

CHAPTER - ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 General background

1.1.1 Nepal at a Glance

Nepal is a small and beautiful country with snow-cold torrents and green vistas. It is situated in southeastern part of Asia between two huge nations India and China. It is a country of numerous and diverse villages having three different ecological regions running from south to north namely Terai, Hill and Mountain. It is located between latitude of 26⁰22"N and 30⁰27" N and longitude between 80⁰4"E and 88⁰12"E. It has a wide an areas 1, 47,181 Square Kilometer with 885 KM east west and average of 193 KM north to south. (CBS, 2001), Its population is 2,31,51,423 (CBS, 2001). 85.8 percent of total population is living in rural areas and 38 percent people are under poverty line. The per capita income of Nepalese people is \$ 240 per annum (MoF, 2002). The gap between haves not is still increasing. Despite the natural beauty, the social-economic scenario indicates that it very challenging to develop the nation.

This small country Nepal is very rich in natural resources. In the world, occupies 0.03% only and in Asia 0.3% of land. Like wises, it lies between the altitudinal variation ranging from 60m to 8848m. Nepal is the second richest country in water resources. The theoretical hydroelectric potential of Nepal's river courses in 83 million K.W. comes to around 1.5 percent. Similarly, it has many more beautiful types of scenery, bio-diversity etc. On the other hand, it is an extremely rich cultural storehouse. There is diversity in language and culture, people live with harmony and unity, and people are friendly with smiling faces. There are 14 mountains are above 8000m in the world out of that 8 are in Nepal. Mount Everest is the highest mountain in the world, which lies in Nepal.

Nepal is a mountainous country is considered as nature's paradise. It is a paradise for ornithologist, nature lovers, hikers, trekkers and researchers of various disciplines. The

country is recognized for its unique and pristine natural and cultural diversity. Nepal's immense heritage sites are of immediate aesthetic, architectural, historical and social significance. Numerous interesting natural and cultural sites have attracted tourists of different parts of the world. In it's immensely diverse for outsiders.

1.1.2. Concept of Tourism

In the decade of 1950s, Nepal adopt democratic rule for the tourist industry. Tenzing Norge Sherpa and Sir Edmund Hillary climbed the highest mountain (Mt Everest). In this decade, Nepal develop the tourism promote though varies activities. There are seven different cultural sites from Nepal, which are included in the world heritage list of UNESCO 1979. These are Bhaktapur, Patan & Hanuman Dhoka, Darbar squares, Swyambunath, Baudhanath, Pasupatinath and Chagunarayan. Recently, the Lumbini also has been included in the world heritage list. More than 1250 heritage sites have been identified and documented from 72 districts outsides Kathmandu valley. Most of these heritage sites are located in the rural areas; this can be the core attraction for the tourists visiting those areas. Similarly, the different protected areas are also gradually listed and going to be included in the list of world heritage sites. Pilgrimages are also famous in Nepal where different shrines, temples and monuments are concentrated like Gosaikunda, Tatopani and Muktinath etc. Nepal is attracting and keeps interest to adventure mountain places in order to see outstanding scenery, altitude, topography, climate, vegetation and life zones of the Himalayan region.

The seventh five-year plan of Nepal brought a new approach in tourism. This included furnishing information to the mountaineers with a good communication system, daily weather reports of the mountains and emphasized on increasing public awareness on the mountain tourism and environmental sustainability. The implementation of the seventh five-year plan put emphasis on the native style accommodation services to the tourists and new sites were opened for tourism, one of them was popular Annapurna Century.

The resort area development program, under the 7th five-year plan, also included Hille of Dhankuta and Srinagar of Palpa at tourism sites. At the same time some basic survey programs had also been launched in Rara Lake, Tikapur, Chisapani of Kailali, ShreeAntu

Danda of Ilam, Dhorpatan of Baglung and Kulekhani of Makawanpur etc. Then, many tourists know about Nepal as natural beauty.

1.1.3 Eco-tourism

"Eco-tourism as segment of tourism that involves traveling to relatively undisturbed or uncontaminated natural areas with the specific objective of admiring, studying and enjoying the scenery and its wild plants and animals, as well as any existing cultural features" (Adhikari,2005). Environmentally friendly tourism where both host and guest are aware of environmental degradation as a result of participation in tourist activities. Protection and preservation of natural as well as socio-cultural environment while traveling has attracted the attention of all concerned with tourism.

Eco-tourism is one of the fastest growing trends in the tourism industry. The term eco-tourism is generally used to describe tourism activities that conducted in harmony with nature as opposed to more traditional 'mass tourism' activities. Eco-tourism society defined it as purposeful travel to natural areas to understand the cultural and natural history of the environmental talking perceptions not to alter the integrity of eco-system while producing economic opportunities that make the conservation of natural resources financial beneficial to local citizen, (Shrestha,1999). In this context, 'environmental' refers to both 'physical and human' conservation and preservation of environment has received considerable attention both in developing and developed countries. The primary market for eco-tourism are special interest tourists such as scientists, researchers, those who are interested indifferent nature and culture, and those who want to take an unusual trip. Recently the conventional tourists also want to include eco-tourism as an item of their traveling menu.

Ecotourism in other words, incorporates both a strong commitment to nature and a sense of social responsibility. That responsibility extends to the sensitivity of the travelers. The term "responsible travel", another aphorism for ecotourism, encapsulates its aims. The ecotourism society gives a slightly fuller definition: "Ecotourism is responsible tackle to natural areas which conserves the environment and improves the welfare of local people".

1.2 Statement of the Problem.

Nepal is known as the house of poverty. Millions of Nepali youth are spreading all over the world in search of job although they have to face the undesirable death in various countries. So Nepal has a grate challenge to increase economic activities to create new job opportunities to address the unemployment problem of rapid population growth. More then 85% Nepali are in rural areas and almost of them are engaged in subsistence agriculture where agriculture itself known as source of many kinds of unemployment. Agriculture is a traditional job and new generation is not interested in such boring job. At that context tourism can be the good path of economic generation for sustainable development.

Tourism is a never ending and ever changing process. It is one good means to earn foreign exchange for Nepal in present situation. Tourism is mainly labor intensive industries by which we can reduce the national problem of unemployment and it can be a strong and powerful weapon to poverty reduction. Data shows that tourism industries were able to earn an amount of US 162.8 million in 2006.

Ecotourism is the most sensitive part of tourism industry where awareness and consciousness requires among the local people, visitors, guide, and tour operator. Especially eco tourism plays an important role in sustainable development by promoting and protecting environment and local culture. In this context Dakshinkali, it has Potentiality of eco tourism. Almost who visits Kathmandu, visits the Dakshinkali temple. The main attraction of Dakshinkali is religious important, flora and fauna, wild animal, Jungle safari, natural beauties and geographical variation. The study will held to expose the important of Ecotourism of Dakshinkali by revealing its hidden treasures, it can help to make future plan of tourism especially in Dakshinkali and surrounding regions. So, this study attempts to find out some issues as contribution to national income, cost and benefit to the local development, relative impact of local environment, impact on carrying capacity on particular place and so on.

1.3 Objectives of the study

The general objective of the study is to find out the problems and prospects of eco tourism in Dakshinkali VDC of Katmandu district.

The specific objectives are as follows.

1. To explore the socio-cultural aspect of tourism.
2. To analyze the sustainability aspect of eco tourism in study area.
3. To identify and explore the importance of ecotourism in Dakshinkali VDC.

1.4 Rationale of the study

Eco tourism is an important niche market in the world tourism industry. It is becoming increasing popular as an alternative to mass tourism. The concept of ecotourism emerged to address the problem created by environmental damage associated with mass tourism.

Ecotourism can play an important role in the ecological and economic development of a nation. It is necessary to explore the way, which can help to integrate ecotourism with poverty reduction and natural resources management. Nepal is well placed for tourism development. In Kathmandu valley alone, there are places like Nagarkot, Kakani, Dhulikhel, Daman, Shivapuri, Fulchoki, and so on. The present study is intended to cover one of these places of Kathmandu valley, namely Daksinkali

1.5 Limitation of the Study

Through, there are various prospect of tourism in Dakshinkal, the study focus mainly on the possibility of the eco-tourism into the study area. The study was very specific like case study in an around Dakshinkali. So the conclusions drawn from this study was more indicative rather than conclusive. The conclusions might not be generalized for the whole. But, the inferences might be valid to some extent to those areas, which have similar geographic and environmental settings.

1.6 Organization of the study

Chapter one describes about general background, statement of the problem, objective of the study, significance of the study, limitation of the study and the organization of the study.

Chapter two deal with review of the literature. It explains about Nepalese tourism and ecotourism attractions. There is also literature review related to the study area.

Chapter three provides the research methodology adopted for the study to be carried out.

Chapter four Setting of the study area related to survey of the secondary data analyze of tourism in the study area. Furthermore, it analyzes about the natural resources potentiality.

Chapter five results and discussion of tabulate analyze and interpret all the data collected from the study area with the help of questionnaire, interviews, field visit and observation.

Chapter six summarizes the research work performed. It develops a clear view about the,study in the form of conclusions and recommendations provide so as to know the ecotourism development in the study area.

CHAPTE R - TWO

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Tourism is a white industry. In this modern world, tourism industry has been growing at an outstanding rate and it has appeared as the world's largest and greatest export industry. Following the advanced development of science, information and technology, the world from some years new has been global village. The basic information of the particulars places through Internet and electric medias such as television and Radio and the easy access with the speeding transportation, the human desire of traveling across has been increased more than ever in this century. The ample interference is that tourism has been the fastest growing industry of this world.

Different people inside and outside the country have conducted many studies in this field. More and more studies about the tourism are coming into focus. Therefore, tourism is not a new concept. These studies are made on different way facts of tourism in Nepal and furnish important information for the present study. In order to make the study more reliable, some of the important studies are reviewed. In addition to that, the various related tourism magazines, booklets, Newspaper, published and unpublished reports and publications also are reviewed.

2.1 Theoretical Perspective

Tourism has attracted people throughout the world. Travel from one place to another is common nature of tourism. In course of time, visitors get pleasure, satisfaction, happiness, beauty, harmony and excursion through the different utilities. Etymologically the word tour is derived from the Latin word 'tornave' and Greek 'tornos' meaning lather circle the movement around a central point or axis. Suffix 'ism' is defined as action. Most widely accepted but technical definition of the tourist was proposed by International Union of Official Travel Organizations (IUOTO), in 1963 and approved by World Tourism Organization (WTO) states that tourists are temporary visitors staying at least 24 hours in

country visited and the purpose of visit is classified under one of following heading: One leisure (recreation, holiday, health, study, religion and sport), and other Business (Family mission, meeting) (Kunwar, 2002).

According to Erik Cohen "The tourist is a voluntary temporary traveler, traveling in the expectation of pleasure from the novelty and changed experienced on relatively long and non recruitments round up".

In the recent years a specific category of nature based tourism has developed that is eco-tourism the term is first coined by Hector Ceballos-Lescurain in 1988 the term came into existence after wider debate of several years among scientists and organizations to make it a catch all term to be applied indiscriminately to almost any activities linking tourism and nature.

"Traveling to relatively undisturbed natural areas with specific objectives of studying, admiring and enjoying scenery and its wild animals and plants as well as existing cultural accepts found in these areas." (Lescurain, 1987).

"Ecologically sustainable tourism in natural areas that interprets local environment and culture furthers the tourists understanding of them, fosters conservation and adds to the well being of local community" (Richardson, 1993).

Tickle (1994) defines eco-tourism as –"Travel to enjoy the word's amazing diversity of natural life and human culture without causing damage to either". (Encyclopedia, 2001).

Bhatia's (2004) book "Tourism Management" contributes to generate general concepts of tourism in international perspective. Tourism is a highly complex phenomena and important human activity of great significance not only for economic benefits. From cultural point of view, it provides an interaction between host and guest about cultural system. Cultural tourism accelerates the advancement of rich cultural civilization and benefit in destination area. This is why, this book quit helpful for the study.

According to a technical report published by WTO, UNDP, usually growing member of vacationers seek recreation in a warm tropical country. They want to see something different, something new, something spectacular, something to photograph, sometimes they want to travel in comfort, with minimal effort and many times they want to mix their adventure with leisure activities such as sunbathing, swimming and shopping. Consequently, the most successful tourist packages combine a number of different interests, sports, wildlife, local customs, historical sites, spectacular scenes, food and dancing and most of all water. The sea, lakes, rivers, swimming pools and waterfalls all have high recreational value particularly for domestic tourism (WTO, UNDP, IEPAC 1994).

2.2 Development of Tourism

Man has been traveling throughout the ages. Traveling is a human character but tourism is a new phenomenon. Since the beginning of human civilization man is traveling. Travel has had a fascination for man. Travel in the past was not undertaken for the purpose of pleasure and it was not taken during the leisure time. At that time the motive of their travel was not to seek holiday from the working situation. It was undertaken as a part of profession or job. So traveling is a human nature whereas tourism is a recent phenomenon (Ghimire, 1997).

Before the development of transport, travel was limited to certain people and to certain places. Mechanized transport has made it possible significantly for more number of people to travel to the different places. Transport is the necessary pre-condition of tourism. But the precondition of travel is movement and movement asks for transport. Tourist and tourism is so much connected with transport system that many historical study of tourism will be concerned with the development of modern transport. For the purpose of studying development of tourism it can be divided into three phases:

1) The First Phase: (up to 1840)

Before the industrial Revolution, travel was primarily related to trade, commerce and pilgrimage. The travelers' during that time were, therefore, traders and merchants looking for merchandise. At that time travel was possible only for the aristocratic class of people. They were small in Number, the vast majority of the population hardly traveled beyond their village and the nearest market town. For this majority, the idea of leisure and holiday did not

exist. Life was not divided into work and leisure. The traveler requires accommodation at his destination and for his journey. When a journey cannot be concluded in a single day it requires overnight accommodation, only wealthy people equipped with all the lodging and fooding equipment. In this stage, most of the people travel commercial interest, religious purpose and seeking knowledge etc.

2) Second Phase (1840-1945 end of Second World War)

The industrial development of the second half of the Nineteenth century changed the social system and developed urbanization. The urbanization led to mental tension. At the same time it increased the income and the living standard of the people. And these people in the industrial countries felt the urge to travel for the purpose of rest and relaxation. At that time people felt the need of some relief from their work. The increased income helped them to fulfill their desire. Similarly, the introduction and development of railways had a profound effect on transport. It helped cheap, swift and easy travel possible for the new middle and working class, which resulted in the growth of travel, e.g. the first rail link between Liverpool and Manchester was started in the this century.

The birth of the organized rail travel and the concept of tourism came in the year 1841. The man behind this idea was Thomas cook, who is known as a pioneer and the greatest travel organizer of that time. He booked rail seats, published a tour program and sold the tours at especially reduced fares. He collected as many as 570 passengers. By the process of booking and selling of the railway seats he learned that services is a product; it can be sold as product and selling of the services can be a business- *tourism business*. Then after, encouraged by the success of his venture Thomas Cook arranged similar ventures by chartering trains. He arranged many more excursion trips on a fully commercial basis and start to published guidebook, periodical and Cook's Excursionist and tourist Advertiser. Now, the travelers do not need to carry big amount and worry about them- *travel for pleasure*. The voucher system supported the basic concept of tourism '*pay here get there*' and '*pay now gat later*'.

3) The Third phase (After the Second World War)

By the turn of the twentieth century all the main characteristics of modern tourism were evident. Changes in mental attitude towards pleasure seeking, the realization of the importance of travel for education, increases in material wealth, a growing need to find relief from working routine, and improvement in passenger transport system-all these factors produced a fertile ground for the development of tourism on a large scale.

After the Second World War the standard of living of the working and middle class, rose in the industrial countries. Tourism began to appear in the countries where it had been practically unknown a few years earlier. The war also changed the concept of people especially in Europe. It broke down the international barriers and peaceful internationalism developed. This is the most favorable climate in which tourism flourished. Enormous expansion of tourism has taken place primarily in the advanced industrialized countries, where travel has become a part of the life style. Thus the twentieth century and onward can be called "*the century of Mass Tourism*". In the past, tourism was limited-to-limited countries and destinations. Now every country is directly or indirectly involved in tourism. All countries compete with each other to attract tourists.

2.3 Tourism in Nepal

Nepal is a model of diverse culture and nature. Tourism industry flourishes in its surrounding. Published and unpublished works have been done by numerous scholars, concerned organization about tourism. Talking about the tourism destination in the world Nepal has been selected as one of the best eco-tourism destination in the world.

M. B. Shrestha has covered some important aspects of Nepalese aviation and tourism in his book "Nepalese aviation and tourism" and tried to explain the aviation history and the role of aviation in tourism. He further discussed the economic significance and the benefits of tourism in the economy of host country which is measured mainly in terms of foreign exchange receipt from tourist and its multiplier effects on different activities, contribution to national income and employment generation in rural areas thus contributing to regional

balance. Tourism development will also induce new business opportunities by opening market for local products, promote new skill and encourage positive change in land use and production system (Shrestha, 2000).

The Annapurna Conservation Area Project (ACAP) is the pioneer organization in Nepal that incorporated the concept of eco-tourism in eco-development. Following the ACAP along with other protected areas of Nepal, like Lamtang and Chitwan National Park, Makalu Barun National also accepted and re-organized eco-tourism as one of the viable options for eco-development. With other activities, the tourism development policy of Makalu Barun National Park mainly aims to promote eco-tourism activities with the participation of local people.

Nepal Rastra Bank has studied on “Income and Employment generation from tourism in Nepal”. This study deals about the composition of tourist, duration of their stay, tourist expenditure and the impact of tourism industry on income and employment generation. The study determines that tourism industry has provided job for 11,176 persons, added the tourist expenditure per day is less than Rs. 300 (Nepal Rastra Bank, 1989).

Tourism is a human activity, which has proved important for all nations since it fosters international brotherhood and understanding. With the passage of time and increasing affluence, tourism is becoming more popular as well as important day by day throughout the world (Shrestha, 2000).

Tourism, being an important activity, plays not only an instrumental role in alleviating poverty but also improves socio-economic status of a community. It helps to earn foreign currency and provides a sustainable way of conserving environment and culture through integrated local participation (NTTR, 2005). It, by all means, is peoples’ industry; it is run by the people for the people at the core be they guests or hosts, and it is their well being and enrichment which should be the primary goal of tourism development (Kunwar, 1997). If the local people understand contribution of tourism at local and national level, they automatically initiate promotional programs in rural areas (Gautam and Adhikari, 2005).

Tourism is a forefront industry in context of globalization. Globalization helps us to put forward our unique products to international market that can generate income and employment (Upadhyay, 2005).

The travel industry is unique in many ways like its raw materials, are inexhaustible tourism products do not diminish with constant use, despite the influx of increasing numbers of tourists. The sights and sounds of a destination can be maintained and even enhanced with good management and finally, tourism has a further advantage over merchandise export i.e. tourists will be necessarily be physically present in the exporting country (Gurung, 2002).

Tourism industry is playing a crucial role in the overall development of Nepal (Khanal, 1986). Nepal has got a very strong power of nature; all the country needs is better diversification (Pradhan, 2005a). Tourism has a great role to play to improve country's image in international arena (Gautam and Adhikari, 2005). By integrating the principle of decentralization and active involvement of local populace in tourism activities, Government of Nepal (Gov. N) has been piloting models through TRPAP (Dhakal, 2006).

2.4 History and Concept of Eco-Tourism

The history of nature travel is traced back to Aristotle who is known to have traveled to the Island of Leasbos in the Aegean Sea where he spent time studying marine creatures. Nature travel during the 19th Century was essentially a quest for spectacular and unique scenery. This was also the time when the concept of national parks came into being. The founders of national parks wanted to protect the environment but it was the tourists inside the national parks who "provided the economic and political needed to translate philosophy into accomplishment". The restoration of peace after the Second World War appealed and opened the world market for travel throughout the world and this was the reason for explosion of tourism. This opportunity not only helped to establish tourism as one of the most important industries, but it also becomes cause for deterioration of the early image of tourism. During the Fifties and Sixties, Americans who formed an important segment of the world's tourists were known for their insensitive behavior towards nature and culture of the destination they were visiting. They were reorganization as 'ugly tourists'. During the Seventies, the Germans appeared as 'ugly tourists' followed by Japanese in Nineties. The 'ugly tourist' phenomenon does not come from actual personality traits. It is the feeling and experience brought about by

the cultural and social invasion by visitors who are different from the host community. More recently, the 'ugly tourism' phenomenon continues with uncontrolled tourism development, and variation in cultural and social in the destination areas where tourism thrives.

The term 'ecotourism' is defined as traveling to relatively undisturbed or uncontaminated natural areas with specific objectives such as studying, admiring and enjoying the scenery with its flora and fauna, as well as any existing cultural manifestations (both past and present) found in these areas (Lascurain, 1986).

The concept of ecotourism is also rooted in the environmental concerns raised by industrial development in Europe during the Sixties. The unprecedented industrial development essentially raised awareness regarding environmental conservation and conservation organizations that came into being demanded that governments set aside a landmass not just for tourism purposes but also for preservation of ecosystem integrity. The while conservation movement during the second half of the Sixties was an example of such campaign and this period mark the birth of ecotourism. However, actual tourism began in Costa Rica in the early Eighties. A Costa Rican tour operator while registering his business first coined the word 'ecotourism', which soon become a popular word and frequently appeared in the literatures in Costa Rica (Kunwar, 1997). But the 'ecotourism' phenomenon became more prominent and came into wide use after Hector Ceballos Lascurain published an article in 1987 with definition of ecotourism. He described ecotourism as nature based travel to relatively undisturbed areas with focus on education. The 1989 Hague Declaration then formally recognized it on tourism that advocated rational management of tourism to contribute to the protection and preservation of the natural and cultural environment. Since then ecotourism has increasing become a popular word for academics, professional and businessman (Gyawali, 2003:11).

The term 'eco-tourism' is defined as traveling to relatively undisturbed natural areas with such objects as studying, admiring and enjoying the scenery with its flora and fauna, as well as the people who live near by, their needs, their culture and relationship to the land (Pardhan, 2006).

The "father of eco-tourism" concept is simple, more global and wide. Therefore his concept and definition are used. According to him the meaning of eco-tourism in a single world is "Respect". Respect is the root of every thing worthwhile and good. Respect to nature, local people culture, history, community, aspirations and tourist themselves (Adhikari, 2005).

Ecotourism focuses on local cultures, wilderness adventures, volunteering personal growth and learning new ways to live on our vulnerable planet. It is typically defined as travel to destination where the flora, fauna and cultural heritage are the primary attractions. Responsible eco-tourism includes program that minimize the adverse effects of traditional tourism on the natural environment, and enhance the cultural integrity of local people. Therefore, in addition to evaluating environmental and cultural factors, initiatives by hospitality providers to promote, re-cycling, energy efficiency, water re-use and the creation of economic opportunities for local communities are an integral part of eco-tourism (Adhikari, 2005).

Eco-tourism is also seen as an interfacing of conservation concerns and tourism interests, setting free the synergy required to jointly preserve the quality of the environment while protecting nature and promoting tourism. It is a timely strategy that is vital to the maintenance of healthy ecosystems along with economic gains by benefiting both nature and destination areas (Farrell and Runyan, 1991).

"It promotes a code of ethics in relation to other species that grants rights of continued existence to those species. It promotes non-destructive aesthetic, spiritual values. And it actually does something for wildlife in so far as it provides humans with an economic and moral incentive to set aside and maintain space (habitat) for wildlife and it discourages harassment" (Gauthier, 1993).

Eco-tourism principally concerns experiencing the natural or cultural environment without threaten it (Chauhan, 2004). While it started as description of a kind of natural tourism that would raise consciousness to conservation issues, later it also included concern for host

community. At present in Nepal it is referred to as the practice of nature tourist that minimizes the negative impacts of tourism on environment and socio-cultural aspects. It looks for a balance between 'natural conservation', 'sustainable socio-economic development', and 'nature-tourism' eco-tourism also implies a managed approach to tourism development (Nepal, 2003).

The eco-tourism society (1997) defines ecotourism as a responsible travel to natural areas that conserves the environment and improves the welfare of the people (www.ecotourism.org).

A new concept, called eco-tourism, has emerged as a placement to mass tourism as a way to reduce adverse impact of natured, eco-tourism is a response to the negative effect that mass tourism has had on the culture and geography of countries. In reality, eco-tourism is a culturally and environmentally sensitive travel that contributes to conservation and management of natural for sustainable economic development (Gurung, 1997).

Eco-tourism is a small elite band of dedicates a nature lover. Ecotourism is really an amalgam interests arising out of environmental, economic and social concerns. Take conservation, for example: the heady days when the superintendent of Yosemite Gloomed. In recent years the dangers to natural areas of too many visitors have been a great concern. Conservation is devoting a good deal of thought to making tourism work for nature preservation. In it are laid out some of the large challenges with serious of prescriptions for how to tackle them. These include the tools for looking at demands, use and impact, income distribution, resources inventory, policy formulation, planning, management, training and local participation. Eco-tourism cannot hope to meet challenges a head unless it develops into a professional discipline covering the many interests and skills associated with nature and culture tourism. This is the purpose behind the ecotourism society and its latest publication of various means.

Eco-tourism is a complex and multidisciplinary phenomenon. There are many facts that must be addressed if it is to be successful for those involved: consumers, managers, native people

and suppliers, detailed and systematic inventories of the ecotouristic attractions (both natural and cultural) of a country, a region or aside should be elaborated, bearing in mind that these inventories are different features listed. Ecotourism must be predicated upon a system perspective that includes sustainability and involvement - participations of local, rural people in those areas where the greatest potential for ecotourism development can be found. Ecotourism must be seen as a collaborative effort between local people and concerned, informed visitors to preserve wild lands and their biological and cultural asserts through support of local community development. By community development, we mean the empowerment of existing local groups in ways that only sustain the resources but also meet the social, cultural and economic needs of the group.

2.5 Historical Scenario of Eco-tourism in Nepal

History of eco-tourism is not old in Nepal, since eco-tourism is the most recent phenomenon here. Although, conservation activities started in Nepal during early 1970 as Nepal's national conservation programme was initiated in 1971 and the first national park (Royal Chitawan NP) was established at Chitwan in 1973 and later on, other areas also declared conservation zones in the subsequent years. But the eco-tourism activities started only after the inception of ACAP (1986), particularly⁶ it is after 1991/92. In true sense, ecotourism activities started only during the decade of 1990s. An eco-tourism project (Ghalekharka-Sickles eco-tourism project also known as CTREDP, chapter 8) launched by ACAP in 1992 is perhaps the first true eco-tourism project in the country.

The conservation activities got pace in the decade of 1970s, after the WWF started its activities conducted by WWF helped a lot to the conservation process in the country. Besides trekking tourism which was almost in its infant stage during the decade of 1960s, gradually developed during 1970s and more quickly during 1980s. In between 1985 and 1995 trekking in Nepal took almost U turn.

With the development of trekking tourism and conservation activities the tourism process picked up momentum and environmental concern of the tourism also brought to discussion by various environmental agencies as well as by governmental organization too.

Consequently, environmental concerns came to focus of dissection which gave rise to various ecotourism like activities which we see at present.

As far the development of the ecotourism activities is concerned, the growth of ecotourism started during 1990s. In this regard, ACAP is first to start the first ecotourism project in the country, (GSEP which is the first ecotourism project), than after SPCC was initiated in Sagaramatha region. In 1992, another ecotourism project (KEEP) was initiated in Kathmandu. Since, than, various other ecotourism project initiated in other regions. In 200, ADB ecotourism project was proposed, which is yet to be promulgated. More recently, a new project has been introduced to reduce poverty and promote ecotourism phenomenon in the country: it is TRPAP (Tourism for Rural Poverty Alleviation Program). More ecotourism programs may be expected to come in future.

2.6 Benefits of Eco-tourism.

In developed countries, Mass tourism had many caused social ills viz. alcoholism, commercialization of sex, organic disease and social crimes. In developing countries, tourism has accelerates begging problem, and some beggars have under taken it as a profession. Tourism has also brought changes in the life style of local people, and they loose their adherence and attraction towards their own heritage (Jha, 1999). Indeed, overuse, resulting in degradation of the environment, loss of economic benefits due to damage to the resources or the local community, and disruption of local cultures or values, are often cited as drawbacks to ecotourism. But if tourism is damaging natural resources, then it is not ecotourism. True eco-tourism can in fact be one of the most powerful tools for protecting the environment (Adhikari, 2005).

There are ample benefits of eco-tourism. It can provide income and employment contributing to development, enabling public enjoyment, and understanding and it also can justify nature protection. Many countries have developed, and several countries are developing guidelines and standards for tourists and tour operators to ensure that eco-tourism are environmentally and culturally sustainable. Nepal has developed some guidelines for tourists. Eco-tourism trips in general should include: per-trip preparation, environmental impact, resources impact, cultural impact wildlife impact, environmental benefits advocacy and education, etc (Jha, 1999).

Being community and natural resources based, eco-tourism provides an opportunity to harness indigenous knowledge for the social-economic benefit of rural poor communities. Co-tourism's proponents argue that eco-tourism contributes to more sustainable development in Nepal because it reconciles the pressures for economic growth with those for environmental preservation in the management of natural areas as income-generating tourists places (Chauhan, 2004). Developing eco-tourism product requires minimal impact and ecologically sustainable approaches to tourism planning development and management. Community participation in decision-making, planning and participatory techniques at a grass-roots level are methodologies evolved in Nepal for eco-tourism development (NTB, 2001).

Ecotourism potentially offers national, regional and local economic benefits similarly to those of other type of tourism activity. Full economic potential at different scales of economy is yet to be sustained by specific studies (Ziffer, 1989). It is claimed that the direct economic benefits are as follows:

- a)** Additional foreign exchange earnings,
- b)** Economic development, diversification and long-term stability, particularly in regional areas.
- c)** The distribution of income directly into regional and local economies through demanded for local goods and services.
- d)** The tendency for greater expenditure and length of stay by ecotourists.
- e)** The generation of income for the conservation and management of national parks, other public land etc.
- f)** Additional skilled employment opportunities utilizing local knowledge and facilities and
- g)** Local infrastructure development.

In addition to these direct benefits, there are a number of non-tangible economic benefits associated with the conservation of an area that is compatible with its use for ecotourism and

also include protection of watershed values, control erosion and protection of Bio-diversity and evolutionary processes; conservation as well as maintaining and option to develop the area for ecotourism in the future (Baral, 1998).

2.7 Principle of Eco-tourism

The principles of ecotourism developed by The International Ecosystem Society (TIES) related to natural resources are:

- a) Avoiding the negative impacts that can damage or destroy the integrity or character of the natural or cultural environments being visited.
- b) Educating the travelers on the important of conservation.
- c) Directing the revenues to the conservation if natural areas and the management of protected areas.
- d) Bringing economic benefits to local communities and directing revenues to local people adjacent to protected areas.
- e) Emphasizing the need for planning and sustainable growth of the tourism industry, and seeking to ensure that tourism development does not exceed the social and environmental carrying capacity.
- f) Retaining a high percentage of revenues in the host country by stressing the use of locally owned facilities and services.
- g) Increasingly relying on infrastructure that has been developed sensitively in harmony with the environment.
- h) Minimizing the use of fossil fuels conserving local plants and blending with the natural environment (Shrestha and Waling, 2003).

Other authors have described ecotourism principles differently but the essence of these principles (Blamey, 2000: Dhakal and Dahal, 2000) is not too different from those mentioned above:

- a) It should not negative impact the resources that helps to develop ecotourism in any destination. Rather it should be developed in an environmentally friendly manner.

- b) It should provide benefits to all parties-local natural resources, people and the tourism industry-with a stake in ecotourism.
- c) It should extend first-hand information to visitors.
- d) It should provide educational opportunities for all parties-local communities, government, NGOs, Industry and tourists.
- e) It should encourage all-party recognition of the intrinsic values of the resources.
- f) It should involve acceptance of the resources on its own terms and in recognition of its own limits.
- g) It should promote understanding and partnerships between many players, which could involve government, NGOs, industry, scientists, and locals.
- h) It should promote moral and ethical responsibilities and behavior towards the natural and cultural environment by all players.

Those principles are directly related to sustainable eco-tourism progress in like this developing country.

2.8 Scope of Eco-tourism

Eco-tourism produces economic and social benefits to the local people. It is based in the sustainable development conservation of resources non-intrusive exploitation of natural resources controlled use of cultural and environmental interaction between natural environment and people and encourages the active involvement of local people and tourists:

- a) Development of greater understanding and appreciation of the environment.
- b) Motivation of tourists and local people to become more responsible of the environment.
- c) Increase public environmental awareness.
- d) Provision of finding for scientific research.

- e) The application of environmentally friendly skills and clear during the tour to facts of every day living and
- f) It is primarily nature base tours thus it is eco-friendly.

2.9 Methods of Eco-tourism

The following methods should be needed to making tourism development ecologically viable:

- a) Transforming guidelines in strategies, tactics and action plans,
- b) Building partnerships to effectively combat the issues through pragmatic ways leading co-operative tourism,
- c) Re-organizing the priorities for development,
- d) Community participation in farming, implementation and monitoring the development programs,
- e) Redefining the goals for progressive growth,
- f) Re-structuring political structures to achieve efficiency and commitments,
- g) Identification of key persons of right caliber and sincere commitment to influence planning process,
- h) Creating awareness and sense of belonging and
- i) Involvement of the private sector in bringing about sustainable development, etc.

CHAPTER - THREE

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1 Research Design

For the fulfillment of the study, I used exploratory and case study research design because the study was focused on to investigate the impact of tourism activities on sustainable management of natural environment. Thus, this study was both descriptive and exploratory.

3.2 Rationale for the Selection of the Study Site

The tourism activities are continuous in and around the Dakshinkali VDC due to its natural beauty, cultural heritage and hospitality of the people. Skilled manpower for tourist guide is another aspect of tourism industry. Being services oriented and labor-intensive industry, tourism needs skilled and professional manpower for quality services. Skilled manpower such as tourist guides and their hospitality is a precondition for quality tourism. (Sigdel, 2004)

During the course of study it was found that there is a lack of trained guides who can explain in detail about Dakshinkali to the visitors. The available guide facility is not satisfactory. Majority of local peoples are illiterate, backward and poor. The increasing number of beggars by whom harsh the travelers is being also a problem. The training on how to deal with guests should be given to those who come into contact with tourists. But the concept of eco-tourism is not implemented well or operationalized in this area. The main concern of today is to make any industry sustainable and beneficial for the people. So, this study tried to explore minutely the environmental aspects consistence with degradation. Moreover, this study tried to find out the causes and hidden facts of the degradation of natural environment. Therefore, this study contained the great significance in social science to minimize the problems related to the environment of this study area.

3.3 Sampling Procedure

Both types of sampling were used for the selection of sampling. Under non-probability sampling, the stratified sampling was used to select the samples from local people, hotel owners and tourist. Under the probability sampling simple random sampling was used to select the intended number of samples 60, respondents. In this study, 20 local people, 25 tourist & 15 flower seller were select for the interview, questionnaire & focus group discussion.

3.4 Natures and Source of Data

3.4.1 Primary Data

This study was mainly based on primary data. Primary data collected by using different data collection techniques such as structure and semi structure questionnaire, key informant interview, observation and focus group discussion etc.

3.4.2 Secondary data

Secondary data was collected from different tourism concern agencies and organizations were visited such as tourist service center Dakshinkali, Nepal Tourism Board, WWF, TAAN, ACAP, KEEP, CBS, world Bank and various reports, Journals, relates articles, previous published and unpublished researches, etc.

3.5 Tools and Technique of Data Collection

For the primary data, structured and semi structured questionnaire were used in the field; in cases of illiterate respondent, researcher himself have noted down whatever the respondent responses. The other tools were used for the primary data collation mainly for key informant interview, field observation and focus group discussion.

3.5.1 Questionnaire Survey

Structured questionnaire was prepared to generate the realistic and actual data from households' survey, hotel owner and tourists. The respondents were asked to fill up the questionnaire by themselves.

3.5.2 Key Informant on Interview

The primary data was collected from key informants using the semi or unstructured interview methods. The interview have been taken a cross checking for data obtained from questionnaire. The informants were interviewed on the impact of tourism on environment, sanitation, vegetation, socio-culture impact etc.

3.5.3 Field Visit and Observation

The field visits of the study area have done based on the non-participatory observation, which helps to enrich the qualitative and quantitative data collection. In this researcher observed the daily life of people by watching and listening to their conversation. This was done during interviewing people, talking with them, during walking along the routs and traveling in the bus. This was done to know the actual condition of respondents, the condition of landscape, kind of flora and fauna, awareness of people, roads, income from tourism, economic status of the local people condition of tourism, socio-cultural impact of tourism etc.

3.5.4 Focus Group Discussion

The focus group discussion was held in separate group with the participation of women and men. The discussion was focused more on women and poor group members who were not benefited well from tourism but affected from the degradation of surrounding environment.

3.6 Data Analysis

The quantitative data obtained from questionnaires were analyzed using statistical tools. The collected qualitative information is presented in descriptive way. The various information ,obtained is presented in appropriate tables and figures. They are categorized and tabulated according to the objective of the research.

CHAPTER - FOUR

PHYSICAL SETTING OF THE STUDY AREA

4.1 The Dakshinkali Village Development Committee: the Study Area

4.1.1 Physical Setting

The Dakshinkali VDC is one of the 57 VDCs of the Kathmandu district which is located in the south part of this district and surrounded by four VDCs namely Soukhal in the North East, Sesnarayan in the north, Talku Dudachour in the North West and Chhaimale in the west south. It is connected with the district headquarters and it is about 27 km west-south from the Kathmandu. It is a less developed village largely populated by poor ethnic caste groups like Bramin Chhetry Newar etc. Goddess Dakashinkali is situated at a hilly Place nearly by Pharping located at a distance of 18 km south from Kathmandu valley(Balkhu). This Goddess Dakshinkali is recognized as a very important alter of Divine Energy. The temple of the Goddess is renowned by the name of the Goddess herself in national and international areas. There is a belief that the Goddess Dakshinkali which was being respected as incorporeal and spiritual gave a Darshan (to show one's own appearance) to king Pratap Malla in his dream at night and advised the King that, goddess Dakshinkali be made manifested by setting up the idol of the Goddess. According the King ordered to Prepare the stone idol of the goddess Dakshkali which is also known as Dakshkali Aanaayanaayikaa, and Performed the work of consecrating the image of the Goddess in the temple in a traditional manner pertain to the Tantras at the meeting place of two holy rivulets named as Poornabati (emblem of completeness) and Udhdarbati (emblem of salvation). Since the ruling period of King Pratap Malla was from 1698 to 1731 Bikram Era, therefore it is assumed that the consecration of image of the Goddess Dashkali was held in the same period). The incarnation of the Goddess Dakshkali is of the Goddess Chamunda and is postured at of a corpse. There are images of Goddess of Sapta Matrika (Seven Divine Mothers) such as Naarsinghi, Indrayani, Baraahi, Vaishnavi, Kumari, Maaheshwari and Braahmin and the God Ganesh installed to the right of the Goddess Dakshkali and the image of the Lord Bharirav is

installed at the front. When road transport was not available, the devotees of the Goddess used to go on foot from Kathmandu Valley. The way to go to the temple of the Goddess was also the shortest trek-route for India which helped to publicize the venerable ness of the goddess Dakshinkali extends.

4.1.2 Mother of the Goddess Dakshinkali

There is a stone –idol located at south-west corner at a distance of about a furlong at the hill above from the temple of goddess Dakshinkali. According to the hearsay of the local people, the Divine Energy of the said stone idol was very much violence of the said idol, the stone-image of the Goddess was established. The said stone-idol is known as the mother of the Goddess Dakshinkali.

4.1.3 Worshipping (The Pooja)

King Prithvi Narayan Shah the Great had set-up a trust in the year 1826 B.S. in order to carry out the day to day worship of the Goddess Dakshinkali. Kings of the Shah dynasty have recognized the Goddess Dakshinkali as their household deity . In the year 1856 B.S the late His Majesty the King Girvan Yuddha Bikram Shah established a trust for day to day workshop and the special Great worship of the goddess Dakshinkali. From the same period , the royal place organize special worship from time to time and also there is established tradition that the royal places organize a special worship with Pancha Baili (sacrificing five different types of animals and birds) on the 8th day of full moon night in the month of Baishakh. Crowds of devotees to congregate especially on the eight and fourteenth day of every full moon or no-moon fortnight and Tuesday and Saturday of every week.

There is a custom that the karmancharya the worshiped of the temple, performs the worship of Goddess Dakshinkali at 12:00 O: clock in the morning by uttering the Mantras relative to Tantras. It is believed that the custom of such worship has prevailed from the period of late King Prataap Mall . General devotees use to perform the worship in their own way. It is found that many worship are carried out by way of offering the sacrifice of one animal or Panchabali to fulfill their Promise. It is believed that by the grace of the Goddess any desire of human being would be fulfilled . People with belief that any sick person may be well and get

recovery and any person who worships being free from any desire may get salvation the fame of the goddess is spread everywhere.

4.1.4 Population Distribution

According to the CBS 2001, the total population of the Dakshinkali VDC is 4427 with 398 households. Out of the total population male population is 2199 and female population is 2228. There are 9 wards in this VDC. The population and households of the Dakshinkali VDC are shown in the table below.

Table No. 4.1
The Households and Population of the Dakshinkali VDC

Ward No.	No. of Household	Population		
		Male	Female	Total
1	45	386	394	780
2	45	194	183	377
3	53	153	168	321
4	73	427	436	863
5	52	346	301	647
6	27	190	217	407
7	32	207	225	432
7	48	178	170	348
9	23	118	134	252
Total	398	2199	2228	4427

Source: Census Report 2001.

The above table shows that total population of the Dakshinkali VDC is 4427. In this data, female population is higher than male population. The total population of the study area belongs to different age-groups which is shown in the following table.

Table 4.2: VDC Population by 5 year Age group and Sex

Age Group	Total Pop ⁿ	Population %
0-4	270	6.3
5-9	403	9.4
10-14	411	9.6
15-59	2883	67.5
60-74	247	5.8
75 +	54	1.3
Total	4268	100

Source: Village Profile 2062.

In the above table out of the total population, 6.3 percent population belongs to below 4 years age groups, 9.4 percent population belongs to 5-9 years age group, 9.6 percent population belongs to 10-14 years age group, 67.5 percent population belongs to 15-59 years age groups, 5.8 percent population belongs to 60-74 years age groups and 1.3 percent population belongs to above 75 years age groups.

4.1.5 Occupation

The people of the Dakshinkali VDC are engaged in various occupations. But, most of the people are engaged in agriculture. So, agriculture has been proved to be a major source of employment and income of the households of this VDC. Besides this agricultural occupation, some people involve in non-agricultural economic activities .The VDC is occupied is occupied by various people, nature and diverse geographical pattern and if determines the people's occupations which scale down the economic condition of the area. Except agriculture, livestock, cottage industry and trade are other occupations.

4.1.6 Educational Status

In the Dakshinkali VDC there are two primary level schools and one secondary level school which are running in good condition providing education. The literacy rate of this VDC is 71.93 percent. The literacy status of six years and above population in the Dakshinkali VDC is given below.

Table No. 4.3

Literacy Status of the Dakshinkali V DC (above 6 years)

Gender	Literate	Percent	Illiterate	Percent	Total population	Total percent
Male	1736	71.17	211	39.15	1947	100
Female	1940	28.82	739	60.84	2679	100
Total	3676	100	950	100	4626	100

Source: Census Report, 2001

The table shows that, above 6 years population consist of 71.17 literacy percent of male and 28.82 literacy percent of female. Similarly 39.15 percent of male and 60.84 percent of female are illiterate in this VDC.

4.1.7 Health Facilities

In the Dakshinkali VDC, there is one sub-health post. People are getting health facilities from private allopathic medical practitioners, village health workers and traditional healers such as, Dhami, Jhankri etc .According to the records of Prathamik Swastya Kendra, Dakshinkali's major health problems found in the whole VDC include: Scabies, worms, diarrhea/dysentery, pneumonia, typhoid etc.

4.1.8 Culture

Varied geographical structure of the district determines the VDC's cultural heritage. This VDC is rich in cultural diversity both tangible and intangible. The culture of the district can be categorized in to two major parts i.e. ethnic culture and archaeological monuments. Where ethnic culture is related to religion, custom, tradition, folk-lore, language, fair and festival living style of people, housing pattern, art, craft etc. and archaeological monuments is related to Temples.

4.1.9 Caste and Ethnicity

There are various caste and ethnicity in this VDC. Mainly these are, Bramain Newars, Chhetries and Dalits. People are original indigenous ethnic groups of this area. They have strange types of Religion, custom, tradition, folklore, language, fair and festival, living style of people housing pattern, art, craft, etc. Having its own unique features of culture of the indigenous groups, this area is potential in cultural attraction.

4.1.10 Mother Tongue and Religion

Most of the Newar people speak their own language (Nepal Bhasha), Bramin use their own language. Mostly all the indigenous groups has its own language but Nepali language is main dominant language. Religiously some people belong to Kirschain, Some Buddhism and most of the people are belongs to Hindu religion.

Table 4.4 Populations by religion for VDC

S.N.	Religion	No. of H Hs	Percentages
1	Hindu	172	25.6
2	Buddha	350	52.1
3	Others	150	22.3
	Total	672	100

Source: Village Profile 2062

4.1.11 Climate

Generally, Dakshainkali has sub-tropical to warm-temperate climate for four seasons. The spring or pre-monsoon (mid February to May) is windy, dry but pleasant with little or no precipitation. Summer or monsoon starts from June and ends around mid of the September. It is humid and hot with heavy rainfall. The autumn or post-monsoon starts from mid-September and ends the November. It is dry but sunny. The winter, November to mid-February is cool and foggy with short but sometimes precipitation. Sometimes the temperature drops below Zero degree centigrade and high peak. The mean annual temperature is 18⁰c. Normally, the temperature of this area ranges from 2.6⁰c to 12⁰c in winter and 15.4⁰c to 23.3⁰c in summer.

4.1.12 Infrastructure Setting

Facilities and services play vital roles in facilitating by bringing them to the attractions and allowing them to use the attractions. The facilities and services also contribute largely to magnify the value of attractions. With the increase in the number of tourists visiting Dakshinkali, investment in infrastructure development such as water supply, road construction, electricity distribution, communication etc have increased, although the increase is not direct proportion.

4.1.13 Natural Resources

"Natural Resources Management for sustainable development". Environment Resources Limited (1989). Study of feasible policies institutions and investment activities in Nepal with special emphasis on the hills, only the section that concerns tourism has been summarized. It deals with managing the impacts of tourism and infrastructure developments are considered. The chief sources impacting the hill resources base, natural resources tourism, which is growing annually in Nepal, imparts the resources base and the demand creates upon fuel wood, environmental pollution and conflict with resources needs of the local people economically and it also created incentives for local resources management. It steps are taken to management has occur to manage the impacts of tourism the study suggests management and monitoring of natural areas regulatory mechanisms; user charges and pricing; local incentives and diversification currently management and monitoring activities are under founded. Except in the case of kerosene use, regulating mechanism is not prevalent user charge and pricing mechanisms are not being used as tools to manage the environment. Incentives for local people have been provided in the parks in terms of energy management, infrastructure and conservation education, but even so, the process of involving local people in policy making, project planning and implementation has not been effective enough in any Conservation Areas of Nepal.

4.2 Impact of Eco-tourism in Dskshinkali

Tourism has the potential of bringing about changes in people's ideas, behavioral patterns, lifestyles, social system, values and norms, expectations, and other manifestation of material and non-material culture .The impact of tourism on local cultural traditional and values is difficult to assess. Not only tourists but also other factors such as local people traveling for education, trade, and other purposes may bring in new ideas and attitudes those in turn may result changes in local cultural practices. Changes in people's behavior, dress, lifestyle, family and social structure, values and expectations, decline in local support for local traditions and institutions, people's preference for tourist-related jobs over education, pollution of sacred places, changes in traditional architecture, and so on are generally argued to be the negative impacts of eco- tourism on culture. Economic impact are also important are caused by tourism, by economic factors, or by other factors. It has brought several impacts upon different fields of the economy. It has its impact on economic, social and cultural environment of the country. It is a fact that eco-tourism in Dakshinkali is characterized with multiplier effects:

4.2.1 Social-Cultural Impact

The development of tourism industries in these remote areas brought a number change on the lives of the local people, people got many jobs to do land become expensive, modification occurred in tradition and life style, people got wider horizon and so on. The villagers have opportunity to learn many things from the tourists, they learn well as well as harmful things. The villagers learn quickly the life style of tourists, some languages, something about electric and mechanical goods the tourists generally carry with them such as Cameras, Transistors, Binocular, etc. When tourists arrive in Dakshinkali most of the time, the villagers watch tourist's activities. The communications between tourists and villagers is always a problem unless some one (guide or hotel crew) helps them. Another activity of the villagers is to cooperate tourists by providing them firewood and other necessary items. Sometimes, the villagers sing and dance for the amusement of the tourists. The villagers are therefore cooperative towards tourists visiting Dakshinkali. They do not have tendency to discourage tourists.

The villager respondents feel that there is some harm associated with tourism development. The majority of them (about 50%) believe that villagers especially children and teenagers might learn bad habits from the tourists. Some respondents viewed that the development of tourism may make their villager unsafe. Though, some harms are associated with the development of tourism, they are actually insignificant as compared to benefits.

4.2.2 Environmental Impact

It is difficult to deny the fact that tourism spoils natural environment. Natural hazards happen due to deforestation, over grazing of animals, agricultural practices in unfavorable hill slopes and so on. The role of tourism in local deforestation, as well as the pace of that deforestation, has often been exaggerated, concern over the role of tourism in Sagarmatha National park was an important part in the rationale for the establishing the park. Even at current levels tourists certainly increase the local demand for fuel wood by no more than 10%. In this context, the increasing deforestation in Dakshinkali and is matter to be worried about it. It is due to partly by local people and partly by tourism development in these areas. The major reasons responsible for deforestation are construction of roads, building, domestic and commercial use of the fuel wood, extension of new agricultural areas etc; these factors have affected the natural vegetation of these areas badly. Increase in population and new hotels have increased the demand for fuel wood. This is more so in Dakshinkali due to the absence of electricity. In this way, the forested hills are becoming forestless very fast, which would sooner or later affect the natural beauty. Deforestation invites landslide. The major attraction of tourists to Dakshinkali is natural sceneries as well. Thus, it is necessary to preserve and reforestation should be done wherever possible.

4.2.3 Negative Impact

This section includes the negative effects of tourism on social values and norms and its consequences for traditional lifestyle including food, customs, folk dances, way of living and festivals, and disruption of traditional kinship and community bonds. It was found that there are fairly minor overall perceived negative effects of tourism on the social life of the community.

The main impacts people reported are that the young people copy tourist behavior, food and fashion. The older people are concerned with the young peoples' response towards tourists.

They reported that growing long hair and having an ear-ring among local boys, and also wearing foreign cloths, smoking, drinking beer and over-familiarity between local boys and girls are the most common imitations. The main reason for such 'demonstration effects' is that people, particularly youngsters, value Western culture. They think that Westerners are civilized and that what they do is right. Therefore, rather than feeling negative impacts, young people take these as social improvement.

In addition, local values in some extent have been found to be changed; people are becoming increasing oriented to earn money. Traditional folk dances are gradually disappearing and have been replaced by modern songs. The value of money has also led to the disruption of traditional kinship and community bonds. Money is now more important than kinship. However, tourism was not found solely responsible for these social changes. Other driving forces responsible for such changes are found to be: Radio, T.V, people going overseas and the closeness of towns. In the heart of Dakshinkali, increasing garbage is creating problem of sanitation, there has been a lack of efforts to maintain cleanness. People coming for trekking, picnic, sightseeing, etc just do not care for leaving behind dumps of tin, cans, plastic items, toilet papers, etc, in the spot, major interests in Dakshinkali. The absence of public toilets is also helping ecological health hazards. It may not be a problem at present but in due course of time. It will be come serious one.

4.3 Some of Constraints for Tourism Development in Dakshinkali

Although Dakshinkali is a beautiful place to visit nearby Kathmandu, there are some of the constrains for tourism development. There lacks some facilities for tourism development and promotion. Every day a large number of tourists arrive there but very few of them stay for more than one night. There are lacks of recreational facilities (mane-made facilities). If there would have been these facilities will have stayed for a longer period of time. Some of the constraints in Dakshinkali are given below:

4.3.1 Transportation and Communication

Transportation is considered to be the backbone of the tourism industry. It has vital role in tourism business. It is a primary services needed for the tourism in order to reach their destination. In any area tourist products or potentialities would be little importance if the location were inaccessible. The destination should be accessibility by mean of conductive transport system. Although the road facility is available to Dakshinkali from Kthmandu. No doubt, travel agencies conduct direct tour from Katmandu to Dakshinkali, but the charge is so high that only the high budget tourists can afford it and is not regular also. It is inconvenient because the bus services are used not only for passengers but also for transporting verities of goods along with passengers. So the local bus services are very uncomfortable. Moreover, the road to Dakshinkali is very narrow and turnings are very risky especially in rainy season.

As the tourists are away from their home, they want to communicate their family, friends and relatives by easy means of communication. Though English is an international language, most of the people in the study area cannot understand different other language. The tourists visit from different countries not just from the English speaking countries. So, the language is the main problem for the local people in the society. Similarly, Youths are used to slang/rough words by copying from the visitors without knowing the exact meaning. For this very individual wants to use foreign languages to communicate with the visitors but not try to use Nepali language with them. The generation gap is being widened by the means of communication. In this way our national language is being phased out by the tourism activities.

4.3.2 Water Supply

There is a problem of water supply Temple area, which is the main place for the tourists to enjoy and stay. Almost all the hotels are using water directly from wells, streams etc for drinking and other purposes. The sources of water are also unprotected and lack of water

sources. Especially the surrounding Environment is dirty and the sanitation condition is poor; though there is sufficient of water resource.

4.3.3. Recreational Facilities

Growth of tourism largely depends on the development of recreational facilities. There is no provision of recreational facilities such as parks, swimming pools, bird watching, and Jungle safari etc in Dakshinkali. The available forest could be well managed for educational, recreational purposes such as bird watching, wildlife viewing, biodiversity study, trekking etc. By taking entrance fee from that further management conservation of the forest and infrastructure development in the area can be enhanced. Thus new sources of pleasure are to be explored in the area so as to attract more and more tourists and to lengthen their duration of stay.

4.3.4 Information Center and Publicity

Information is an important aspect of any business activity. In the context of tourism business, it also plays an important role to develop and promote the tourism industry. That's why, most of tourists in Kathmandu lack of knowledge about Dakshinkali. There is no tourist information center in Dakshinkali. There is no system to show and communicate about the facts of Dakshinkali such as the culture, religion, customs of different races, trekking routes, hotel facilities available and their prices, etc. There is no signpost in the area and trekking routes showing the direction of hotels, temples; village etc. effective advertisement and pamphlet about Dakshinkali should be done through travel agencies, tourism Board kathmandu.

4.3.5 Trained Manpower

Besides natural beauty, cultural heritage and hospitality of the people, skilled manpower is another aspect of tourism industry. Being services oriented and labor-intensive industry, tourism needs skilled and professional manpower for quality services. Skilled manpower such as tourist guides and their hospitable is a precondition for quality tourism. During the study it was found that there is a lack of trained guides who can explain in detail about Dakshinkali to visitors. The available guide facility is not satisfactory. Majority of local peoples are illiterate, backward and poor. The increasing number of beggars by whom harsh

the travelers is being also a problem. The training on how to deal with guests should be given to those who come into contact with tourists.

4.4 Tourist Arrival in Nepal

4.4.1 Pattern of tourist arrival in Nepal

As already been mentioned the tourist started visiting Nepal freely soon after the event of democracy in 1950. But rapid progress of tourist arrivals in Nepal seems after the restoration of democracy 1990. Table 4.9 presents trends of tourist arrivals from 1995 to 2007.

Table: 4. 5 Arrivals of Tourists in Nepal

Year	Total No.	Growth Rate %	By Air Number	Percent Of Total	By Land Number	Percent Of Total	Average Length of Stay
1995	363395	11.3	325035	89	38360	11	11.27
1996	393613	8.3	343246	87	50367	13	13.50
1997	421657	7.2	371145	88	50712	12	10.49
1998	463684	9.9	398008	86	65676	14	10.76
1999	491504	6.0	421243	86	70261	14	12.28
2000	463646	-5.7	376914	81	86732	19	11.88
2001	361237	-22.1	299514	83	61723	17	11.93
2002	275468	-23.7	218660	79	56808	21	7.92
2003	338132	22.7	275438	81	62694	19	9.60
2004	385297	13.9	297335	77	87962	23	13.51
2005	375398	-2.6	277346	74	98052	26	9.09
2006	383926	2.3	283819	74	100107	26	10.20
2007	526705	37.2	360713	68	165992	32	11.96

Source: Nepal Tourism Statistic, 2007, GoN Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation.

The number of tourist visiting Nepal has increased each year except in the year 2000, 2001, 2002 and 2005 respectively. In 2000, 2001, 2002, 2005 the trend of tourist arrival had decreased by 5.7%, 22.1%, 23.7%, and 2.6% respectively due to the conflict situation in the

country. The number of tourist visiting in Nepal increased by 11.3 percent in 1995, 8.3 Percent in 1996, 7.2 percent in 1997, 9.9 percent in 1998, 6.0 percent in 1999, 22.7 percent in 2003, 13.9 percent in 2004, 2.3 percent in 2006 and 37.2 percent in 2007.

4.4.2 Tourist Arrivals by Purpose of Visit (2006/07)

Tourist travel with various purposes in Nepal. Nepal is destination of nature and culture for tourist. Tourist visited for pleasure accounted to 27.7 percentages in 2006, which further increased to 41.4 percent in 2007. It is simply because of that pleasure tourist want to visit country, where there is peace and order. Majority of the foreigners visited Nepal is with the purpose of holiday pleasure. The tourists who visited with this purpose where 27.7 percent in 2006 and 41.4 percent in 2007. 19.2 percent of the tourists visited Nepal with the purpose of trekking and mountaineering, 4.6 percent, 10.0 percent and 4.1 percent tourist visited Nepal by Purpose of Business, Pilgrimage and official task respectively in 2007. Rest of 20.7 percent of tourists visited Nepal with the purpose of study, family visit, special mission etc in the same year 2007. 27.7 percent, 4.0 percent, 11.3 percent and 3.4 percent tourists visited Nepal by the purpose of holiday pleasure, trekking and mountaineering, Business, pilgrimage and official task respectively in 2006. The table 4.10 presents the purpose of tourists visiting Nepal during 2006/07.

Table : 4.6 the tourist Arrivals by purpose of visit 2006 and 2007

Purpose of visit	2006	Percentage	2007	Percentage
Holiday pleasure	145802	27.7	217815	41.4
Trekking& mountaineering	66931	12.7	101320	19.2
Business	21066	4.0	24487	4.6
Pilgrimage	59298	11.3	52594	10
Official	18063	3.4	21670	4.1
Others	72766	40.9	108819	20.7
Total	383926	100	526705	100

Source: Nepal Tourism Statistic, 2007, GoN Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation

4.4.3 Tourist Arrivals By Sex and Age Groups (2006/07)

Tourist arrival in Nepal is differing with sex and age. It is known that numbers of male tourists are higher than that of the female tourists. In 2007, male visitors comprised 55.2 percent of the total arrivals while female visitors accounted for 44.8 percent. Likewise, age groups recorded that highest share recorded by the 31 to 45 age group followed other year groups. Data has given in the table 4.11 and has cleared the inflow of tourists by age group and sex 2006 and 2007.

Table: 4.7 Tourist arrivals by sex and age groups

Age groups	2006	Percentage	2007	Percentage
0-15 years	37,433	9.8	38,870	7.4
16-30 years	75,626	19.7	112,879	21.4
31-45 years	123,541	32.2	164,488	31.2
46-60 years	95,260	24.8	130,756	24.8
60 & over	52,066	13.6	69,927	13.3
Not specified	0	0	9,785	1.9
Total	383,926	100	526,705	100
Male	218,818	57.0	290,688	55.2
Female	165,108	43.0	236,017	44.8

Source: Nepal Tourism Statistic, 2007, GoN Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation

4.4.4 Tourist Arrivals by Major Nationalities (2006/07)

Tourist arrivals in Nepal in 2006 and 2007 were recorded 383,926 and 526,705 respectively. It is observed that the tourist arrivals from Asia continent was the largest and in second Position took the Western Europe. North America stood in third position. Eastern Europe came in fourth position. Australia and Pacific took fifth position. South and Central America Stood in sixth position and only the smallest percentage of tourists came to Nepal from Africa. Tourist arrivals by major nationalities of the world are presented in following table

Table: 4.8 Tourist Arrivals by Major Nationalities (2006/07)

Nationality	2006	Percentage	2007	Percentage
North America	24,566	6.4	37182	7.1
South and Central America	4,764	1.2	6486	1.2

Western Europe	97,278	25.3	140630	26.7
Eastern Europe	10,613	2.8	16634	3.2
Asia	231,812	60.4	304225	57.8
Australia and pacific	9,763	2.5	14506	2.8
Africa	1,125	0.3	1350	0.3
Others	0	0.0	2177	0.4
Not specified	4,005	1.0	3515	0.7
Total	383926	100	526705	100

Source: Nepal Tourism Statistics, 2007, GoN Ministry of Culture

Tourism and Civil Aviation

4.4.5 Contribution of Tourism Sector

The contribution of tourism sector, as the share of GDP, as percentage of total foreign exchange earning is presented in table 4.14. The share of tourism in GDP of the country was 3.8 in 1995/96 and 3.0 in 1996/97. Recently in 2006/07, it is decreased to 0.9 percentages only. It is due to the fall in tourist arrivals and their spending. The foreign exchange earning from tourism as the percentage of total foreign exchange of the country was highest in FY 1995/96, which was 21.4 percent. Recently the share of the exchange earning as the percentage of total foreign exchange earning declined to only 4.4 percent in FY 2006/07.

Table 5.13 Foreign Exchange Earning from Tourism (199/96-2006/07)

Year	Total Foreign Exchange Earning from Tourism (Rs.in million)	As % of Total Foreign Exchange Earning	As % Of GDP
1995/96	9521.2	21.4	3.8
1996/97	8523.0	17.6	3.0
1997/98	9881.6	15.2	3.3
1998/99	12167.8	15.9	3.6
1999/00	12073.9	8.8	3.2
2000/01	11717.0	7.4	2.9
2001/02	8654.3	6.1	2.1
2002/03	11747.7	8.2	2.6
2003/04	18147.4	11.4	3.7
2004/05	10464.0	6.1	1.8

2005/06	9556.0	4.6	1.5
2006/07	6176.0	4.4	0.9

Source: Nepal Tourism Statistics, 2007, GoN Ministry of Culture Tourism and Civil Aviation

4.4.6 General guidelines to conserve the potentiality

There is necessary to create strong conservation rules and also to enforce them. Moreover, plantation and drainage management system on the lack-facing slope is necessary which control landslides and erosion. Effective drainage system will be a positive way to maintain the bio-diversity and reduce the problem of environmental degradation through deforestation. The group trekkers should be given strict order to control the garbage. Similarly, we have seen of their social and cultural heritage to the local people.

Environmental conservation

Eco-tourism is eco-friendly, so every one should be friendly with nature, socio-cultural degradation or wide scale deterioration of the environment should be controlled. Attention should be given to conserve rhododendron and orchid available there and need to be expanded. Tourism should have less negative impacts such as deforestation, deterioration or sanitation or water crisis, impact on wild life preservation and behavior. Non-biodegradable rubbish such as mineral water bottles, chocolate, biscuits wrappers should be controlled to clean the environment.

For environmental conservation, we have to encourage using the alternative sources of energy e.g. solar, biogas, etc. Government should take attention to control garbage at the initial stage of tourism development and to harmonize tourism and environment. There is prime need of ecological should trekking practices. Attempts should be made to conserve of their biodiversity, culture and forests, garbage management should be done through packed foods, use of recyclable garbage, etc. Proper management of human waste (especially at picnic sites) is also crucial aspect to be considered.

Cultural preservation

Individual tourists/ researchers should be encouraged to go to this area with the help of local guides so that interaction between them and the local people could be beneficial and cultural exchange could take place. Priority should be given to local tourist guides so that local people could directly help to boost up the local culture. There is no information center it should be established to give cultural information with information booklet, detail cultural practices, the brochure and documentary etc. All need to respect local people, culture and resources and increase local clubs' motivation to conduct cultural programs in village, which could be helpful to exchange local culture between visitors. Moreover it is also beneficial to preserve cultural wealth (like songs, dances) to earn foreign currency. Those all suggestions are connected with methods of eco-tourism development. Besides these there are several problems faced by the tourists, hotel owners and local people. Hence, a strict policy measure seems to be appropriate to solve them. Eco-tourism is sure to succeed if it follows suitable path and takes into account the recommendations offered here all the policy maker and related agencies.

CHAPTER - FIVE

PRESENTATION AND ANALYSIS OF DATA

5.1 Structure of the Respondents

5.1.1 Age Structure

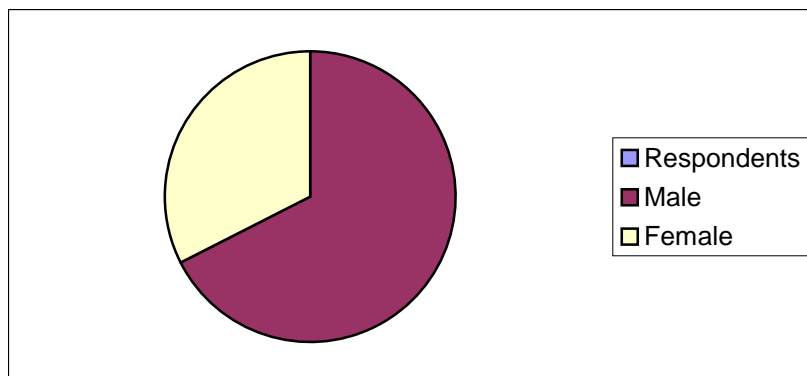
Respondents' age covered all age group. Above 40 years age group represented less (only 25%) compared to a middle age group between 21-40 years (42%) and the age group below 20 years (33%). This can be related to the selection of respondents. However, in some cases, younger household member were selected as respondents if the head asked them (as they were seen more educated and knowledgeable), or the household head was not available.

Table 5.1 Age compositions of respondents

Age group	No. of Respondents	Percentage
Up to 20	20	33
21-40	25	42
>40	15	25
Total	60	100

Source: Field Survey, 2008

Figure 5.1 Gender compositions of the Respondents:



Male family members responded more (65%) compared to female members. Because Selection of head of household for questionnaires fill up and since mostly males are the head of household in Nepal, the participation of female is less compared to males in this study. It was also due to the educational attainment and exposure level.

5.1.2 Education Level of Respondents

All sorts of respondents were taken into consideration for the study purpose. Following table shows different educational level of the respondents:

Table: 5.2 Education Levels of the Respondents

Education Attainment	Respondents	
	Numbers	Percentage
Illiterates	8	13
Primary level	22	37
Secondary Level	12	20
Intermediate Level	10	17

Bachelors level	5	8
Masters Degree	3	5
Above Masters Degree	0	0
Total	60	100

Source: Field Survey, 2008

The literacy level of the respondent was found to be 87%. The above table shows that maximum population (87%) had the education literacy followed by Primary level (37%), Secondary Level (20%), Intermediate Level (17%), Bachelors (8%) and Masters (5%). Therefore, the findings are the literacy rate is good of this area of people.

5.1.3 Occupation

Survey respondents were asked about their occupation. The response is shown as follows:

Table: 5.3: Occupational distributions of the respondents

S.N.	Primary Occupation	Respondents	
		Number	Percentage
1	Agriculture	18	30.00
2	Teaching	4	7.00
3	Small Business	12	20.00
4	Hotel/Teashops	10	17.00
5	Labor	4	7.00
6	Civil Services	5	8.00
7	Social worker	2	3.00
8	Others	5	8.00
9	Total	60	100

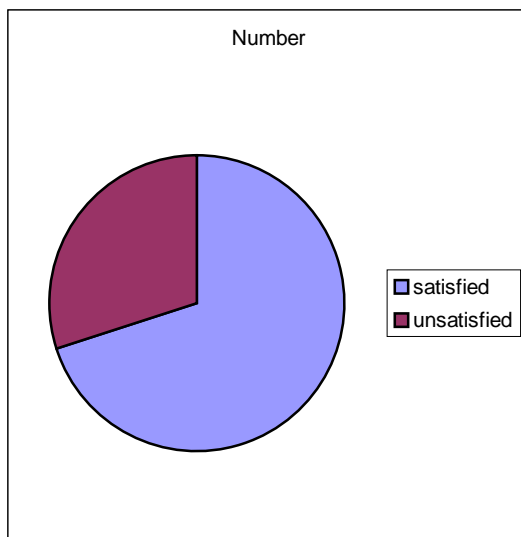
Source: Field Survey, 2008

The table indicates that most of the respondents 30% had agriculture as their occupation. Rest of the respondents (70%) had other occupations as the sources of income. They were Teachers 7%, Business 20%, Hotel/Teashops 17%, Labor 7%, Civil Services 8%, Social worker 3% and others 8%. Moreover, jobs directly related to tourism are mostly hotel/lodge business, guide and souvenir shops. Partially tourism related job include other shops and few agricultural activities. The major findings from this, there are some jobs available in Dakshinkali due to tourism development.

5.1.4 Occupational Satisfaction of Respondents

There were maximum respondents were involved in agriculture out of that most of the hotel respondents were not satisfied with their business. Those are as follows:

Figure: 5.2 Satisfaction with current occupation of respondents



Among those unsatisfied 14 (70%) respondents were not happy. It might be due to conflict for few years of the country situation. But, they are hoping to increase tourist from this season. Rests of (30%) the respondents were satisfied of their current business. The Major

findings, the person who are visiting Dakshinkali, most of them are one day visitors and directly linked with the hotels of Kathmandu Valley.

5.1.5 Livestock Population of the(Local People) Respondents.

Local respondents have their livestock population in household as follows:

Table: 5.3 Livestock population of local people

Cattle	Respondents	
	Number	Percentage
None	35	58
1-3	10	17
3-6	12	20
6 and above	3	5
Total	60	100

Source: Field Survey, 2008

The table shows that most of the sample households (58%) none cattle. Likewise 17% households have 1-3 cattle, 20% household have 3-6 cattle and 5% households have 6 or above cattle. Therefore local people just have few cattle in there home and interested to work any other tourism related job. So its major findings, they are decreasing of environment encroachment and deforestation of the study area.

5.3 Prospect of Tourism in Dakshinkali

In an attempt to determine the prospect of tourism in Dakshinkali, respondents were asked whether Dakshinkali has potentiality in tourism development for the future.

Table: 5.4 Prospect of tourism in Dakshinkali

Prospect	Number	Percentage
Highly sound	20	33
Moderately sound	30	50
Not so good	10	17
Total	60	100

Source: Field Survey, 2008

It indicates that 33% of the visitors are favor of the bright prospect of tourism in Dakshinkali taking it as moderately sound 50% took it as highly sound, while very few visitors it, hence it can be concluded that majority of the respondents are in the view that Dakshinksli possesses

high potentiality of tourism. In general, it has been always praised by visitors for its natural beauty, for safety reasons and for its landscape. In this context, further initiations in the development and exploration of new tourism attraction could bring a growth in tourist inflow in the destination.

5.4 Major Sources of Tourists Attractions

The study area is an appropriate site for eco-tourism. The sources of tourist attractions like scenic attraction 18%, natural resources 8% and religious prospect 42% and rest of are abundant there. With the view of obtaining the attraction sources of ecotourism, people were and field visit was done. This gave following detail result based on the survey:

Table: 5.5 Sources of tourist attractions

Tourist Attractions	Respondents	
	Number	Percentage
Scenic Attraction	11	18
Natural Resources	5	8
Religious prospect	25	42
Pleasure Environment & Natural Resources	4	7
Pleasure Environment & People Sanitation	2	3
Pleasure Environment & Cultural Diversity	9	15
Above All	4	7
Total	60	100

Source: Field Survey, 2008

5.5 Dakshinkali as a Tourists Site

5.5.1 Beginning of the Domestic Tourist Flow

Respondents' reply on the history of the tourists flow in the study area. Some of respondents were living from their ancestor and some of were migrated from other places for business purpose. Respondents view was as follows:

Table: 5.6 People's ideas on history of tourist flow at Dakshinkali

Beginning of Tourists Flow	Respondents	
	Number	Percentages
From 10 years ago	25	42
From 20 years ago	15	25
From 30 years ago	12	20
From 40 years ago	8	13
Total	60	100

Source: Field Survey, 2008

5.5.2 Readiness of Respondents to Increase Tourists' Flow

People of the study area have shown some positive aspects regarding the interest of them in promoting eco-tourism. They have highlighted different aspect in which they could be involved go the betterment of the area in terms of ecotourism promotion. The following table demonstrates the detail.

Table 5.7 People's General Interest in Eco-tourism

Readiness of Respondents to Increase Tourists' Flow	Respondents	
	Number	Percentages
To establish hotel or Lodge	8	15
To operate communication services	4	7
To conserve local culture	7	12
To educate people about importance of tourism	5	9
To Marketing/ informing or tourism	10	18
To involve in labor / construction activities	2	4
To be guide	5	9
To produce and sell of fruits, vegetable	6	11
To maintain neat & clean environment	8	15
Total	55	100

Source: Field Survey, 2008

5.5.3 People's Participation to Enhance Eco-tourism

While being asked which are the major areas that need to be emphasized in order to promote eco-tourism in the study area, respondent's answer were as follows.

Table 5.8 Emphasis highlighted for promoting eco-tourism:

Emphasis on	Respondents	
	Number	Percents
Equitable distribution of tourism income	13	22
Local people's participation in policy-maker	27	45
Market expansion for local production	20	33
Total	60	100

Source: Field Survey, 2008

The above table makes clear that most of the respondents (45%) gave emphasis on the local people's participation in policy-making. The data shows that 33% people gave emphasis to expand market for locality for locally produce goods. Likewise, 22% respondent's emphasis on equitable distribution to tourism income. In this regarding of the observation, most of the respondents were interested to involve in tourism business but they were not satisfied with the policy maker.

5.5.4 Culture of the Locality

It is fact that every society has its own culture. Similarly, people in Dakshinkali have their own social rules and regulations followed from the ancient time. But now there has been gradual change in the society regarding the daily life style influenced by foreigners. On one hand it is good as in terms of progress but on the other hand it is not a good one as the young generation is eager to imitate western cultural like rough languages, dress, lifestyle, which is against of our social norms and values. Further, western music has suppressed our own music, which is odd. People are losing their identity by imitating foreigners. So it is necessary to follow our cultural values, as it is for our identity for that the tourists come to visit Dakshinkali.

Moreover, Tamang, Hill Brahman, Hill Chhetri and Rural Newar are the main dwellers of Dakshinkali. Dashain, Tihar, Lhosar, Maghe Sakranti, Basanta Pnachami, Shivaratri, Phagu Purnima, Caite Dashain and Ram Navami are recognized festivals used to be celebrated according to traditional rituals of the local people. Bhajan-Kirtan, Naumati Baja, Ratteuli, Deusi-Bhaili etc are traditional pleasure seeking cultural practices of the study area, Drama presentation, worshipping activities Mela in Caite Dashain are other cultural programs like dance competition, football, Volleyball etc. Because of this trend, traditional Bhajan-Kirtan and ritual are gradually disappearing and new programs organized by clubs are emerging in here for instance, Balan Nach has been disappeared.

5.5.5 Purpose of Visit of Tourist

The study of purpose of visit to any place is quite significant as it guidelines the directions of improvement to be made and emphasis to be imposed to enhance tourism activities of

destination. Altogether 60 visitors were interviewed and observed about the purpose of visiting Dakshinkali. The Table 5.9 below shows the purpose of visiting Dakshinkali.

Table 5.9 Purpose of visit of the respondents' tourists

Purpose	No. of Respondents	
	Number	Percent
Sight seeing	10	17
Religious purpose	22	37
Convention	2	3
Refreshment	11	18
Picnic	15	25
Total	60	100

Source: Field Survey, 2008

The Table 5.9 shows the different purpose of visiting Dakshinkali. The major purpose is religious for Nepalese people and sight seeing for the second priority. On the other hand 2 visitors were followed for the purpose of convention. From this it can be concluded that if policies are made, tourists can be taken to Dakshinkali with the mutual co-ordination between the official sectors and hotel in Dakshinkali. Similarly, if the purpose of picnic is excluded as the major purpose of sightseeing, and refreshment are complementary to each other rather than competitive, number of visitors can be increased to Dakshinkali. by proper advertisement and proper policies formation.

5.6 Potentiality of Ecotourism in Dakshinkali

The prospect of tourism development in Dakshinkali is determined by different physical and cultural factors. The physical factors are location, landform, climate, natural sceneries etc. the cultural factors are cultural landscape, customs and traditions of different community groups, accessibility, accommodation, hospitality etc.

Dakshinkali. has its own scope for tourism development. The fundamental attractions of Ecotourism in Dakshinkali are natural sceneries, pleasing weather, short trekking, colorful different communities such as Tamang, Hill Brahman, Hill Chhetri, and rural Newar, their customs and way of life, terraced landscape, and curio village, peaceful environment and so on. Detail explanations of the some of these tourist attractions or ecotourism resources of Dakshinkali are given below:

5.6.1 Scenic Attractions

Dakshinkali is a great natural catchments area with outstanding scenic beauty and graceful charm. The top of Dakshinkali temple offers exhilarating views in all directions. The hills, mountains, and Himalayans ranges, rivers, sunrise-sunset, forests, view of compact valley settlements etc are strong forces attracting tourists. Dakshinkali is a vast natural amphitheatre. Natural beauty exerts as strong fascination for the tourists;

There are number of small rivers flowing to different directions. The magnificent vivid natural sceneries provide an atmosphere of peace and tranquility. Apart from these tourists can take pleasure of bird watching wild-animals viewing and horse riding.

5.6.2 Pleasant Climate

Climate is a basic primary element for the development of tourism in any tourist destination. Dakshinkali has very pleasant and healthier climate throughout the year due to altitude. The pleasant climate is ideal for holiday. In Dakshinkali, particularly is late December or early January, frost-free night and fogless morning and misty evening. In mid-summer. Travelers coming to Dakshinkali were more satisfied with the feeling of pleasant, fresh, and cool hilly climate. Most of the months in a year have bright sunshine and cloudless sky, which attract tourist. Tourists want fine weather and warm sunshine. A good weather is important because it plays an important role making holiday a pleasant. If surrounding sceneries are not clearly visible then it will minimize the sightseeing tourists.

5.7 Present Situation of Eco-tourism in Dakshinkali

Dakshinkali is very famous place and near site to visit from Kathmandu. Many people would like to visit there as domestic, SAARC country and others international tourists as well. Tourist can see various types of birds, forests, local people culture, religious, natural resources and various biodiversity etc.

Table 5.10 Respondents present situation of this area

Present situation of Dakshinkali	Respondents	
	Number	Percentage
Clean than before	35	58
Polluted than before	25	42
Total	60	100
Increase in using natural resources than before	40	67
Natural Resources use decrease than before	20	33
Total	60	100

Source: Field Survey, 2008

According to the respondent's manage all the rubbish and garbage in proper places, which can do by local people or management committee interested started to do so. On the other hand, people were becoming lazier, so, they were not using local natural resources instead of buying from market.

Moreover, we all know the popular ethic: it is our duty to handover our natural heritage to our future generation. If we could conserve it, we can take various benefits from it. Tourism development is a major benefit from its conservation and use of natural resources. By attracting great number of tourists we can generate foreign exchange along with employment and income from the local product. Though its conservation we also use it for flora fauna, vegetation etc.

5.8 Issues of Sustainability

5.8.1 Using Pattern of Fuels for Cooking Food

The below data shows (20%) respondents used to use firewood only as fuel to cook their food. Others (70%) respondents also firewood as their primary fuel although they also use biogas, kerosene as gas as their alternative fuel. 30% respondents were using only Gas. This trend indicates there is a heavy pressure on forest. There is need of change in the using trend of fuel. The use of alternative sources like biogas, solar, improved cook stoves etc. can contribute to preserve forest and sustainable use of energy sources. The following table can show clearly:

Table 5.11 Using patterns of fuels for cooking food

Pattern of fuels	Respondents	
	Number	Percentage
Firewood	12	20
Gas	18	30
Firewood and biogas	8	13
Firewood and kerosene	10	17
Firewood, kerosene and gas	12	20
Total	60	100

Source: Field Survey, 2008

5.8.2 Issues on Forest

All local people's livelihood is basically depended on forest. All respondents' express that used to use all sorts of forest products. Generally they use firewood, fodder, timber and medicinal plants. They also use forest for litter, Duna, Tapari, Linga (for religious and marriage purpose) etc. When eco-tourism flourishes in the study area, therefore, it is seen that dependency in the forest is likely to increase. It doesn't mean that the eco-tourism Will lead to negative impacts on the forest; it means that we need to search for safer alternatives.

Community forest has been playing an important role in local economy and environmental management. Community forest can play a role for eco-tourism development as it seeks to preserve the local forest. In the study area people not only use forest products they also preserve it according to their own system.

5.9 Sanitation and Solid Waste Problems

Respondents were asked to give their opinion about the cleanliness of the place and solid waste problem in the area due to tourism.

Table 5.12 Respondents about the cleanness of the place:

Perception	Respondents	
	Number	Percentages
Very High	16	27
High	20	33
Low	14	23
Not Applicable	10	17
Total	60	100

Source: Field Survey, 2008

Sanitation is found to be a remarkable problem in the area. Garbage, cans, plastic pieces, and other wastes are found to be scattered in the picnic areas, streets and jungles. The respondents were said very high (19%), high (27%), Low (39%) and Not applicable (15%). That's why, there is no effective mechanism of solid waste collection from hotels and other households and its proper dumping. All the hotels are dumping the waste in their own way. There is also the problem of public toilets and the sewerage system. The villagers are less conscious about hygiene and cleanliness, which had a bad impression upon the travelers. Carelessness of Hotels, VDC officials, Local people and government are creating such sanitary problems in the area.

5.9.1. Deforestation

In overall view it was found that tourism did not have a major role in causing deforestation. Only 15% of the local people expressed the view that deforestation problem has been serious in this area, whereas majority (85%) of them said that tourism has none or very less contribution in it. Two of the local people respondents added that this problem is mainly due to the tourism. They also had opinion that due to the availability of many alternatives sources of energy such as electricity, kerosene and LPG in the hotels and lodges of Dakshinkali there are none or very nominal negative impact of tourism on the forest due to firewood use. Some of the respondents added that there is improvement in the forest condition in this area rather than degradation. According to them the main reasons for this area the use of alternative energy to some extent, better forest management through local communities and increasing environment awareness.

Table: 5.13 Respondents Perception with Regard to Deforestation

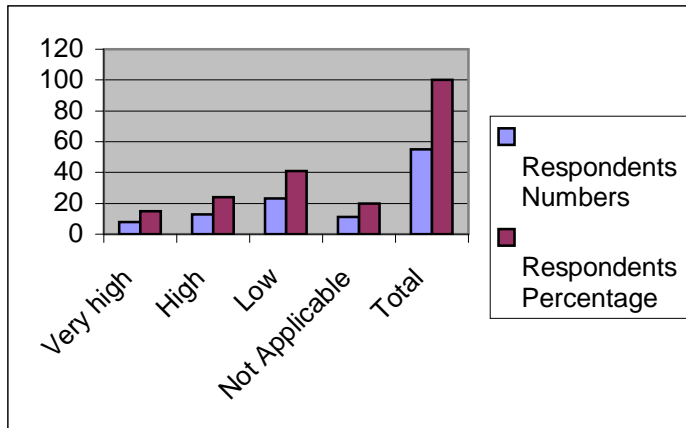
Perception of the respondents	Respondents	
	Number	Percentage
Very high	13	22
High	22	36
Low	15	25
Not Applicable	10	17
Total	60	100

Source: Field Survey, 2008

There were 80 respondents out of that 35 local people and 20 hotel owners were involved of this study. Rests of 25 respondents were not necessary to involved in this respect. This is as follows in figure:

Figure: 5.3

Respondents of Local People and Hotel Owners regarding deforestation



Since the forest around is either reserved forest or community forest, it is protected from destruction. However, the researcher found some of the evidences of forest destruction. It was found partly due to local people and partly by tourism development in the area. The major reasons that were found responsible for forest destruction are construction of roads, buildings, domestic and commercial use of firewood, extension of new agricultural areas etc. Increase in population and construction of new hotels has increased the demand for fuel wood and timber. Since the major attraction to tourists in that area. To achieve it first of all existing forests need to be preserved and reforestation should be done wherever possible.

Both types of respondents were also about the impact on wildlife population and their behavior living in the forest. Almost all the respondents denied that the wildlife population had decreased and that wildlife behavior has changed due to tourism. One of the respondents who a tourist guides said "Tourists in this area come for sightseeing, rather than watching wildlife and birds. It is also not very easy to watch animal and birds in the mountains. So, I don't think there is any impact on the wildlife numbers and their behavior".

5.9.2 Air Pollution/ Noise Pollution

Regarding the question air pollution problems in the area, majority of local respondents said that there are no such problems at all.

Table 5.14 Perception of Respondents about Air/Noise Pollution

Perception	Respondents	
	Number	Percentage
Very High	11	18
High	14	23
Low	25	42
Not Applicable	10	17
Total	60	100

Source: Field Survey, 2008

The observation by the researcher found that due to the absence of industries and heavy traffic, which creates air and noise pollution, Dakshinkali has no such problem. However, sometimes loud speakers and vehicles were found to create noise pollution at some sites. This is also found to confine only in the temple and picnic area and not in other areas.

CHAPTER -SIX

SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

6.1 Summary

The past few decades have seen a steady expansion of tourism activity all over the world. There has been considerable growth in international tourism. The amazing changes in technology, transportation and communication in recent years throughout the world have triggered the development of tourism industry. Many countries have chosen, consciously or otherwise, the path of developing large-scale tourism as a major national activity.

The present status of tourism is analysis in terms of its general impacts on the economy, environment and the socio-economic aspects. The potentiality of the area is evaluated on the basis of number of tourists visiting the area, their purpose of visit and other natural as well as cultural assets of the area.

Dakshinkali a pleasant and picturesque, place of Kathmandu District is characterized with natural beauty, scenic attraction and cultural diversity. The place enjoys the climate of subtropical monsoon, warm temperate and cool temperate. Simple and friendly people having their major profession as tourism and agriculture inhabit it. The site is suitable for eco-tourism development. The eco-tourism related activities such as eco-trekking, sight seeing, mountain viewing, study of biodiversity (flora and fauna), culture study, bird watching, nature preservation, curio goods etc can be performed.

Ecotourism activities could have significant impact on employment, education, and culture, agriculture and income level of local people. It increases living standard of those people as a whole. Accessibility, pleasant climate, richness of natural beauty, suitable place for view

point, high stock of biodiversity and native culture of simple and friendly people make Dakshinkali unique eco-tourism destination.

Eco-tourism principally concerns experiencing the natural & cultural environment without threatening it. In this point, the natural beauty and cultural purity of this area are still much undisturbed. Moreover, people's interest in increasing towards eco-tourism development for their well being. They are curious towards tourist's oriented activities. They are eager to increase their economic condition and wealth. The field survey reflects that the local people are economically not so strong to high invest in tourism.

The rapid increase in the infrastructure development such as construction of hotels, lodges commercial shops, linking roads etc in the area are found to create impact upon the environment such as change in the scenic beauty of the green forest hills, enhancement of soil waste and sewage disposal problem, forest felling rate, change in land use pattern change in water run-off etc. Thus immediate initiation is needed for careful planning for further development various infrastructures in the area so as to ensure that these are in harmony with the natural and cultural environment.

We all have known that tourism is a labor-intensive industry, which is suitable for developing countries like Nepal. Tourism is result of a movement of people as it is an economic activity but ecotourism goes a step ahead where not only the activities of the tourists are involved but also elements such as the conservation of ecosystem and sustainable development. Natural beauty, biodiversity and living socio-cultural heritage are the most preferred and successful environment for eco-tourism. Therefore there can be exist harmony between eco-tourism and environment.

Though eco-tourism development there can be emphasis in education and awareness program, modernization in agriculture, conservation and management of forest biodiversity, indigenous culture a promotion in self-employment.

It is seen that Dakshinkali is inhabited mostly by Tamangs along with other various caste and ethnic groups. The place is characterized with endemic as well as common culture. The topography of the study area is undulating; the people are still suffering from lack of drinking water, not regular electricity and eco-tourist orientation activities. Most of the respondents preferred ecotourism related occupations and they were willing and interested in participation in ecotourism development. So, respondents provided a pretty good indication of the eco-tourism potentiality, for future development of the Dakshinkali. Therefore, potentiality of eco-tourism development in Dakshinkali is quite immense.

6.2 Conclusion

Rich nature and culture are major assets for eco-tourism development. Through eco-tourism it is possible to create link between local communities and tourists. Similarly, local people participation in planning, implementation and management of their own socio-culture and economic development and benefits sharing is one of the basic issues of ecotourism.

Dakshinkali is a well-suited place to promote and expand eco-tourism. So, Eco-tourism development shows its status to be brighter. Tourists can come to this place for sight seeing, trekking, recreational cultural study, observation and investigation etc. It is much better can be developed as a wood free cooking area through the use of alternative sources of energy such as solar; biogas, wind etc are the non-polluting sources of energy.

Education and awareness is lacking in the case of eco-tourism and their own natural and cultural assets. There are also the fewer positive social impacts. Opportunities to learn English, experience of the rest of the world, learning about to dress, clean, food hygiene etc and changing beliefs about social acceptance are the main educational and cultural experiences local peoples claim to learn from tourists. However, the support from tourism for the revival of local arts, crafts and cultural activities were not noticed since there is no provision of found generation from the visitors for such activities.

The eco-tourism activities bring change in land use pattern. So, households should be switched from traditional crops to high value cash crops that are demanded by tourists. In this context, the scope for generating more income and off-farm employment in rural areas is enormous if more food, vegetable, poultry and livestock products demanded by tourists are produced locally.

However, on the basis of summaries to be conclusion, there is various potentiality of ecotourism; some of the problems exist in the area regarding tourism such as a lack of information center facilities, trained manpower, and so some extent transportation, easy communication and Internet problems. All the stakeholders need to be united to solve the problems regarding tourism development and making the area as an ecotourism destination.

6.3 Recommendations

Based on the above study following recommendation are given for sustainable ecotourism development in Dakshinkali.

- Tourist information center should be opened in Dakshinkali to provide the information of this region to the tourist visitors.
- The condition of the road to Dakshinkali is to be improved. It is without proper repair and maintains. Moreover, the alternative access to Dakshinkali form Kathmandu is to be developed soon.
- Efforts should be made to develop trained and skilled manpower at local level in order to provide efficient services up to the satisfaction of tourists.
- Registrations of tourists visited in Dakshinkali should be conducted at check post both domestic and foreign. Record must be maintained by VDC.
- Proper record of tourist's expenditure should be maintained by Hotels and Related Sectors.
- Education level of local people should be enhanced so that they can get high level jobs tourism related services.

- Basic physical infrastructures such as streetlights, sanitation and health post should be initiated.
- Effective solid waste management system need to be initiated and hygienic conditions should be maintained in the sightseeing and trekking areas as well.
- It is highly recommended to formulate a comprehensive tourism plan of Dakshinkali, so that Dakshinkali would be one of the attractive and accessible outskirts tourist destination of Kathmandu valley.
- Existing clubs in Dakshinkali should conduct cultural program to entertain tourists, which also helps to generate funds for local development.
- The personnel employed in hotels should have suitable temperament. They should be hospitable and courteous. The interpreters and guides should be thoroughly trained and educated. They should have the good knowledge of the history, archeology, ethnology; culture and economic system of the area in which the tour is being conducted. They should have the knowledge of the various foreign languages.
- Some entry fee should be charged for the tourists visiting Dakshinkali . The fund thus generated should be utilized properly for the natural, cultural and infrastructure development of the area.
- Lastly, this research has not covered the wide range of economic impact, natural resources, and socio- cultural impact to the local who are involved in handicraft business, shops and short trekking in villages. Similarly, research can be done in the field of tourism promotional activities use of natural resources and conserve the ecotourism as well. Hence, the future researchers can make their studies in these areas, etc.

