employer's or with their relatives	11	22.0
Parents	12	24.0
Relatives	20	40.0
Friends	5	10.0
Self	2	4.0
Total	50	100.0

*Source; field survey, 2006*

Of the total 50 respondent interviewed the majority 40 percent responded that it was through their relatives. Twenty four percent of children were brought by their parents. While 22 percent of children were brought by employers themselves or by employers relatives came their parents and 10 percent reported that they came with their friends. Six percent of children came self.

#### 4 2.5 Age at Entering into the Work

In rural Nepalese economy children have to help their family from their early age. Many children are sent away from their home to supplement the family income. In this condition an effort has been made to find out the age of the domestic child labor at entering the service. Table 14 shows the age at which the children started to work as domestic servant.

**Table 14: Age of Respondents at Entering Work**

Age Structure	Male		Female		Total	
	No	%	No	%	No	%
Below 10 years	2	8.0	3	12.0	5	10.0
10 year	5	20.0	7	28.0	12	24.0
11 year	4	16.0	8	32.0	12	24.0
12 year	5	20.0	3	12.0	8	16.0
13 year	6	24.0	3	12.0	9	18.0
14 years	3	12.0	1	4.0	4	8.0
Total	25	100.0	25	100.0	25	100.0

*Source; field Survey, 2006*

Of the total 50 children interviewed Ten percent entered into the work before they were 10 years old. A large majority 64 percent, at the age of 12 years or less. While 13 to 14 years group constituted 26 percent. As can be seen from table girls entered into the work at relatively younger age than the boys.

#### 4.2.6 Duration of the Involvement in the work

Many children are working as household child labor from the early period. So, an attempt has been made to find out the duration of involvement in the domestic service. Table 15 shows the duration spent by the children in the work place

**Table 15: Distribution of Respondents by Duration of the Work**

Working Duration	Number	Percentage
½ year	13	26.0
1 to ½ year	6	12.0
1 to 2 year	13	26.0
2 to 3 year	8	16.0
3 to 4 year	5	10.0
4 to 5 years	3	6.0
More than 5 years	2	4.0
Total	50	100.0

*Source; field Survey, 2006*

Of the total 50 respondents interviewed the study found that nearly one third 64 percent f almost two third, were found working ½ years to 2 years while the remaining 36 percent were found to be working for more than 2 to more than 5 years.

Of the total respondents the study found that most of the children come in this service sector recently. During the study it was found that longest serving child had worked for the last six years. This study shows that involvement of children in domestic service is indeed along term one. Once they are enter they are compel to be there for a long time.

#### 4.2.7 Change of Work place

The respondents were asked whether they had worked previously. Some of them had work previously, and some of them were new in the service. Here below the table has presented whether they used to work previously or not.

**Table 16: Distribution of Respondents by Change of Work Place**

Change of work Place	Number	Percentage
First time	27	54.0
Once	14	28.0
Twice	6	12.0
Thrice	3	6.0
Total	50	100.0

*Source; Field Survey, 2006*

Of the total 50 children interviewed it was found that 54 percent of child domestic were working for the first time. Twenty- eight percent informed that they have already worked in one place before coming into this place. Twelve percent reported that they have worked twice before. Only 6 percent reported that had worked more than twice.

When asked why the left the previous workplace the reasons for changing the work places were primarily were maltreatment by the employers, hard work, kicked out by the master and temptation by the more facilities in the next place.

#### 4.3 Working and Employment Conditions at Present

Children have right to adequate standard of living. Contrary to their right they are exploited is various sector one of them is domestic sector. Mostly they are not adequately compensated for their work.

This section attempts to looking working Conditions at present in which they are engaged. The conditions of the work place, the hours of child works, and the brutality to which they are exposed, damage children who work? All premature child works damages the body, mind and the sprit of the child. Children who do not have adequate rest and recreation and are constantly living in a state of fear of become mentally damaged. Children who from early age have to bear the burdens of adults, and do work inappropriate to their bodily strength and ability to bear, can become distributed and social misfit.



This section therefore, attempt to analyses their working condition, their present environment, entertainment and relationship with the employer’s and their employer’s family.

#### 4.3.1 Nature of Work

Domestic child labourers do not have any fixed work schedule. They have a very wide range of activities at their employer’s home from kitchen work to the house cleaning. Table 17 presents the type of work performed by the children.

**Table 17: Types of Work Performed by Respondents**

Types of Work	Male		Female		Total	
	No	%	No	%	No	%
Help cooking & washing dishes	8	32.0	6	12.0	14	28.0
Cleaning floors & washing dishes	4	16.0	5	10.0	9	18.0
Baby Sitting	*	*	5	10.0	5	10.0
All of the above	13	52.0	9	36.0	22	44.0
Total	25	100.0	25	100.0	50	100.0

*Source; field Survey, 2006*

It was found that majority 44 percent of them had to do household chores. Some children have specific roles such as baby sitting 10 percent. Eighteen percent children said they are here to help cook and wash dishes. Other 28 percent are found washing dishes, clothes, help cooking and cleaning floors etc. particularly, the females were found to have performed stereotyped roles function such as baby sitting, cooking.

These children are always on call by every family member to do any thing and every thing. These include polishing shoes, cleaning the toilets, fetching a glass of water going to nearby shop and so on. Based on major categories of work respondents were asked about their working hours also.

A majority of the respondents said that they have to work for more than 12 hours that is after getting up till sleeping time. Only few children have less than 6 hours of work. All of the child domestic workers wake up before 6 AM and usually have time to sleep after 9 PM.

The child domestic workers are expected to be always alert on any type of work. These jobs are often tedious and are often not perceived as real work. Because of unseen jobs, the child domestic workers are always busy. Usually such jobs can’t be translated in terms of working hour so separate table is not shown.

### 4.3.2 Earning from the work

Children are the cheap source of labor and are bound to work more than the adult. They are compelled to work long hour without any compliant but in return the payment is found to be very low. Table 18 shows the remuneration of the child domestic workers.

**Table 18: Wages Remuneration per month of Respondents**

Remuneration	Male		Female		Total	
	No	%	No	%	No	%
Less than 400	11	44.0	9	36.0	20	40.0
400 - 700	5	20.0	3	12.0	8	16.0
700 - 1000	2	8.0	2	8.0	4	8.0
Others	7	28.0	11	44.0	18	36.0
Total	25	100.0	25	100.0	50	100.0

Source; Field Survey, 2006

Of the total 50 children interviewed it was found that 40.0 percent of children were paid less then RS 400 for their work. Sixteen percent of children were paid 400 to 700. Eight percent child labor gets payment between RS 700- 1000. As can be seen from the table the girl's children are disadvantaged ones from viewpoint of remuneration. Among the paid children male consist of 72% while female make up only 56%. Similarly it was also found that male receive more remuneration than female.

The data revealed that 36.0 percent children were not paid a wage and only get food, cloth and education facilities in return of their work.

The children were also asked about the use of their earning. The below table shows how the children utilize the compensations received from their employers.

**Table 19: Use of Earnings of Respondents**

Use of Earning	Number	Percentage
Family	21	42.0
Self	11	22.0
No fixed	18	36.0
Total	50	100.0

Source; Field Survey, 2006

Of the total 50 respondents interviewed interestingly, 42 percent children mentioned that they support the families through wages. Child labor is a cause of poverty and one of the main reasons for the children to work as child domestic worker is to support families. Quite a significant, 22 percent said, they use the money or other earning for themselves only.

However, in cases where wages are not paid, the child domestic workers are compensated by meeting the cost of schooling or buy clothes, other gifts and lump sum cashes given

by the employers when either the child domestic workers visit their home or are visited by their parents.

When asked whether they were satisfied with the earning of the total 50 respondents interviewed it was found that 38 percent children categorically said earning was not enough, while the 36 percent said the earning was enough while the remaining 26 percent said they have no idea. When asked why the present earning was not sufficient, the majority answer was that the money was inadequate to support the family, and to buy the items of their liking.

### 4.3.3 Arrangement of Shelter and Food

Table 20 shows the arrangement of shelter made for the child domestic workers. It was found that all the respondents were staying at their master's place.

**Table: 20 Distributions of Respondents by Arrangement of Shelter**

Shelter	Number	Percentage
Room	27	54.0
Kitchen	7	14.0
Below Staircase	4	8.0
Others	12	24.0
Total	50	100.0

*Source; Field Survey, 2006*

Out of the total 50 children interviewed 54 percent reported that they are given separate room. It was reported that they are given separate room usually made for storing varied items, while 14 percent child domestic workers were sleeping at the floor of the kitchen, while 8 percent were given the space below the staircases. Twenty four percent children were given other spaces, such as the corner of the employer's children's room or corridor of the house.

When asked about sleeping arrangements of the total 50 respondents interviewed that 90% of the household child workers were given relatively good kind of sleeping arrangements, which included cot with mattress were laid at sleeping time only otherwise folded and kept at corners while only 10% children are given just simple liners' such as piece of an old carpet and blanket

As all the child domestic workers are staying at their master's home the fooding arrangement was also therefore, made available at their work place.

Of the total 50 children interviewed, 86.0 percent of the domestic child labors were given same food as master's family and the remaining 14.0 percent are given different food, usually low grade rice are separately cooked for these child domestic workers. All the respondents mentioned that they were given adequate quantity of meals.

#### 4.3.4 Health and Hygienic Situation

As child domestic workers are disposed to unhealthy and unhygienic working conditions they are vulnerable from hygienic point of view. It shows the status of their illness after they have come to present work place. Of the total 50 respondents Fifty percent of the respondents mentioned that they were never ill. Similarly, other fifty percent mentioned that they were ill at least once after coming to work as child domestic worker. However, no major illness, expect cough, cold, headache, stomach ache and minor wounds was reported. In most of the cases, they were given medicines by the employers without having checked up with medical professionals.

#### 4.3.5 Recreation Facilities

It is child's need and a right to have time for recreation. All respondents mentioned that they watch TV. As it was not possible to quantify their viewing hours, separate analysis was not done. It was found that most of the respondents have less then one hour available to watch T.V. Only few child workers manage to get 1 to 2 hours to watch TV. All the respondents stated that they were viewing TV at their master's house, and mostly sitting on floor.

No child domestic workers has specified hours for other kind of playing. Some child domestic workers find time to play while entertaining the employer's children. Usually carom, badminton, playing ball and running around are the main games they have access together with their employer's children.

#### 4.3.6 Leaves and Holidays

Child domestic workers are deprived of their own parent's affection. Therefore, it is necessary for them to have enough opportunities to get holidays and meet their dear ones.

**Table 21: Leaves and Holidays of Respondents**

How often	Number	Percentage
More than twice a year	10	20.0
Once a year	5	10.0
As per need	10	20.0
Do not know	25	50.0
Total	50	100.0

*Source; Field Survey, 2006*

Of the total 50 respondents interviewed majority 50 percent of the respondents are not aware about holidays. They are not given holidays in general. The employers want to engage them at their household work regularly. If child domestic workers leave employer's house, then they will not return back to the employer's home.

Twenty percent each respondent that they are getting holidays as per need or more than twice a year. This was true for the child domestic workers, who have come to work from

peripheral districts. Ten percent children reported that they get leave to go home once a year. Usually, they are sent to their home during big festivals or when their parents are sick. All these respondents reported that usually they get one week or two week leave.

#### 4.3.7 Behavior of the Employer

Children need love and respect too for their healthy growth. Therefore, it is important to see how have been relationships between the employer and the child domestic worker.

**Table 22: Relationship with Employers of Respondents**

Employer's Treatment	Male		Female		Total	
	No	%	No	%	No	%
Good	21	84.0	16	64.0	37	74.0
Indifferent	4	16.0	9	36.0	13	26.0
Total	25	100	25	100.0	50	100.0

*Source; Field Survey, 2006*

As can be seen from table 22 a large majority of the children 74 percent are treated in a good way. Those reporting indifference constituted 26 percent of the sample. However, the proportion of the children reporting good treatment was not the same for the both sexes. The proportion of boys reporting good treatment was relatively higher 84 percent than that of girls 64 percent.

**Table 23: Distributions of Respondents by Closet Person in the Home**

Closet Person	Male		Female		Total	
	No	%	No	%	No	%
Master	12	48.0	4	16.0	16	32.0
Mistress	7	28.0	15	60.0	22	44.0
Children	5	20.0	6	24.0	11	22.0
None	1	5.0	*	*	1	2.0
Total	25	100.0	25	100.0	50	100.0

*Source; Field Survey, 2006*

Of the total 50 respondents interviewed a majority of the child domestic workers 44 percent have found their mistress to be the closet person. Similarly, 32 percent respondents feel that they are closer to their master and 22 percent were close to their master children.

From the gender perspective, boys were found closer to their masters, while the girls felt more close to their mistress. As women are responsible for domestic chores and girls are mostly supporting them closer relationships with them is logical. Beside that they can also share their problems with their mistress.

When asked about punishment, such as scolding, beating etc, most of them faced such situations. The responses about the punishment to child domestic workers substantially indicate that the children face punishment from the employers.

**Table 24: Distributions of Respondents by Nature of Punishment**

<b>Punishment</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Scolding	28	56.0
Scolding and Slapping	10	20.0
Scolding and Sever beating	7	14.0
No Punishment	5	10.0
Total	50	100.0

*Source; field Survey, 2006*

The nature and intensity of the punishment given to the child domestic workers are found to be varied. Of the total 50 children interviewed the percent of children who reported to have been punished is 90 percent. Although the responses of children indicate immensity of punishment, majority cases 56 percent are limited to scolding. However, 14 percent children were reported to have been severely beaten by the employers. Maya karki used to be severely beaten by her mistress where she was working (Case Study of Maya karki in Annex 2).

#### **4.3.8 Perception towards the work**

Children were asked whether they are happy with their job. This question helped to know the attitude of the children in their present job and the satisfaction with it.

Of the total 50 children interviewed most of these children are found to be happy with their work as domestic servant 78 percent. The main reason for liking the job was mainly the hard and harsh life at the home while the remaining 22 percent reported that they are not interested to work as a domestic servant. The main reason for the dissatisfaction was mistreatment by the employers, no provisions of the salary and no free time.

**Table 25: Distribution of Respondents by Future Plan**

<b>Future Plan</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Willingness to study further	19	38.0
To do others Job	7	14.0
Do not know	18	36.0
To be a driver	6	12.0
Total	50	100.0

*Source; Field Survey, 2006*

A large majority of them 38 percent want to study further. They also realize that unless they upgrade their educational qualification, they can not make significant change in their life. Quite a significant percentage of respondents 36 percent are uncertain about their future. They have no plans and do know anything as well as 12 percent of the child

domestic workers, all male have ambitions of being driver in future, while 14 percent children would like to do others jobs.

## CHAPTER- V

### SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

#### 5.1 Summary

Nepal is one of the poorest among the poorest countries in the world. In Nepal poverty, unemployment are prevailing characteristics which is effecting each and every sector of human lives including child, where children required to support their labour or they are forced to leave home and survive along. Every sectors of employment are not out from children labour and this trend is growing.

This study is about the domestic child labour below 14 years of the age. The specific objectives of the study were to describe the background characteristics of the household child labor, to explain the reasons for working as a household child labor, to analyze the present nature of work under taken by household child labor and to analyze the relation between household child labor and their employed as perceived by them. The study area is the Bhimsengola residential area of the Baneshwor. The study mainly focused on the socio-economic condition and family background of the domestic child labor reason for working as domestic child laborers, health status and relationship with employers.

#### **Summary of the Findings**

In spite of the fact that domestic work is one of the largest categories of child labour in the world we know very little about the practice. The information was collected mainly to study the background characteristics of the domestic child labourers to find out the reason for working and to examine the working condition and the perception of the child labourers.

The finding are based on the interview of 50 children ages between 10- 14 years working currently as domestic child labour in Bhimsengola area. The field survey is the base of the study. In the field survey 50 domestic child labours were interviewed on the basis of the purposive sampling technique. However, a few case studies were also conducted to collect more interesting and reliable information on the situation of the domestic child labourers. Out of 50 domestic child labourers interviewed 50 percent were male domestic child labour and 50 percent were female domestic child labour.

The survey found majority of the children 42 percent were of 14 years age group. The caste group Brahmin, Chettri, Dalit consist 50 percent while ethnic groups accounted for 48 percent and Newar 2 percent. Children from 21 districts were found working as domestic worker. Out of the survey the maximum number of children came from Chitwan 12 percent. Out of total 50 children interviewed 76 percent of children were literate in which 46 percent of male were found to be more literate than female 30 percent. Of the total 50 children interviewed 24 percent have not seen the light of education. Of the total 50 children interviewed 30 percent of household child labor was



going to the school at the present while 70 percent were not getting education after they join the job. Out of the total 50 children interviewed 76 percent of children are found to have their both parent alive. However, survival of their parent does not always give them a happy life. Out of the total 50 children interviewed, 4 percent have mentioned that both of their parents died. Out of the total 50 children interviewed it was found that 24 percent of children have step parents. Although majority of family of household child labor belong to agriculture 80 percent of them do not have adequate food for whole year.

When they were at home they used to perform different work such go to school, do household work, worked in farm, herded animals and do manual labour. Of the total 50 children interviewed 56 percent household child labor reported relatives and peer group are the main contributors for taking the children to domestic service. Of the total 50 children interviewed 32 percent of children reveal that the major reason cited for the children to work as servant was to supplement family income and 22 percent reported that poverty was the major cause while 14 percent of children joined with a sole purpose of studying while 18 percent joined the service sector with the anticipation of better life in city. Out of the total 50 children asked, 26 percent were found working in this sector for the last six month while 4 percent has been found for working more than 5 years.

Of the total 50 children interviewed it was found that majority of them had to do household chores 44 percent and 10 percent were employed in Baby sitting, 18 percent are here to help cook and wash dishes, and 28 percent were found washing dishes, cloth and cleaning floors. Of the total 50 children 64 were paid for their work and 36 percent of household child labor was not a paid wage and they only get food, cloth and education facilities in return of their work . Of the total 50 children interviewed only 38 percent were satisfied with their earning and 36 percent of household child labor said earning was enough while 26 percent said they have no idea.

Out of the total 50 children interviewed 54 percent were given separate room usually made for storing varied items ,14 percent children were sleeping at the floor of the kitchen, while 8 percent were given the place below the staircase 24 percent children were sleeping on the corner of the children's room or the corridor of the house. It was found that 90 percent of child domestic workers were given relatively good kind of sleeping arrangements which included mattress and blanket and 10 percent are given simple liners and a piece of a old carpet. Of the total 50 children asked 86 percent were given same food as master family while 14 percent are given different food.

Of the total 50 children 50 percent of the respondents were never ill and 50 percent mentioned that they were ill at least once after coming to work. However no major illness except cough, cold headaches, stomach ache and minor wounds were reported. The children were given medicines by their employers without checked with the medical professionals. Of the total 50 children interviewed 74 percent are in general treated well by employers and 26 percent of household child labor feels they are treated indifferently. Of the 50 children interviewed 48 percent have found their mistress to be closet person while 30 percent respondents feel they are close to their master. Of the total 50 children

interviewed 90 percent were punished from their employers in which 76 percent were limited to scolding while 14 percent children were severely beaten by the employers. Of the total 50 children interviewed 50 percent of the respondents are not aware about holidays while 50 percent of household child labor has holidays. Usually they are sent to their home during big festivals or when the parents are sick. Of the total 50 children 78 percent were satisfied and 22 percent are not satisfied with current job mainly because of mistreatment by employers and no provision of salary and no free time.

## **5.2 Conclusion**

Child labour is considered as the most neglected from of the labour. Children are exploited in different ways in today's world. Most parents in the study area send their children to work as domestic child labour in urban area because of large family size, unemployment, poverty and children are sent to work to get relief from the economic burden.

As most of the employers are not interested in their education, most of the domestic child laborers or are either forced to dropout from school as their work time get along with the school. Most of the children are uneducated despite the government free education scheme. They work mostly just to get food and shelter. Many of them do not get salary as their work.

The working conditions of the children are not better. They have to work for the long hour daily and get little time to rest the working environment is also poor putting their life at a risk. Many children are working for lodging and fooding only few children get cash payment.

Most of these child workers were found working from morning to night. These children are always on call by every family to do every thing. These children is not called by their own name but by other name such as kancha and kanchi and the family members mostly talked to them be calling tan. These children are viewed inferior to the family members. They are scold even on a small scale. Most of these child workers are not getting education after joining the sector because of work time similarity with their school time. Most of these children joined the work at the age of 10 to 12.

Still employers need to be more sensitive on the terms of employment because children are very lowly paid as domestic help compared to their working hours. This is a case of economic exploitation that need to be corrected or supplemented by better education options or training facilities to the working children so that their basic rights are honored.

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Others

Labour Act 1992

Children's Act 1992

UN convention on the Right of Child

Various Website

## ANNEXES: 1

### CASE STUDIES

#### *Maya Karki : A Case of Torture*

*Maya karki is a chettri girl from a village of kavara districts. Her father was dead when she was very small. She had two big brothers and one sisters and the mother is doing the labor work itself. As her mother has some dream about her, she sent Maya with a friend of her where she was told that she would get food to eat, get opportunity to go school, get some money as salary and instead she just has to help the family in doing domestic chores.*

*She was then brought to a Newar family where she is working for last two years. She was ten year when she was brought there. For a couple of months, she was treated well at her master home. But after that, the problems gradually started. Her master had a big family. She is wanted by all at any time and she is required to obey everybody at the point of their command. For a small girl doing different type of work asked by different people at the same time is not possible.*

*She is severely beaten by mistress when she does mistake even of lesser magnitudes. She is never given good foods. Separate rice is cooked for her. She has to clean the whole floor house twice a day. She is not sent to school. In return she is asked who does all her work. No body feels comfortable when she sits near the door to watch T.V, instantly she is asked to do some work for others. In return of her work her mother gets Rs 300 every month. She has not got opportunity to go home again. Her master has promised to grant leave this year and she wish that she will not come back again.*

**Keshab Chaudary : A Case of “U”-Turn in Life**

*Keshab Chaudary is a 14 year old boy from Dang. They had a few lands in Dang which were not enough to feed for all members of the family. The father took the eldest son and left the house and went to India to work there. They had the family of 7 members. Keshab was left at home along with mother, grandmother and three sisters. Her one sister also works as a domestic labor in the house of landlord itself in Dang.*

*Survival was the big question for the family itself. Although he was studying at a school at class two, it was not possible for him to continue, so he started to work at the age of nine. He worked in the cinema hall of the districts headquarter. The senior staffs of the cinema hall was often beating him. But as the cinema owner has given Rs 500 per month regularly, he had worked there for nine month. Then he left the job and joins the worked in bus running through Tulsipur to Lamahi.*

*Now through a relative, who is bringing children from villages to cities for work, he also came to Kathmandu, about one year ago. Through his relative, he found a place to work as a domestic child worker. As his both master and mistress is job holder and the children go to school, he is also encouraged to study. For the last one year he is studying in a school. He gets time to study after nine. He gets same food as his employers eat. He is given good clothes to wear and lastly his dream of going to school and getting good foods and clothes are met.*

**ANEEX 2:**

**INTERVIEW SCHEDULE**

1. Personal Background

s  
Name.....  
Caste \ Ethnicity.....  
Address.....  
Age..... Sex .....

How did you come here?  
.....

2. Family Background.

Father..... (Dead \ Alive \ Deserted \ Do not know)  
Mother ..... (Dead \ Alive \ Deserted \ Do not know)  
If alive, father and mother; living together \ Separated  
If dead or deserted: Step father \ Step Mother  
Parent's Occupation: .....

Land Status.....  
If yes how many.....

3. Previous Educational Background

Literate \ Illiterate  
If literate, study at home or school.....  
If school going up to which class so you have studied.....  
Reasons for dropping school  
.....

4. Present Education Status

Are you sent to school.....  
If yes class.....  
Type of school .....

5 Working Conditions

Nature of Work  
( Cooking \ Dish washing \ Cloth washing \ Cleaning \ Baby sitting)  
Working Hour.....  
If yes how many place 1, 2 .....



Reason for leaving.....  
Since which age you worked in other's house.....

6. Reason for Working

Types of work prior to entering domestic service .....  
Decision to enter domestic service.....  
Reason for taking up the domestic service.....  
Duration of involvement in the Domestic Service.....  
Age at entering Domestic service.....

7. Earning

Paid \ Unpaid  
If unpaid reason.....  
Wage payment pattern.....  
Who keeps your earning.....  
Are you happy with your present earning.....

8 Food and Shelter

How do you get a food .....  
How many time do you eat in a day.....  
Type of food in Master house (same as master \ different food).  
If different specify (uneaten, separate cooking)

9. Recreation

Play game.....  
If yes with whom Master's kid \ friends.....  
Watch T.V  
If yes where Master's house \ outside  
If in master's house, where do you sit?  
.....

10. Relation with Master

How are you called, Tam, Tami, Others?  
Are you treated badly.....  
If yes who does this most.....  
How are you misbehaved (beating, using bad words, Scolding.....)  
Did you steal sometime.....

11. Relation with Family

How often you go to home?  
.....  
Are they happy that you work here?  
.....

12. Health and Personal Hygiene

Have you ever been sick here?

.....

If, yes name of sickness.....

How did you get recover (Hospitalized \visited doctors \ managed medicines \ natural treatment?)

Who helped you (master \ parents \ friends)

Future Life and Attitude

Are you happy with your present work?

.....

If no would you like to leave here?

.....

Future Ambition

.....

**Fig 2.1 Conceptual Framework for the Analysis of Household Child Labor**

