

CHAPTER - ONE

INTRODUCTION

"All citizens are equal before law, no discrimination on people will be made on the basis of religion, race, sex and caste etc". Haechethu (2003).

The Term 'poverty' is pronounced every where in the world and it is not a new concept. Poverty has become the principal as well as serious concern of every nations. Poverty is a multi-sectional phenomenon. It is painful situation of nations, which make the people suffer from disease, malnutrition, poor, health and other weaknesses. Many researchers have paid attention to poverty because it has become the challenging issue for development. It is undesirable situation of mankind although people in the world are not free from widespread chain of poverty. In developed countries this terms is used to mean the failure to come up to a desired level of living according to the prevailing standard of income in heir countries. Some definition of poverty is powerlessness, voicelessness, dependency, shame and humiliation.

1.1 Background of the Study

Poverty is a burning issue of all over the world, it has been defined in mortality, low per capita income inadequate housing lack of food and clothing rapid growth of population and unemployment. Poverty has stood serious challenge to the country. According to Nepal living standard survey 1996 42 percent of the total population have remained

below the absolute poverty line among them about 17.1 percent are counted as ultra poor of the poorest (Ninth plan, 9-79).

Poverty is mostly concentrated in the rural areas of under developed countries like Nepal. Poverty in rural areas is basically caused by low productivity of agriculture. The limited base and inadequate growth rate of non-agricultural sector in the economy. Similarly the lack of exploitable mineral resource, poor agricultural policy and topographical disadvantages are responsible for its economic backwardness. Low level of per capita income, low rate of saving which turn lead to low rate of investment and capital formations. In connection with these realities the reliance of farmers on traditional inputs and prevailing technology can also be assumed as the cause of poverty.

To define poverty universally is the different task. "Poverty is the inability of people attain a minimum standard of living" (WB, 1990).

"Poverty can be sensibly identified in terms of capability deprivation, the approach concentrates on deprivations; that are intrinsically important" (Sen, 1991 : 87).

"Poverty is not being able to go to school and not knowing how to read, poverty is not having a job, is fear for the future living one day at a time poverty is powerlessness lack of representation and freedom. Poverty is a situation of peoples want to escape from it" (WB, 2003).

"Poverty is multi-dimensional concept comprising the notion of lack of access to resources and opportunities illiteracy, poor health and lack of sanitation, deprivation of basic rights security and powerlessness" (Lanjouw 1998 : 179).

The poverty alleviation has been taken as one of the major objectives since six fiver year plan (1980-85); particularly of for the political change of 1990, the long term target of poverty alleviation has been continuously set for four periodic plans. The long term plan aims to achieve the target of reducing poverty in Ninth five year plan from 42 percent to 32 percent in the 10th five year plan (2002-2007). From 32 percent to 23 percent in 11th five year plan (2007-2012) from 23 percent to 15 percent and in 12th five years plan (2012-2017) from 15 percent to 10 percent (NPC, 1997 : 158).

1.1.1 Poverty in Nepal

Nepal is predominantly as agricultural countries as about 40 percent of its Gross Domestic Product (GDP) comes from agriculture about 80 percent of population earns its living from agriculture. The per capita income of Nepal has reached \$ 320 per annum and approximately lives in rural 31 percent of the population are estimated to live in poverty. As the majority of the population lives in rural area, poverty is often a common phenomenon for the entire community in most of the rural Nepal and more particularly in mid western and for western regions as shows by human development indicators.

1.1.2 Nature

Poverty can be conceptualized Broadly in categories :

- I) Absolute poverty :-** It refers to the situation whose people are not getting minimum subsistence level of food, shelter, clothing etc.

- II) Relative poverty :-** In terms of the inequality income distribution. The family is considered to be poor if its income is significantly below the average level of income.
- III) Hand core or Ultra poverty :-** It is the line below the absolute poverty line, its half by the gestation as the value of thumb.

The poverty is also related with unemployment and underserved banking system. The agriculture credit policies do not reach to the doors of small and marginal farmers and other lack of awareness and knowledge also related with poverty. These are the obstacles to the economic growth which makes the poverty percentage high day by day.

1.1.3 Condition of Dalit in Nepal

The literal meaning of Dalit is the person who is suppressed. In the context of South Asia, Dalit is common term used to address the cultural,, economic and socially marginalize people or community. Where as in the context of Nepal generally the word Dalit means a community or a person who suffers from the illness of caste discrimination.

In Nepal about 20 percent of the total population constitutes the service caste is engaged in traditional occupation with low status. The untouchable is deeply rooted in society. Dalits groups who have been historically disadvantages and who continue to lag behind in their income and asset level, educational achievements and human development indicators and to the extent to which they are represented in the power structure. Dalit groups fall below the national average and well below that for the Brahmins, Chhetries are 135.9 percent and 140.7 percent compared with 92 percent and 73.6 percent for Janagatis and Dalits respectively.

The caste system of Nepal is basically rooted in Hindu religion where as the ethnic system has been rooted mainly in mutually exclusive origin myths, historical mutual seclusion and the occasional state intervention (NESAC 1998). Population 2001 has listed 103 caste/ethnic groups including "Unidentified" the major caste groups include Chhetri (15.8%), Brahmin hill (12/7%), Magar (7.1%), Tharu (6.8%), Tamang (5.4%), Newar (5.5%), Muslim (4.3%), Kami (3.9%), Rai (3.9%). (CBS, 2002)

The main casus of backwardness of Dalit are all seen the socio-economic, political, literacy rate health, justice system etc are explain as follows :

i) Social condition

Dalit have become victim of caste discrimination. They have been facing the atrocity of untouchables for about one thousand and six hundred years. The caste discrimination against low caste political, cultural, social and economically people like Dalit cannot enter temples teashop or houses of the high caste. Upper caste people have a strong hold over local policies and development activities.

ii) Economic condition

Dalits are compelled to adopt traditional and unclear occupation as scavenging, carrying out night soil, leatherwork, beating drums low position in the traditional caste hierarchy.

iii) Political condition

Dalit represented in the DDCs and VDCs is very rare. This 20 percent Dalit population in Nepal is not represented in national politics. Newly elected constitutional assembly has represented progressively better. Thus, Dalits are politically voiceless.

iv) Literacy rate

If we compare this literacy rate with Dalit we found it is very poor because only 23.8 percent Dalit are literate in this nation.

v) Health condition

average life expectation of Nepal is 61.9 years and Dalit is 50.3 years old. Due to lack of clean drinking water too poor lack of sufficient food are suffering from malnutrition.

vi) Justice System

Dalits are marginalized so they have no access to justice, minimum human rights. In other side, visible participation of Dalit in field of justice is not seen.

1.1.4 Causes of Poverty

The poverty problems in Nepal are very serious. The poverty gap between rich and poor is increasing accordingly. Poverty is a multidimensional phenomenon not only economic phenomenon. Generally high growth rate of population unemployment high income inequalities and wealth inequalities are considered to be the major causes of poverty.

Due to lack of resource growing unemployment rate market imperfection, technological backwardness, slow rate of economic growth and growing inequalities in distribution of income.

The following factors are considered to be the major causes of poverty.

- Low economic growth.
- Low agricultural productivity.
- Low level of social and economic infrastructure.
- Inefficient public expenditure.
- High population growth.
- Inadequate access to employment.
- Social cultural and historical factors.
- Weak governance.
- Social discrimination.
- Traditional thinking.
- Remoteness of district and exploitation by politician (Ojha, 2003).

The poor and lower caste have difficulty in accessing service like health care, education, electricity and loans.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

Nepal is an agricultural country where most of its population live in rural area due to the geographical disadvantages people in rural area are surviving with the complicated life. Mostly, poverty is concerned in the rural area which is basically caused by the low productivity of

agriculture, illiteracy, unemployment, social discrimination and inadequate growth of non agricultural sector in the economy. The main reasons for poor in the agriculture sector are lack of irrigation, misuse of chemical fertilizer, remoteness, backward technology, small and fragmented of land holding, deforestation, floods landslides and soil erosion (Ojha, 2003 : 65).

Poverty in Nepal is predominantly a rural phenomenon with 86 percent living in villages, with agriculture their main source of livelihood, over 90 percent live in rural area and the poverty rate varies according to ecological and geographical regions with it being the highest the more remote rural areas the mid-eastern and far-western hill. (SAAPE, 2002 : 122)

Poverty itself is not a cause but it is the result of various causes. Hence reduction of the poverty needs to analyze the cause of poverty. According to human development report (HDR : 2004) the value of human development index is 0.504 which is 140 rank. In Nepal 48 percent children are undernourished.

Least research has been done about Dalit in 21st century. WDR (1991/2002) the per capita income of other Nepalese Nepal is Rs. 7663 but in Dalits is very low. About 80 percent of Dalit is unable to produce agricultural product for their livelihood, engage in agricultural labor, only 10 percent are literate, social exclusion main problem of the Dalit Nepalese society.

In fact poverty is a threat to prosperity everywhere but the problem of poverty was deeply rooted particularly less developed countries like Nepal. Income of Chiuridanda VDC (study area) lack of resources, social discrimination, growing unemployment, rate market

imperfection, technological backwardness, slow pace of economic growth could be the reasons for poverty. The socio-economic variables such as : caste, location, occupation, education level, consumption of income land holding and family size and also in some extent with economic issues are responsible for poverty in study area.

1.3 Objectives of the Study

The general objective of the study is to assess the nature of rural poverty in Nepal whereas the specific objectives are :

- To examine rural poverty of Dalit community.
- To analyze the relationship between poverty and other factor as :- employment, education, landholding etc.
- To find out the causes of poverty and suggest appropriate policy measures to reduce poverty.

1.4 Significance of the Study

Nepal has completed ten development plan. One of the main objectives of tenth five year plan is poverty alleviation. Despite in experience of wide range policies focused against Nepalese society rural base and rural people are poor since 86 percent of its people live in rural areas the nature of the poverty is rural oriented. The development target attend for rural areas, poverty increased rapidly. So poverty is the primary issue.

HMG of Nepal aimed that at the end of the 10th plan the below the poverty line will be reduced by 10 percent (42 to 43). Through the

implementation of successful poverty. Alleviation programs it is targeted to reduce to poverty line to level of 10 percent (42 to 32) within the coming twenty years (10th plan 2007). So many short and long term programmes were launched in this related field but the results are not so satisfactory.

This study has made an effort to analyze poverty situation of Chiundanda VDC of Khotang. It is hoped that "The nature and causes of Rural Poverty" will help in formulating plans and projects for the development of this area. It shows the relationship with income, employment, expenditure, education and suggest appropriate policy. So it helps to fill the knowledge for the study as well as teachers who are interested in this topic. In addition to it, this study will be the source of research for upcoming generations.

1.5 Scheme of the Study

There have been six chapters in the presentation of the study. Chapter one is the 'Introduction Chapter'. In this chapter there has been included introduction, background of the study, statement of the study, problem, objectives of the study, significance of the study, scheme of the study.

Chapter two is Review of Literature where related literature has been reviewed. The third chapter is about research methodology of the proposed study. The fourth chapter is the description of the setting or study area. The fifth chapter is related to data analysis and presentations. The sixth chapter is focuses on summary, conclusion and recommendations.

CHAPTER - II

LITERATURE REVIEW

"Struggle against the Poverty"

Review of literature is most important in each research. The major objective is to gain familiarity with the subject matter.

Poverty is a multidimensional and multicultural phenomenon. It is basically defined by its nature whether it is more acute. Poverty is one of the major problems in the world, but it is a series of burning issues in the developing countries. Various institutions have conducted many studies and research works in the context of the world, but very few research works were done in Nepal, particularly in the study area. Therefore, in this chapter a review of available literatures on poverty is presented to conduct this study.

Poverty is a social phenomenon. It was first recognized in the western world during the time of industrial revolution and the last quarter of the eighteenth century. During the era of industrial revolution, labour is also treated as a commodity. The factory owner buys it as cheaply as he can and sells it as profitably as he can (Stalker, 1994).

2.1 Level of Poverty

World Bank Report 1990 emphasizes that poverty and inequality are not synonyms as relative inequality may not reflect the level of poverty in the society. There are two elements in a consumption-based poverty line, the income required to maintain a minimum standard of

living and the additional resources necessary to participate in the every day life of society. Poverty line the World Bank used two income levels for minimum standard of living US \$ 275 and US \$ 370 (1985 pp price).

The World Bank study shows that there is 74 percent of rural population poverty line. There is the existence of several poverty in Nepal, i.e. 71 percent of total population line in poverty. The study has used various socio-economic. Indicators to show the exact situation of poverty. i.e. health education, basic service etc (WDR 1991, p : 67).

The Nepal living standard survey 2001, estimated the income level at the current price at Rs. 6100 to meet the expenses on daily minimum average of 2124 kilo calories from food requirements likewise the average farm size of holding for low income households is less than 1.0 hectares. The lowest 25 percent income groups have only 3.7 percent of their land in plain and irrigable areas where as there are 54 percent of such lands with people of highest 25 percent income groups (NLSS 2006).

2.2 Nature of Poverty

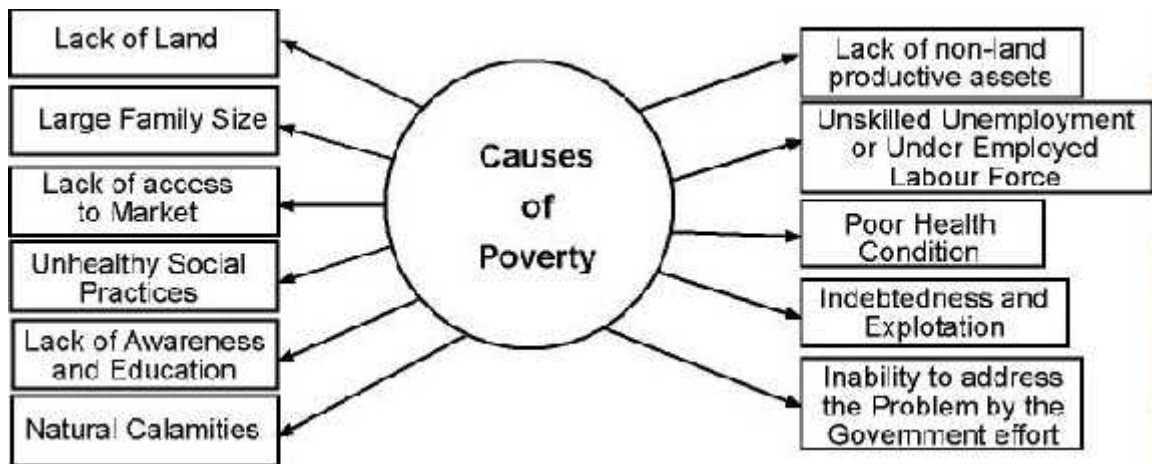
A study has presented a comparison of the magnitude of poverty between hills and Tarai regions of Nepal. The study highlights the hardships faced by rural poor not only this they have also tried to show the future of rural poor. They have shown the relationship between malnourishment and poverty. According to their study, the prevalence of malnourishment in the hill 75 percent and in Tarai 71 percent (Bhandari, 1986 : 31).

Population pressures on the lands to over exploitation and degradation of agricultural and forest resources, overall environmental conditions are deteriorating as income grows. Rapid urbanization worsens urban population and poverty. The urban are most affected, as they have to live in the most polluted area and do the most harardous jobs. Rural poor are most impacted by the depletion of natural resources and land degradation, low productivity, constraints and complexities. In both cases the health of the poor is impacted the most (Ojha 2003 : 14).

Most of the Dalit people are poor and landless. Their traditional occupations are stigmatized by the society and even it some now they try to prove it, they can to complete with the cheap products available in the market cheap products have displaced their means of livelihood it is therefore they are not only socially discriminated but also economically back warded. Their low economic growth in comparison of other castes where per capita income. In Dalits NR's 4940, Newar's 11553 and other caste's 7673 likewise per capita US \$ in Dalit is 764, Newar's 1848 others 1186. The income of Dalits 0.110, Newar's 0.289 and others 0.179 and human indicators of Dalit 0.239, Newar's 0.457, others 0.325. this situation shows that Dalit is back warded caste in Nepal (NESAC, 1998).

2.3 Causes of Poverty

Poverty has many causes and consequences. We can conceptualized the causes of poverty in this way.



Source : Poverty Reduction Strategy World Bank 2001/02

Source : Bista 2005, Policies and Strategies.

2.4 Conceptual Framework of Poverty Reduction

First, institutions markets, technology policy and asses arrangements need to reflect the critical role of food shapes in the livelihood of the rural poor. While a rising proportion of the rural poor rely for income mainly on livestock, cash crops or non-farm activity. In early development staples farming our employment provide most of their income.

How a process of developing a poverty reduction strategy

Source : Poverty Reduction and Strategy, World Bank 2001/02

In Nepal, increasing population agriculture crisis and the wide gap between rich and poor can be the principle cause of poverty it has also recommended some policies giving high emphasis on the role of government.

Table 2.1 : Survey Indicators of Poverty Management

Nepal 1995/96	Poverty incidence percent of people living below poverty line	Poverty gap (percent)	Percent
Mountain	56	18.5	8.2
Hill	41	13.6	6.1
Tarai	42	9.9	3.4
Urban	23	7.0	2.8
Rural	44	12.5	5.1
Nepal	42	12.1	5.0

Source : World Bank (1999) Nepal poverty at the turn of 21 century

In "the millennium development goals commitment and prospects" has explained that at the UN general assembly in 2000 heads of state and government took stock of the gross inequalities in human development world wide and recognized their collection responsibility to uphold. The principles of human dignity, equality and equity at the global level. They set eight goals for development of poverty education to be achieved by 2015.

- Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger.
- Achieve universal primary education.

- Promote gender equality and empowerment.
- Reduce child mortality.
- Combat HIV/AIDS malaria and other disease.
- Ensure environmental sustainability.
- Development a global partnership for development.
- Improve maternal health.

Source : MDG, 2000

How to Measure Poverty?

How people and institutions portray and try to cope with poverty depends to a considerable extent on how poverty is measured. The differences between relative poverty (having less than others) and absolute poverty (not having enough to survive) are grater. However, there are a wide variety of options for measuring wealth and well being and for establishing lines that separate the poor from the non-poor. Economists have traditionally chosen income as the basis for measuring and defining poverty but even that choice allows for a multitude of options. Which no one measure is necessarily correct, experts argue that some are better than others. (Encarta 2005 : 78)

Causes Consequence

It is well known that Nepal is an agricultural country. It is not possible to develop the country economically without the improvement of the formers. Looking into the situation 58 percent of the total land is under the ownership of upper class people who are only 8 percent of the total population. The growing population and segmentation of the land in

to less than a hectare is not sufficient to feed a farmity. By this account, 70 percent farmers are compelled to survive in poverty in terms of land holding for fixing the ceiling and distribution of the land, in Nepal an especial law was introduced in 1964 but it could not be enforced in favor of poors. (Kunwar 2003 : 63)

11 years maoist insurgency pushed country in to more serious situation. The conflict severely affected the tourism industry, major sources of foreign currency in the improvised country. Arrivals of foreign tourists plunged recorded low. The government claims it has also incurred NRs. 4250 million revenue losses from the attract on civilian infrastructure. The restaurant and hotels are running at low occupancy, the production of major sources of foreign earning of carpets, garments and pasmina show/dropped by 23.1 percent, 28.8 percent and 78.5 percent respectively casing severe unemployment. Thousand of people including teenager school boys and girls, have become homeless in their own country fearing the attacks. Most of the village schools are closed due to the absence of teachers deserts due to the fear of maoist attacks. The insurgency has been a sport in illicit tree feeling and timber smuggling. (Kunwar, 2003)

Social Exclusion Aspect of Poverty and Empowerment

Poverty incidence is higher among the people belonging to lower caste groups. i.e. ethnic minorities such as Rai, Tamang, Magars etc and tribal groups such as Chepangs Raute etc (NESAC, 1998). The lowest caste groups are severely deprived of opportunities in all dimensions of life cultural, social, political and economic. Significant disparities in human development indicators are visible between the lowest caste groups and upper caste groups. The lowest cast groups have a literacy

rate of only 18 percent in compared to 47 percent for the upper caste groups a life expectancy of only 51 years compared to 57 years for the upper caste groups, an infant mortality rate of 118 compared to 85 among the upper caste groups. Almost 15 times higher absolute poverty than at the national level. The situation of women belonging to the lowest caste groups is even more disturbing e.g. as reflected by a very low only 7 percent, of literacy rate among them in addition to a very poor level of other social indicators who comprise the lower occupational caste such as Kami, Damai, Sarki etc. (CBS, 2005).

Nepal ma Yojanabadha Bikash (Tenth Plan 2059-64)

The civil society NGO's academic, intellectuals along with backward indigenous people women activist and disabled expressed their views in various consultation programs, which do not markedly differ, on nature and structure of poverty. These discussions were held during the formulation process of the tenth plan and formulation of interim poverty reduction strategy paper and in the process of selecting indicators for monitoring poverty.

According to the tenth plan "In title of Dalits and Neglected Communities" explain the Dalits who have been backward from every aspect of socio-political, economic issues because of the prevalence of aged old poverty and social deprivation. In this section of population could not get social respect in effective enforcement of acts which categorically has made the caste system unshakable. In this way, we can easily say that Dalits are poorest of the poor in many aspects in Nepal.

Those discussions helped to define "Those people as poor whose income does not allow two meals a day, two sets of clothes in a year, do not have settled residence cannot send their children for education and

those people whose access to resource and skills necessary to earn livelihoods is denied".

According to Dilli R. Dahal, "He argues that two clear discodance" models are constantly operating in the life of Dalits in Nepal making them. Subordinate and dependent throughout the years :

- a) Dalits are struggling for an egalitarian future in recent years keeping infact the dominant Hindu caste values of social stratification within them. This "exclusion model" with in them reform their Hindu domination, and
- b) Dalits liberation model in Nepal operated more at the advocacy level than improving their economic condition. The overall approach to improved their fate moved towards the rights-based approach, giving minimal attention to economic independence. Thus their economics dependence on their patrons has remained virtually alive even to day, despite their struggles for, 'Social equity' over the years. (Hindu Nationalism and Untouchable reform)

Nepal has completed tenth economic plans (five year). Each and every plan provides major focus on poverty alleviation and the enlistment on living standards of the people. The first policy against the rural poverty appreased in Nepal. In early 1950's after the country achieved the independence "Land Reform Programms" was of the major antipoverty policies introduced in the second economic plan (1963). Widening inequality in the cultivated land increasing income gab between the rich and poor in rural society was the main reason that land reform policy of 1963 was initiated in Nepal. At the five year plan (1975-80) the integrated rural development program (IRDP) implemented was one of

the main anti-poverty policies. The program was general in nature aimed to expand the income, employment and production of the rural poor through stimulating a agriculture activities as well as providing basic social services. Similarly small farmer development program (SFDP) was initiated in 1975 with in aim to increase the income and employment opportunities of the rural poor by providing them access of credit to under taken agricultural as well as non-agricultural activities. In the most anti poverty policy appeared during the sixth year plan. 1980 in the form of food for work program. The program had an aim to reduce the food shortage in the rural areas. Established 'Grameen Vikash Bank' is another anti-poverty program in eight economic plans similarly "AFNO GAUN AFAIN BANAUN" was another poverty alleviation, implemented in 1995, GARIB SANG BISHASWOR' MAHILA JAGRATI' is another anti-poverty program in Ninth plan.

Nepal is one of the least developed countries in the world with very low per capita GNP. Most of the Nepalese people live in rural areas and there is a vast gap between rich and poor. Thus, it can be said that poverty is one of the major characteristics of rural areas of Nepal. Most of the rural poor are either agricultural self-employed or agricultural laborers. Their main means of substance is agricultural production, livestock rearing and labor work. The problem of poverty arises due to various reasons like small size of landholding production for only self-consumption, lack of market facilities, and lack of off-frame jobs low productivity of agriculture caused by the lack of irrigation, fertilizer, agricultural credit and suitable technology. Due to these reasons, most of the people in the study area are bound to survive with a low quality of life. There is high in equally in the distribution of income in the study

area, which helps the cycles of poverty to accentuate (Chamlangai 2002, 72-73).

A joint study of World Bank and UNDP intends to depend our understanding of the nature of poverty in Nepal of its causes and the constraints which prevent the poor from improving their conditions, it investigates the effect of development policies and strategies on personal income of the poor. The main objectives of this study were to purpose the outline of a long term country strategy to reduce poverty as well as to recommend specific measures for government and donor support. The study showed that the incidence of poverty under three different poverty lines and also that incidence of poverty is more serious in rural area, for this purpose, secondary data from NRB and other research organizations have been used. Finally, it gives some priority elements of poverty alleviation strategy in Nepal. (WB 1991)

Poverty Reduction Strategies in Nepal

Poverty reduction has been the main agenda at planned effort for development in Nepal. The tenth plan has a set major objective of poverty, reduction and it has identified four strategies for this claimed four pillars of development. They are broad based and sustained high economic growth social sector and rural infrastructure development, targeted programs and good government.

Poverty has human dimension and from this perspective the other strategy includes social sector development particularly of social priority sectors such as basic education basic health and drinking water. In view of high educational wastage in terms of high drop-outs and repetition rates quality of education is now given more emphasis. Rural infrastructures mainly include rural road and small irrigation rural urban

linkages are emphasized and accordingly such infrastructure development is given high priority (Bajracharya 2004).

In World Development Report 2000/2001. In chapter 1 (the nature and evolution of poverty) accepts the now traditional view of poverty as encompassing not only material deprivation (measured by an appropriate concept of income or consumption) but also low achievements in education and health are concern in their own right but they merit special attention when they accompany material deprivation. This report also broadens the notion of poverty to included vulnerability and exposure to risk and voicelens and powerlessness. All these forms of deprivation severely strict what Amanty Sen calls the "Capabilities that a person has that, is, the substantive freedoms he or she enjoys to lead the kind of life he or she values". This broader approach to deprivation by going a better characterization of the experience of poverty increases. Our understanding brings to the fore move areas of action and policy on the poverty reduction agenda.

Lakpa Sherpa in his thesis, "Nature of Rural Poverty : A case study of Okhre VDC of Bhojpur district, Nepal", explains that most of the Nepalese poor i.e. 88 percent of total population live in rural areas. Thus, it can be said that poverty is one of the basic features of the rural areas of Nepal. Majority of the population of the rural are dependent on agriculture, but in agriculture sector also poverty exists. The standard of living in the rural areas is very poor and there is vast gap between rich and poor. Consequently, a large proportion of rural population has remained under employed and their basic minimum needs of life like food, shelter clothing education, health and drinking water have remained unfulfilled. There are several governing factors, where increase the poverty in rural areas of Nepal. Some of them are low productivity of agriculture sector

on account of the lack of irrigation, fertilizers agricultural credit and backward technology. Due to these reasons most of the people of this area are bound to face a low quality of life.

In his study area, most of the poor are either illiterate or have attained poor education. Most of the literate people are unemployed and they have no capital and skill to do some other business. Similarly, the problem of poverty a rise due to the various reason, such as small size of landholding agricultural production for only self consumption, lack of job, lack of irrigation, lack of rural credit, insufficient price level for agricultural production and traditional values, road and markets etc. thus the existing distribution of income is highly unequal and which helps to strengthen the circle of poverty. In other words, we can say that they cannot have their income for other purpose, which drive them into vicious circle of poverty.

In our field observation, most of them are living in very small hut, household lady does not go to the work for wage earning, as she has to cook food for the family. Some of them are in vast burden of loan. They take loan from the local money lender with high rate of interest. Some of them go abroad for service. But they are very few. Some of them go to urban areas for job but they do not get good work. As a result, sell their fixed properties to pay loan making the condition even worse.

CHAPTER - III

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1 Research Design

This chapter is one of the key factors of this thesis. There are many methods for finding a research. They differ as : time, situation and the objectives of the study. This study is mainly based on the micro level of the Dalit poverty. The study has carried out on the basis of exploratory research design. It has applied to investigate the extend of poverty in a specific area as identified in the case of present study and nature and causes of Dalit community in the study area.

Through the help of exploratory research design social, economic, cultural and political causes and nature has been pointed and presented research design to collect. Information of the study similarly descriptive research helped to find out the fact that how deprivation and affected by the different tools of Dalit poverty. This study has been drawn on the Dalit community of Chiuridanda VDC whereas majority are selected in ward no. 3, 5, 7 and 9.

3.2 Selection of the Study Area

Nepal is a poor country. Whereas poverty is a great problem. It is saying that poverty anywhere is to danger prosperity everywhere. That's why this problem has based on remote rural area (Chiundidanda VDC, Khotang) to trace out the extend of Dalit community stricken people.

Chiundidanda VDC where heterogeneous people are in habited majority are Rai's communities. Among the Dalit are suffer most. Due to easily access to data and economic overview and then attraction. Since this study has carried out the nature and causes of Dalit. We have a look ample of such programs. Thus, with a view to generalize the result of selected area.

3.3 Survey Population and Sample Selection

The study are was taken as sample place where altogether 60 households were taken as sample. Information was obtained by interviewing respondents. Stratified random sampling was done to select sample respondents purposively as the Chiuridanda comprised of four wards : ward no. 3, 5, 7, 9 and a total of 60 respondents were interviewed, 15 from each ward.

3.4 Nature and Sources of Data

This study has carried out aim explore the poverty situation in study area. It is also base dig out the nature and causes of the study area. It has collected data from the primary as well as secondary data sets have been collected for the analysis as described below :

Source of Data

Primary Data :- Primary Data was obtained from field survey using questionnaire observation and interview. The respondents were interveiw, filled up questionnaires and filed survey was done.

Secondary Data :- Secondary Data was collected from books, journals, dissertation, profiles (VDC, DDC), newspapers, magazines, reports from ADB, DALIT KO KARYALAYA, TUCL and other relevant materials available from else where. The institution and agencies ars CBS, NPC etc are visited to get relevant data.

3.5 Data Collection Tools and Techniques

Some research tools such as questionnaire and some techniques (survey, interview and observation) were used to show the interrelation among poverty of income. Unemployment, education, expenditure etc in the data collection period. So it was proved important tool to find out and present real picture and condition of the study area.

3.5.1 Questionnaire Survey

Structure questionnaire was prepared to generate the realistic and accurate data. The respondents were asked the questions and answers required to fill up the questionnaire. The researcher collected the information asking the question from the schedule from their respondents who were not able to fill up the questionnaires.

3.5.2 Key Informant Interview

The primary data was also collect from key informant using semi or unstructured interview method. The interview was taken as cross checking for data obtained from questionnaire. To generate accurate primary data, since the topic nature and causes of rural poverty on Dalit community, it self is a vague. Poverty is multidimensional but multi-sectoral concern, it was apply key informant. Interview to generate

informant about it. It used to detail the key information of this study (VDC), secretary coordinator or the informants people.

3.5.3 Focus Group Discussion

In study area to discuss the problems, Dalit people living in Chiuridanda are facing due to poverty, its nature and causes consequence and their solution. For poverty alleviation local people should be aware and focus group discussion fulfills this category.

3.6 Data Processing and Analysis

After data was collected from field survey, notes used for collection of primary data were checked and edited. Before the process of the data through the help of computer percent has been prepared from the completed questionnaire in cooperation with the different socio-economic, characteristics such as : income level, land holding size, family size, education status etc qualitative data has analyzed by the descriptive method.

3.7 Limitation of the Study

This is an academic research. It was undertaken within the boundary of time budget and place. This research has limited. The study is the topic "The Nature and Causes of Rural Poverty" (A case study of Dalit community of Chiuridanda VDC, Khotang). This study is basically concern to a specific area to determine the extent of Dalit poverty in micro perspective. Due to lack of time money and manpower. The sampling size of the population was taken small. It has focused the social issues. This study has been carried out of Chiuridanda VDC (ward no 3, 5, 7 and 9). Hence the result may not represent the national scenario. The research is bounded with the primary data obtained from the field survey.

CHAPTER - IV

INTRODUCTION OF THE STUDY AREA

4.1 Introduction

From research it was found that there are two types of land categories. i.e. khet, bari, pakho most of the people don't have khet but they have a few ropanies of baries. Most of the people of this area are engaged in agriculture through the cultivated land is not sufficient for all, the distribution of landholding by a family is bagboy skewed and alternative employment opportunities are several limited.

The name Khotang is originated from the word Khotangkot. it is one of the accessible hill district among 6 district of Sagarmatha zone in the eastern development regions. The total area of this district is about 154020.20 hectors. It is ranges between 26⁰50' to 27⁰28' north latitude and 86⁰26' to 86⁰59' east longitude. Geographically the attitude varies from 152 m. to 3620 m. above the sea level. The area of the district is 1591 sq. km. This district is divided into 76 VDC. The district boundary is Bhojpur in the east, Okhaldhunga in the west, Solukhumbu in the north and Udayapur in south. (District profile of Khotang, 2007)

Location of Study Area

Among 76 VDC of Khotang district, Chiuridanda is one of them. It is situated between 27⁰10' to 27⁰15' north latitude and 86⁰50' east longitude which covers an area of 2872705 m.sq.ms. The elevation of the VDC is varies from 650-2720m above sea level. The VDC in surrounding by Nirmalidanda, Chandanda to the east, Nerpa, Diktel, Laphang to the

west, Patheka to the north and Ratanchha and mattim to the south. The VDC with total population 6276 (2938 male and 3338 female) people holds 1183 households. (VDC profile 2056)

4.1.1 Physical Setting

Geographically Khotang district is remote (hilly) area of Eastern Development Region (EDR). Ward no. 3, 9, 8, 4 of the VDC holds higher hills in compared to other wards of lower part of VDC 2, 1 and 5 holds but ward 9, 3, 4 and 8 are bit colder in the winter season in compared with rest of the wards, ward no. 3 is at top level and 1 is at the bottom level.

The majority of population living is Dorpa Rai's and few unidentified Dalits. Majority of high caste population depend on agriculture whereas the majority of schedule caste depend on agricultural labour and few population is engaged in service business and other.

There is no irrigation facilities, farmer depend only upon the rainfall, no transportation, Diktel Headquarter is main market and this VDC. There is some reasonable occupation in manufacturing for the poor. There is no electricity, no bank, no cooperative, one sub-health post, one post office, less telephone, one police office and other services.

In the academic sector there are 11 primary school and 2 secondary higher education student of this VDC to go Diktel headquarter, and other places. To provide marketing facilities like Diktel panehami, manebhanjhayg.

4.1.2 Climate

study area has monsoon climate where 30⁰c is the maximum temperature in the summer.

4.1.3 Settlements

Settlement pattern of the households in this village is dense (scattered) at some places. The settlements is clustered by their ethnic/caste group and in other placed it is mixed.

4.1.4 Natural Resources

Main natural resources of Chiuridanda are land, weater and trees brief account of these resources is as follows :

4.1.4.1 Land Resources

Land is one of the main resources of the village. Most of the population of this area are involved in agriculture public land is mainly used for school. Agricultural roads, VDC office, open ground temple. Private land is mainly 3 categories khet, bari and pakho. Khet is useful for paddy, maize, wheat, farming. Bari is cultivated land in house surrounding where millet, maize, vegetables are mostly grown up where as pakho is called for the area of verities of trees orange, guava, sallo, bamboo etc that supplies the need of fruit and wood.

4.2 Demographic Status

According to CBS population census 2001, the total population of this VDC is 231385 out of which 112821 males and 118564 females. The total households are 822.

The caste and race is very famous one Nepalese society. According to National Census 2058 there are various caste too. among them about 13.07 percent are Dalit means that community which is regulated by society. Dalit caste is categories on the following headings :-

Table 4.1
Population of Dalit in Nepal

S.N.	Caste	Male	Female	Total	Percent
1	Kami	432937	463017	895954	3.94
2	Damai	188329	201976	390305	1.72
3	Sarki	153681	165380	319061	1.4
4	Badi	2152	2290	4442	0.02
5	Gaine	2857	3030	5887	0.03
6	Chamar	138878	130783	269661	1.19
7	Musahar	88041	84393	172434	0.76
8	Dushda	52173	76352	128525	0.7
9	Sonar	72331	72757	145088	0.74
10	Lohar	42270	40367	82637	0.36
11	Tatme	39606	36906	76512	0.34
12	Khapte	38643	36329	74972	0.33
13	Dhobi	38350	35063	73413	0.32
14	Satar	21515	211183	232698	0.19
15	Bantar	18139	17700	35839	0.06
16	Chidimar	6516	5780	12296	0.05
17	Dom	4631	4300	8931	0.04
18	Halkhor	1848	1776	3624	0.02
19	Patharkatta	286	266	552	0.01
20	Undefined	85063	88338	173401	0.76
	Total	1458246	1487911	2946157	13.07

Source : Rstriya Dalit Aayog, 2058 (CBS Population census 2001)

Table 4.1 shows that total Dalit are 2946157 which are male are 49.49 percent and female are 50.50 percent in Nepal in the year 2058. This covers 13.07 percent of total population. Among them Kami, Damai, Sarki and Banter are highly spread all over the country. The table 4.1 deficit that patharakatta are in negligible percent.

4.3 VDC's Wise Population of Dalits

In khotang district total Dalits are 21854 where male are 10670 (48.82%) and female are 11184 (51.17%). Dalit are not homogeneously distributed throughout the country 8 VDC's which host majority and minority Dalit's of hills.

Table 4.2

VDC's where Dalits are in majority and minority

S.No.	VDC	Kami	Damai	Sari	Total
1	Chiuridanda	368	209	157	734
2	Chisapani	299	145	145	643
3	Buipa	211	148	238	597
4	Damberkhusibalaya	300	75	215	590
5	Chhitapolkhari	80	27	0	111
6	Salle	60	6	4	70
7	Devisthan	35	11	13	59
8	Chipring	0	13	0	13
	Total	1353	634	772	2817

Source : CBS census 2001 (District Profile, 2007)

Above table 4.2 shows that Dalits are in largest number in majority VDC's Chiuridanda 734 and followed Chisapani 643 and least (minority) in devisthan 59 and chirping 13 respectively.

4.4 Caste/Ethnic Distribution of Total Population of Chiuridanda VDC in Khotang

Table 4.3

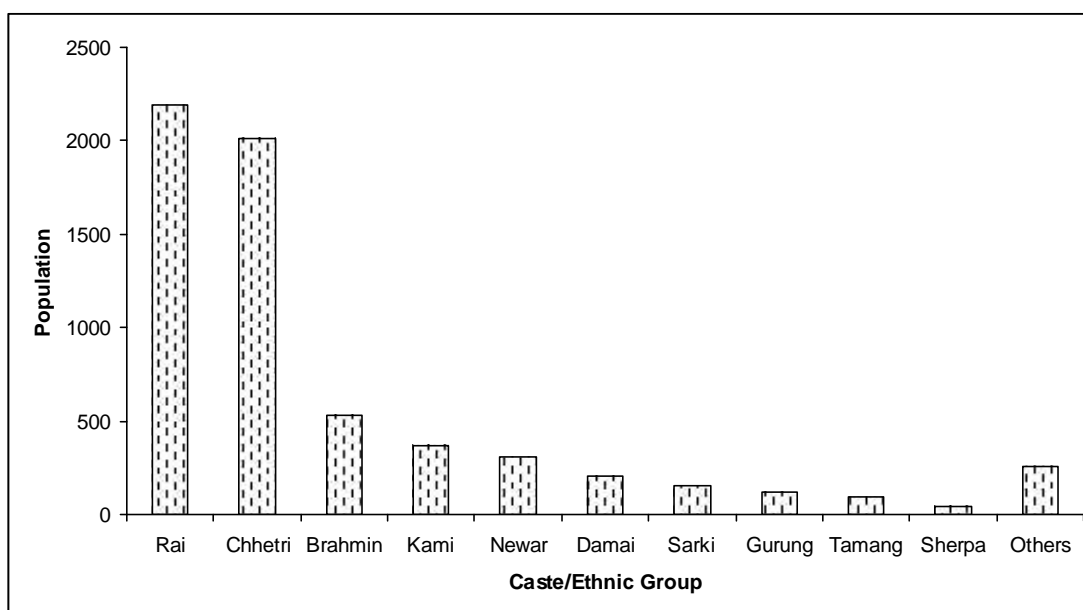
Total Caste wise Distribution in Chiuridanda VDC

S.No.	Caste/Ethnic group	Total Population	Percent
1	Rai	2190	34.89
2	Chhetri	2010	32.18
3	Brahmin	527	8.39
4	Kami	368	5.86
5	Newar	307	4.89
6	Damai	209	3.33
7	Sarki	157	2.50
8	Gurung	117	1.86
9	Tamang	94	1.49
10	Sherpa	41	0.65
11	Others	256	4.07
	Total	6276	100

Source : CBS census 2001

Above the table shows that the total population are 6276 in Chiuridanda VDC. The caste wise distribution of total population are Rai 34.89 percent, Chhetri 32.18 percent, Brahmin 8.39 percent, Kami 5.86 percent, Newar 4.89 percent, Damai 3.33 percent, Sarki 2.50 percent, Gurung 1.86 percent, Tamang 1.49 percent of the total population Churidanda VDC.

Figure 4.1
Total Caste wise Distribution in Chiuridanda VDC



4.5 Ward wise Caste Distribution of Sampled Population

Table 4.4

Ward Wise Distribution of Dalit Caste

Ward No.	Male	Percent	Female	Percent	Total Population	Total HHs	Sample HHs
1	16		15		31	3	
2	-		-		-	-	
3	79	28.83	83	28.32	162	28	18
4	29		32		61	11	
5	58	21.16	62	21.16	120	24	15
6	39		42		81	9	
7	50	18.24	54	18.43	104	19	15
8	57		53		110	22	
9	87	31.75	64	32.08	181	32	15
	415	100	435	100	567	148	60

Source : Field Survey, 2008 (Dalit Ayog 2058)

Above table 4.4 represents total population of the study area 850 according to field survey 2008. In the study are population of female 435 is greater than population of male 415. The total households are 148 among them 9 ward are 32 houses which is biggest ward ward 2 has no any Dalit house and ward no. I has only 3 houses which is the smallest ward according to households in the study area.

4.5.1 Ward wise Distribution of Sampled Population

Out of 9 wards and 148 households in this VDCs 4 wards and 60 households are selected for the case study. The following table no 4.5 presents ward wise distribution of sampled population.

Table 4.5
Ward wise Distribution of Sample Size

Ward No.	Sample Population			Total HHs	Sample HHs
	Male	Female	Total		
3	43	41	84	28	15
5	46	50	96	24	15
7	39	44	83	19	15
9	41	47	88	32	15
Total	169	182	351	103	60

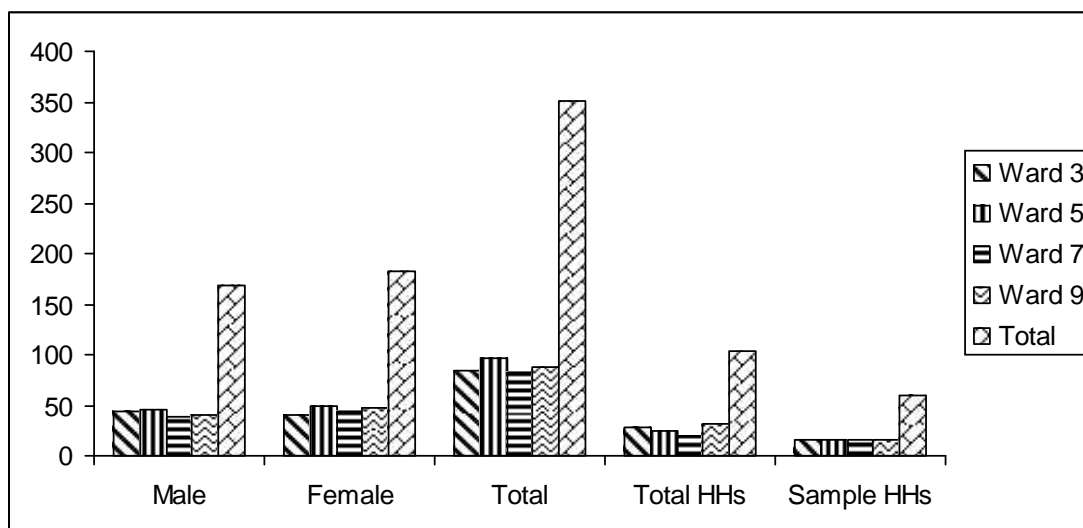
Source : Field Survey, 2008

The above table 4.5 represents that there are 28 households (15 sampled) in ward no. 3 and the total sampled population of this ward is 84 of which male are 43 and female are 41. Likewise, in ward no. 5 there are 24 households (15 sampled) with total sampled population of 96 of which male are 46 and female are 50. There are 19 households (15 sampled) with total sampled population of 83 (39 male and 44 female).

Similarly in ward no. 9 there are 32 households (15 sampled) with total sampled population of 88 (41 male and 47 female respectively).

Figure 4.2

Ward wise Distribution of Sample Size



4.6 Family Structure the Respondents by Age and Sex

The population distribution of Dalit by age groups and sex is presented in table 4.76

Table 4.6

Percentage of Age and Sex Structure of Respondents Population

S. N.	Age group pop ⁿ	Male	Percent	Female	Percent	Total Pop ⁿ	Total Percent
1	below < 9 yrs	32	18.93	39	21.42	71	20.22
2	10 to 14 yrs	34	20.11	41	22.52	75	21.36
3	15 to 59 yrs	88	52.07	85	50.29	173	49.28
4	above 60	15	8.87	17	9.34	62	9.11
	Total	169	100	182	100	351	100

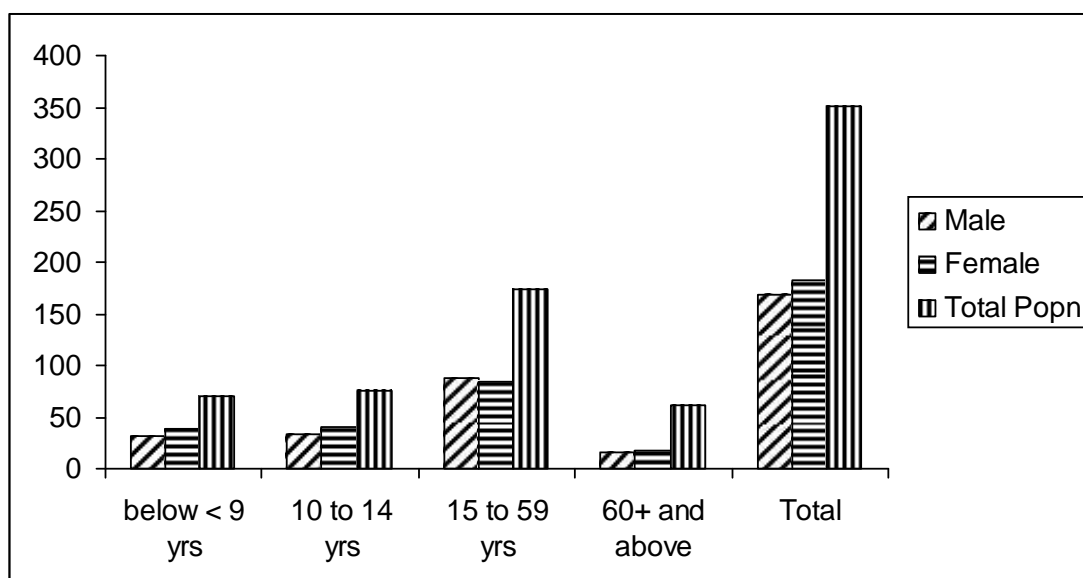
Source : Field visit survey, 2008

The table 4.6 shows that out of total sample population 20.22 (male 18.93 and female 21.42) percentage age below 9 years, 21.36 (male 20.11

and female 22.52) are belong to the age group of 10 to 14 years. Similarly 49.28 (52.07 male and 50.29 female) are belonging to the age group of 15 to 59 years. In the same way 9.11 (8.87 male and 9.34 female) percent people are above 60 years. It indicates that in the study area, high percent people are economically active. It means 49 percent Dalit are regulated as depended population. Here below 14 years age group is considered as child and above 60 years indicate the retired life.

Figure 4.3

Percentage of Age and Sex Structure of Respondents Population



4.7 Educational Status of VDC

Table 4.7

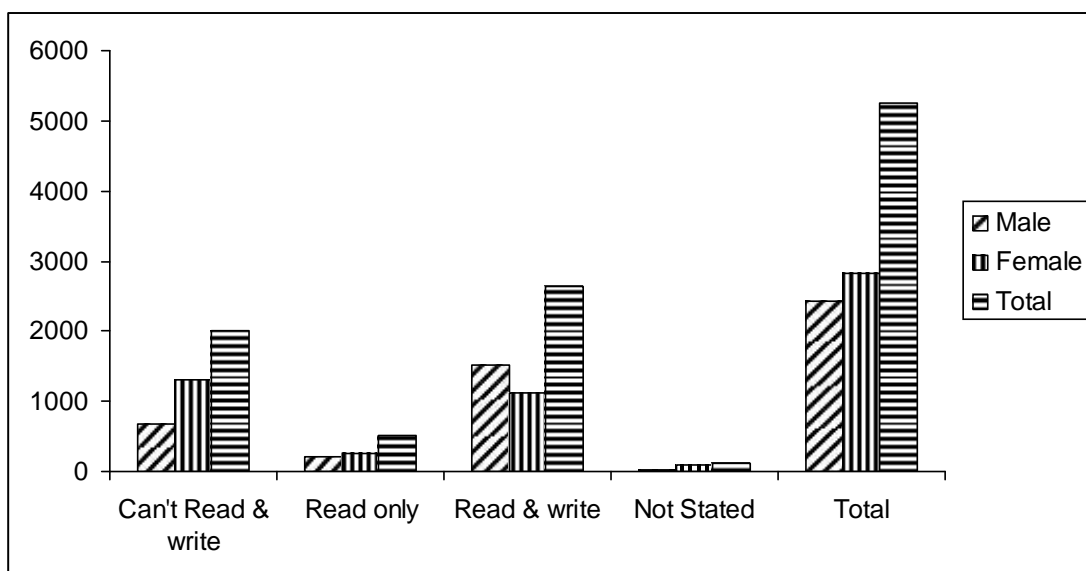
Educational Status of VDC

Can't Read & write			Read only			Read & write			Not Stated			Total		
M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T
686	1319	2004	211	251	502	1517	1118	2635	16	97	113	2424	2825	5255

Source : District profile, 2007

The total population (6 years of age and plus) of this VDC is 5255. Among them 2429 are male and 2825 are female. There are 2004 persons who can't read and write. i.e. illiterate in this village. Illiterate male are 686 and female among illiterate are 1319. there are 2635 people who can read and write, i.e. literate people in this VDC. Literate male are 1517 and literate female are 1118 in this village. This is the literacy status of Chiuridanda VDC (Village Development Committee).

Figure 4.4
Educational Status of VDC



4.8 Social/Cultural Discrimination

The analysis of discrimination against Dalit was based on different parameters. Such as discrimination which rising home of upper caste people eating/drinking at the home at hotels and tea shops, buying goods for upper caste people. Sharing drinking water, attending cerenaonies and parties and working together with upper caste people, going temple and religion functions studying Dalit children at school, travelling with upper caste people in rural areas.

4.9 Socio-economic characteristics of Dalit in Nepal

Which is mainly concentrated on the socio-economic characteristics of Dalit in Nepal.

The caste frame is primarily hierarchical. People who are untouchable low caste group, hatred and deprived people are called Dalit people. Who hill originated like Damai, Kami, Sarki, Gaire and Badi and other are terai originated musahar, chamar, Dhobi etc. (Sharma, 2000). More or less these all categories of people are attributed to certain group occupation. Like black smithing, gold smithing, farming, tailoring shoe making, singing etc having these tradition occupations the Dalits of Nepal are unable to produce sufficient food grains and money as income for their livelihood.

4.10 Agriculture of Chiuridanda VDC

Table 4.8

Household Having Land, Livestock and Poultry

Total	Ag. land only	Live stock only	Poultry only	land & Live stock	Live stock and Poultry	Land & Poultry	Land live stock and poultry	None of all
1183	43	1	3	124	7	11	988	6

Source : CBS 2002 (DDC Profile, 2007)

According to table 5.12 there are 43 households which have agriculture land only. 1 households which have livestock only, 3 households which have poultry only and 124 households which have both land and livestock respectively. Such as the table shows that there are 7 households which have both livestock and poultry and 11 households which have both land and poultry. There are 988 households which have all the three items i.e. land, livestock and poultry and 6 households which have none of them. i.e. land livestock and poultry. They have neither agriculture land, nor livestock and poultry. So that it is obvious that among 1183 households 6 households are landless.

CHAPTER - FIVE

DATA PRESENTATION AND ANALYSIS

5.1 Introduction

Rural poverty is one of the major problems in the path of development. It is a multi-dimensional in nature and it is multi-sectoral concerned subject to alleviate the rural poverty. First of all, we should stay the nature of poverty. By definition of poverty many researchers and economists have presented their different views. Some of them state that poverty is mainly concerned with agriculture i.e. small size of landholding, income level, family population, educational level etc. size of land is most important source of rural income and status in rural areas hence it is main concern of poverty problem. In the rural part of Nepal the distribution of land is highly unequal. Family size is also major factor for poverty problem. The illiterate guardians think that big size of family is helpful for the fieldwork.

5.1.1 Nature and the Major Factors of Poverty

The main objective of the study is to determine the nature of poverty problem in the study area. The main rural poverty problem in our country conditions large family size, low productivity land, lack of employment opportunities, small landholding size, high literacy rate and caste based discrimination. The rural Dalit people are caught in the vicious cycle of poverty due to prevalent socio-culture system, the main causes to social system also has some elements that contribute to poverty by imposing burden on large household.

5.2 Social Characteristics

Different social structure of undeveloped country can be seen in study area. Different activities in the study area are carried out traditionally weak status of Dalit instable political situation, lack of suitable social environment.

5.2.1 Types of Houses in Study Area

Table 5.1 : Types of Houses in Study Area

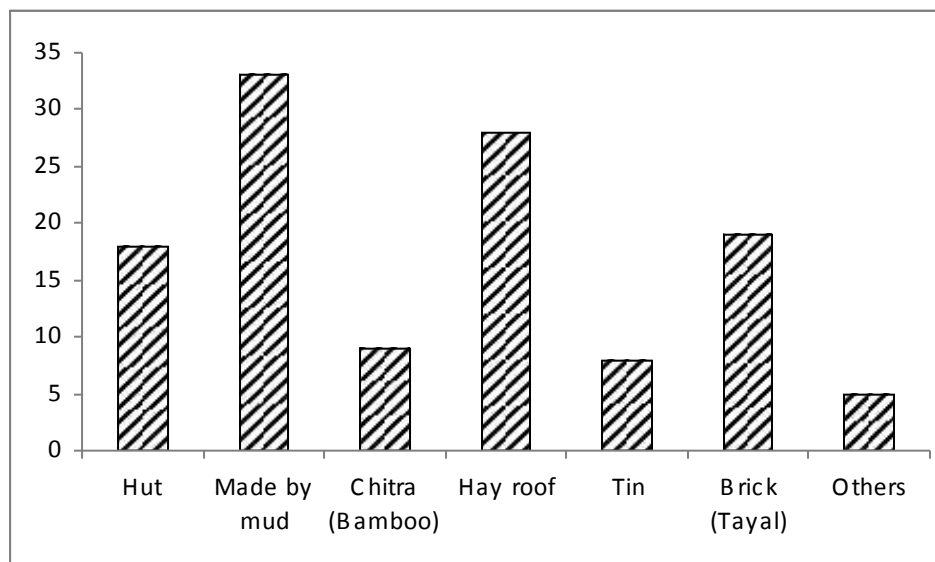
Types of House	Households	Percent
Hut	18	30.00
Made by mud	33	55.00
Chitra (Bamboo)	9	15.00
	60	100
Roofing Types		
Hay roof	28	46.66
Tin	8	13.33
Brick (Tayal)	19	31.66
Others	5	8.33
	60	100

Source : Field Survey, 2008

There has been seen that 18 houses (30%) which is the types of hut, 33 (55%) houses which are made by mud, similarly 9 (15%) houses that is made by Bamboo of among 60 households. Likewise 28 (46.66%) houses which are the roofing types by hay, 8 houses (13.33%) which are tin, 19 houses (31.66%) which are made by Tayal and 5 (8.37%) houses which are made by others respectively among 60 households. The data of

types of houses has shown that there are maximum houses are made by mud in the study area.

Figure 5.1 : Types of Houses in Study Area



5.2.2 Types of Family of Study Area

Table 5.2 : Types of Family

Types of Family	Households	Percent
Nuclear	20	33.33
Joint	40	66.66
Total	60	100

Source : Field Survey, 2008

In table 5.3 there has been shown that types of family of 60 households. There are 40 (66.66%) households are living with in joint family and 20 (33.33%) households are living with in nuclear family. The joint family in defined as the household which has occupied two family or more than that. The nuclear family households is defined as the

households which has the signal family. In this study area, there are more joint family households than nuclear family.

5.2.3 Occupation of Households in the Study Area

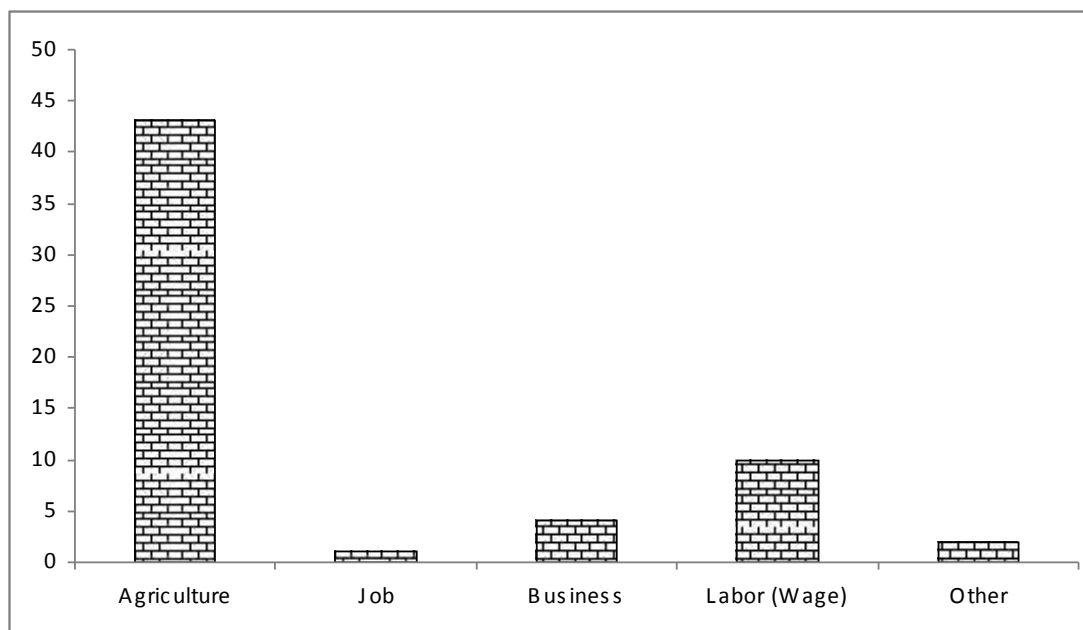
Table 5.3 : Occupation of Households

Occupation	Households	Percent
Agriculture	43	71.66
Job	1	1.66
Business	4	6.66
Labor (Wage)	10	16.66
Other	2	3.33
Total	60	100

Source : Field Survey, 2008

There has been explained the occupation of households lead in table 5.3 of the study area. There are 43 (71.66%) households had that are engaged in labour, only 1 (1.66%) of them who are engaged in job, 4 (6.66%) households that are engaged in business, likewise 10 (16.66%) of them who are engaged in labour (wage), 2 (3.33%) are other among 60 sampled households head. These data shows that there are maximum persons are in agriculture and labour work some of them are in job and business.

Figure 5.2
Occupation of Households



5.3.4 Occupational Status of Sample HHs of Respondent

In Khotang, most of the Dalit are engaged in agriculture and very few in other field. In the process of research it is found that mostly Dalit are involved others land.

Table 5.4
Occupational Structure of Sampled Household

S.No.	Occupation	No. of HHs	Percentage
1	Agriculture	42	70
2	Non Agriculture	18	30
	Total	60	100

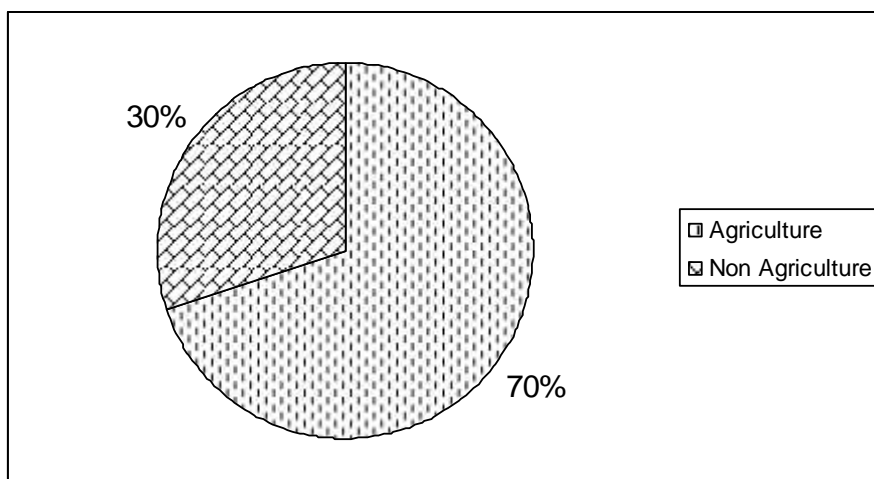
Source : Field Visit 2008

In general despite of the occupations of Dalit recognized by their caste. Agriculture is the main occupation in the study area. About 70 percent of the sampled households depend on the agriculture sector. And

rest 30 percent are engaged in non-agricultural sectors (labour work and foreign labour).

The main crops of this region are paddy, wheat, maize. It is planted in two times in a year at the Khet and 2 times at bari (Kakho land). The structure of land of this VDC is not favorable for agriculture. Small land is plain and other more land is slope. Irrigation is not faihty, provided but not high shied land. Rest lands are fully depends upon monsoon.

Figure 5.3
Occupation Status of Sample HHs of the People



5.3 Educational Level of the Study Area

Table 5.5
Educational Status of the Respondents

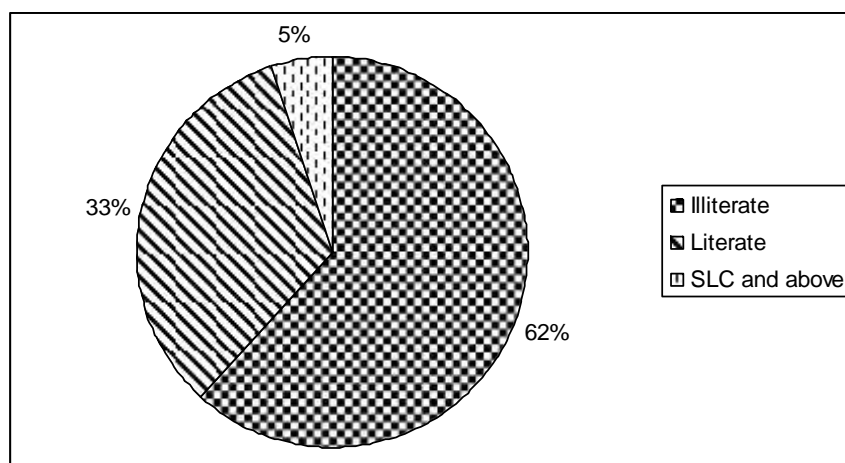
Level of Education	Household Number	Percentage
Illiterate	37	61.67
Literate	20	33.33
SLC and above	3	5
Total	60	100

Source : Field Survey, 2008

The above table 4.8 shows that 61.67 percent of the households are illiterate in this study, 33.33 percent households are literate where as the percentage of educated household is low i.e. only 5 percent. The average households size for the sample households in 4.5. Thus the educational status of the household of this VDC not seems satisfactory.

Figure 5.4

Educational Status of the Respondents



5.4 Health Condition of the Dalit People

It is said that Health is Wealth. Healthy people can work and make money. Poor health condition seems pushing them towards poverty.

5.4.1 Satisfaction from Health Services in the Study Area

Table 5.6

Toilet Satisfaction from Health Service

Satisfaction	Households	Percent
Yes	12	20
No	48	80
Total	60	100

Source : Field Survey, 2008

In the study area, there is only one health post center and small two medical shops which provides health service facilities for the study area. There are 12 (20%) households are satisfied from the health service and 48 (80%) households are not satisfied for the health services available also in lack of staff and medicines.

5.4.2 Toilet having Household in the Study Area

Table 5.7

Toilet Having Household

Having Toilet	Households	Percent
Yes	14	23.33
No	46	76.66
Total	60	100

Source : Field Survey, 2008

There has been described about the household which have toilet or which have not among 60 households. There are only 14 (23.33%) households which have toilet but 46 (76.66%) households which have not toilet in the study area.

5.4.3 Source of Drinking Water in Study Area

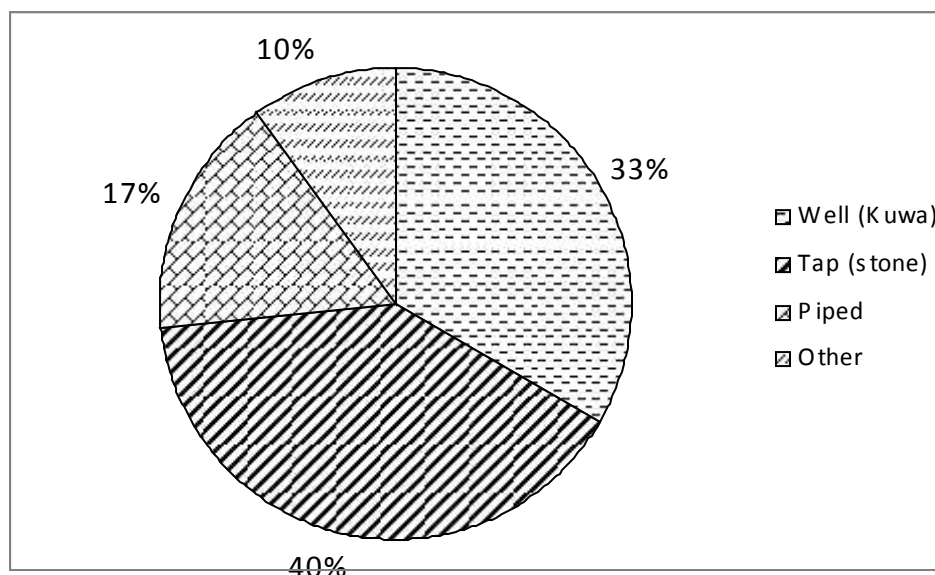
Table 5.8
Sources of Drinking Water

Sources of drinking water	Households	Percent
Well (Kuwa)	20	33.33
Tap (stone)	24	40
Piped	10	16.66
Other	6	10
	60	100

Source : Field Survey, 2008

There has been shown that the data of sources of drinking water of 60 households. There are 20 (33.33%) households use the water of well to drink, 24 (40%) households use the water from tap (stone) to drink, similarly 10 (16.66%) households use the piped source for drink water.

Figure 5.5
Sources of Drinking Water



5.5 Economic Characteristics

Agriculture being main occupation is the major economic characteristics of study area. Lack of capital and economic backwardness, unemployment, underemployment and disguised employment are the major problems. Following sub-heading as :

5.5.1 Land Holding Size and Poverty

After the end of rana jahaniya government varies policies were used for equal distribution of land. i.e. Birta Unmulan Guthi, Raiker Unmulan but still there is highly unequal distribution of landholdings. Land is the major factor of production. Most of the people in rural poverty are poor due to possession of insufficient land to generate income. Therefore land is a very important matter for a study concerning rural poverty. Land differs in quality not all area of land is equally valuable and production. Some parts and kinds of land have more value in use than others and therefore a fair distribution of those types of land is very important for poverty alleviation but the distribution of size of landholding source greatly uneven in our country and that creates poverty.

The land description of the Dalit in the study area has been presented in the below table.

Table 5.9
Distribution of Land among Sampled Household

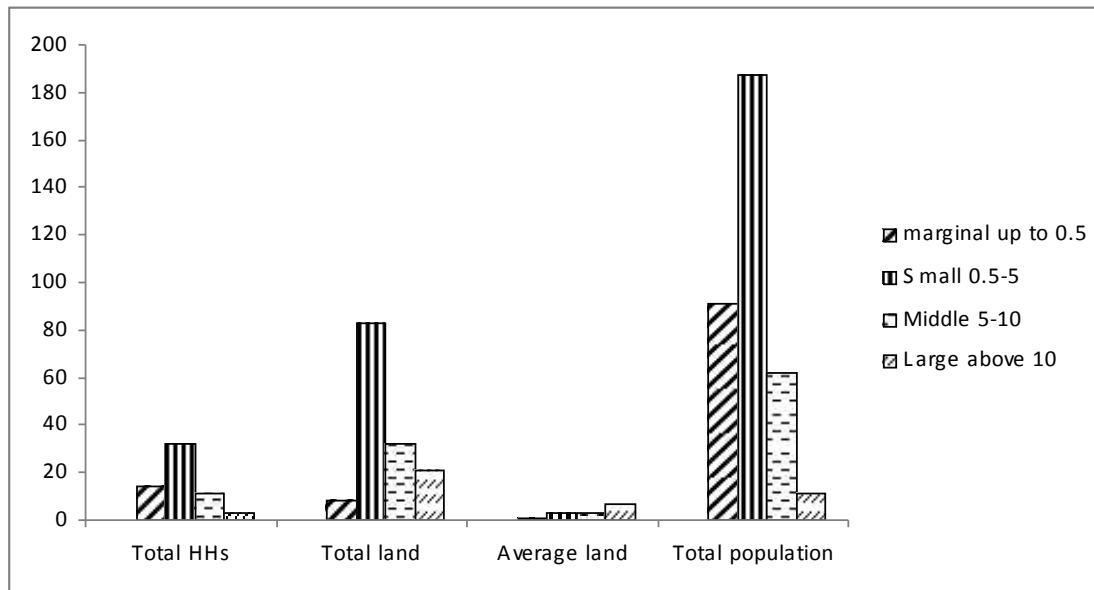
Size of land holding (in ropani)	Total HHs	Percent of HHs	Total land	Average land	Total pop ⁿ	Percent of Pop ⁿ
marginal up to 0.5	14	23.33	8	0.57	91	25.92
Small 0.5-5	32	53	82.74	2.89	187	53.27
Middle 5-10	11	18.33	32.00	2.90	62	17.66
Large above 10	3	5	21	7	11	3.13
Total	60	100	153.74	13.36	351	100

Source : Field Survey 2008

Table 5.7 shows that 14 household has up to 0.5 ropani 25.92 percent of the total land. Like that 32 household has 0.5 to 5 ropani average landholding size is 2.89 or 53.27 of the total land. Among them 60 household only 11 households have 5 to 10 ropani or average 2.90 ropani (or, 17.66 percent of total land). Likewise only 3 household has above 10 ropani or 3.13 percent of the total land. It shows that most of the households have 0.5 to 5 ropani which is insufficient if the compare with the family size of Dalit.

Figure 5.6

Distribution of Land among Sampled Household



5.5.1.1 Types of Landholding

Table 5.10

Types of Land Holding

Types of Landholding	No. of HHs	Percent
Khet	23	38.33
Pakho/Bari	37	61.66
Total	60	100

Source : Field Survey, 2008

Majority of households much pakho (Bari) Khet are production than the pakho. 23 (38.33%) households which are khet and 37 (61.66%) households which are pakho among 60 households in the study area.

5.5.1.2 Method of Agricultural Practices in the Study Area

Table 5.11

Method of Agricultural Practice

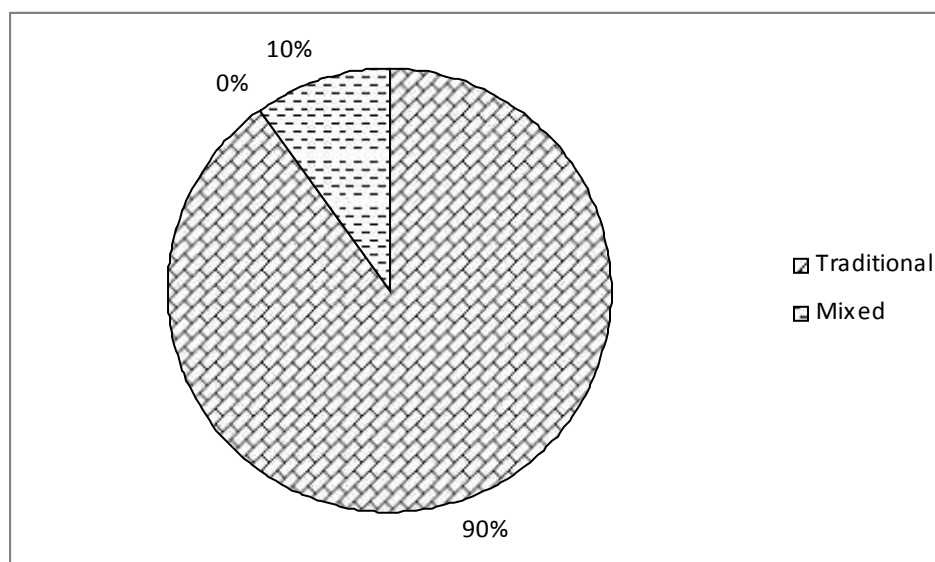
Method	No. of HHs	Percent
Traditional	54	90
Modern	0	0
Mixed	6	10
Total	60	100

Source : Field Survey, 2008

The above table shows that, in study area 54 (90%) households involved agriculture in the traditional way, 0 percent of the households involve agriculture in a modern way likewise 6 (10%) households adopt mixed method of agriculture.

Figure 5.7

Method of Doing Agriculture



5.5.1.3 Sufficiency of Agriculture Production in the Study Area

Table 5.12

Sufficiency of Agriculture Production

Agriculture Production is sufficiency of agriculture production			Have any surplus		
Yes	No	Total	Yes	No	Total
16	44	60	3	13	16

Source : Field Survey, 2008

There are only 16 households whose sufficiency agriculture production is sufficient for a year but 44 households has not sufficient agriculture production among 50 households. There are 16 households whose agriculture production sufficient but only 3 households have surplus from agriculture production and 13 households have not surplus in agriculture production among them.

5.5.2 Annual Income from Husbandry

Table 5.13

Income from Animal Husbandry

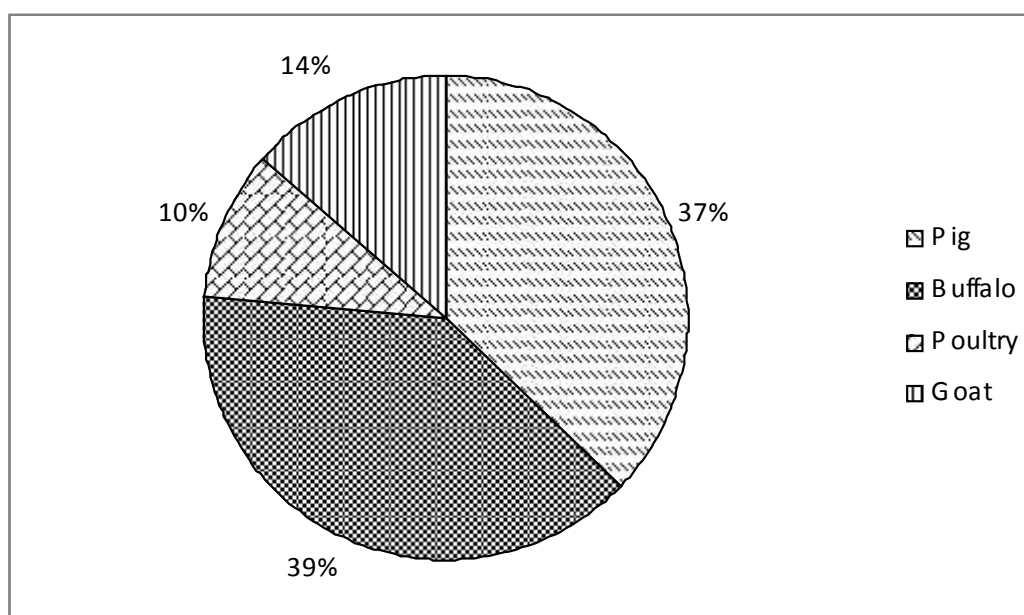
Animal Husbandry	Annual Income	Percent
Pig	95000	37.25
Buffalo	100000	39.21
Poultry	25000	9.80
Goat	35000	13.72
Sheep	0	0
Total	255000	100

Source : Field Survey, 2008

Income from animal husbandry is small source from buffalo is highly which 39.21 percent, buffalo is mainly consumed for milk and meat. Income from pig is 37.25 percent, poultry is also a source of income Dalits people are found keeping pigs and chickens in their house among from 60 households.

Figure 5.8

Income from Animal Husbandry



5.5.3 Sources of Income in the Study Area

The mainly income source of study area are agriculture, livestock and wage labour. The present study concentrated on the difference sources of income of Dalit community.

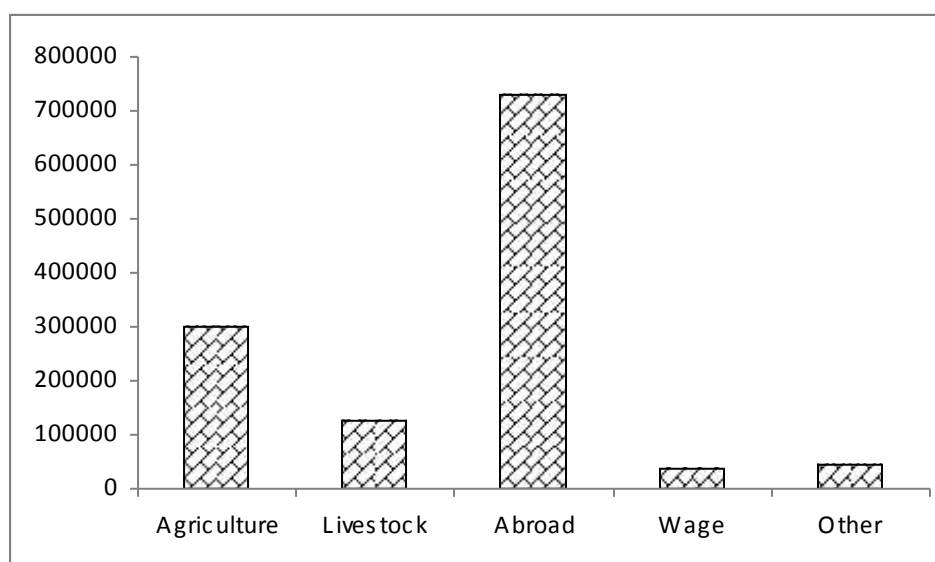
Table 5.14 : Source of Income

Particular	Annual Income (Rs.)	Percent
Agriculture	298980	24.14
Livestock	125400	10.12
Abroad	731100	59.03
Wage	36900	2.97
Other	46000	3.71
Total	1238380	100

Source : Field Survey, 2008

Above table shows that Dalit are above to earn 24.14 percent income by agriculture sector and 10.12 percent of income from livestock. It is clear that most of their income is from abroad that is 59.03 percent only 2.94 percent income is from the wage labour (from agriculture and non-agriculture wage). In this way more percent of population income source is only from remittance.

Figure 5.9
Source of Income



5.5.4 Unemployment and Underemployment Situation in the Study Area

Table 5.15
Employment Situation

Employment Situation	No. of Household	Percent
Underemployment	5	8.33
Unemployment	13	55.00
Disguised Unemployment	12	36.66
Total	60	100

Source : Field Survey, 2008

In the study area taking the active population i.e. the age group above 15 and below 60 this situation of employment was calculated, 55 percent of the people are totally unemployment, high percent age of disguised unemployment especially in agriculture is 36.66 percent. The data shows that there is a high number of unemployment in study area.

5.6 Credit Facilities and Its Uses

There are very few Dalit holds using formal sources of credit. Rural credit are mainly from two different sources taking loan from the villagers is expensive (24 percent to 36 percent).

5.6.1 Access to Rural Credit

Table 5.16
Access to Rural Credit

Rural Credit	No. of Households	Percent
Villager's	50	83.33
Governmental	10	16.66
Total	60	100

Source : Field Survey, 2008

The data shows that 83.33 percent of the households are in access to villagers loan and 16.66 percent of the households in access to governmental loan. So it show's people to bring villagers loan in expensive interest rate.

5.6.2 Use of Rural Credit

Dalit people to bring the credit little but dare to spend on other purpose of follows :

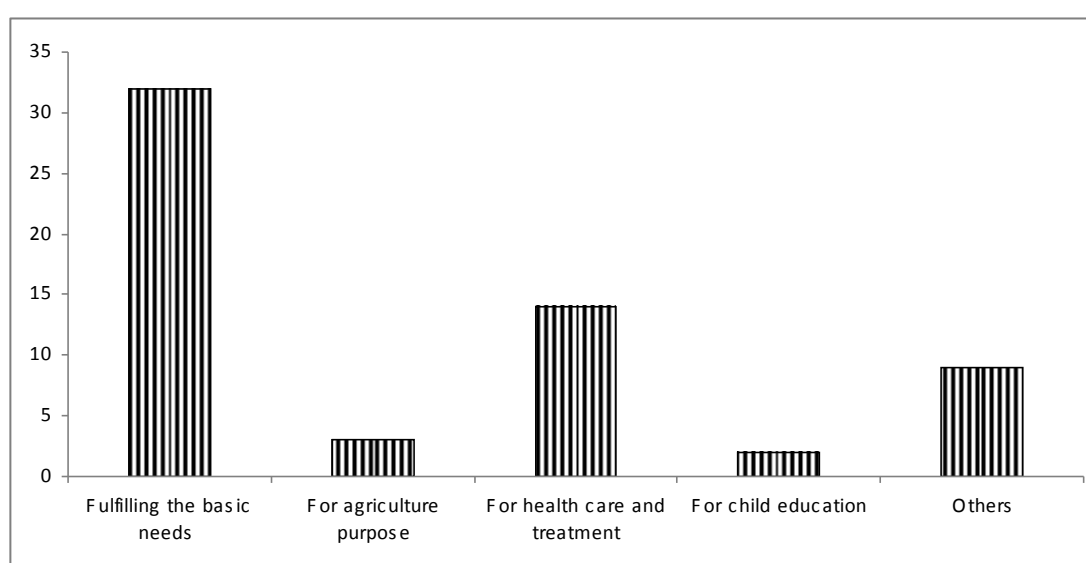
Table 5.17
Use of Rural credit by the study area

Use	No. of Households	Percent
Fulfilling the basic needs (food, cloths, shelter)	32	53.33
For agriculture purpose	3	5
For health care and treatment	14	23.33
For child education	2	3.33
Others	9	15
Total	60	100

Source : Field Survey, 2008

It shows that 32 (53.33%) households spent fulfilling the basic needs, 14 (23.33%) households are seen spending on health care and treatment, 3 (5%) households are seen spending agriculture, 2 (3.33%) households, utilize the credit for this child education and 8 (15%) households utilize other purpose.

Figure : 5.10
Utilization of Rural Credit



5.7 General Expenditure of Respondents (on food and non-food item)

In the study area, most of the people expenditure is higher than their income, it can be classified from the following tables.

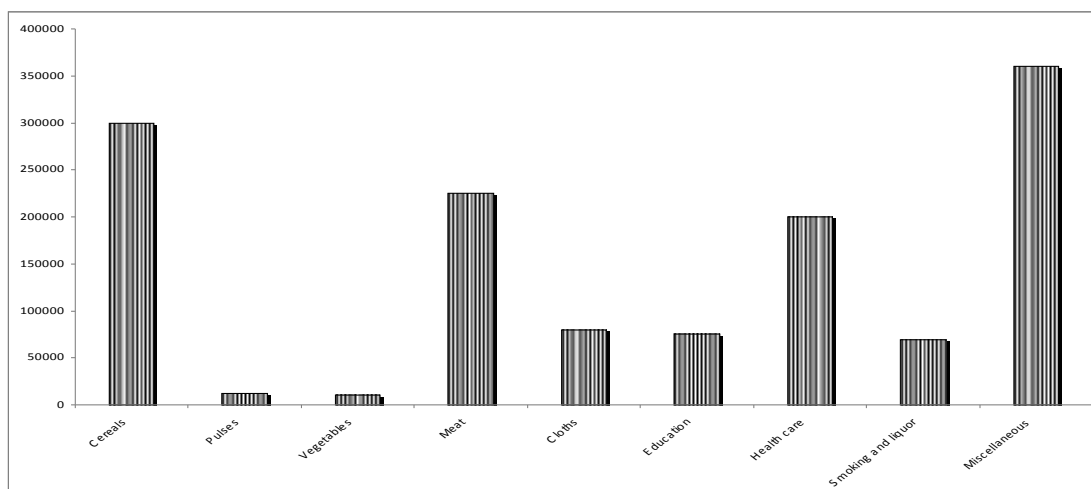
Table 5.18
General Expenditure (Food and non-food item)

Items	Amount per annum (in Rs.)	Percent
Cereals (Wheat, paddy, maize, millet)	300000	22.53
Pulses	12000	0.90
Vegetables	10000	0.75
Meat	225000	16.89
Cloths	80000	6.00
Education	75500	5.67
Health care	200000	15.02
Smoking and liquor	69000	5.18
Miscellaneous	360000	22.53
Total	1331500	100

Source : Field Survey, 2008

In the sample survey of 60 households, the people of the area are not well educated expenditure in education is 5.67 percent, 15 percent expenditure is on health care where as 16 percent expenditure is one of meat. Similarly 5.67 percent of the expenditure is on clothing. In cereals the expenses is 22.53 and it pulses it is 0.90 percent. 5.18 percent is spent on smoking and liquor. Generally it is can be observed that expenditure on own food item is higher in compared to food items.

Figure 5.11
General Expenditure of the Study Area



5.8 Role of Different Organization in Antipoverty Activities

Different GO's, NGO's, CBO's participation are found playing vital role in alleviation poverty.

5.8.1 Participation in Planning and Implementing Policy in Study Area

Table 5.19

Participation in Planning and Implementing Policy in Study Area

People Participation in planning and implementation policy in VDC	HHs	Percent
Yes	18	30
No	42	70
Total	60	100

Source : Field Survey, 2008

There has been shown that only 18 (30%) households heads are participation in planning and implementation policy but 42 (70%)

households head are not involving among 60 sampled households. This data shows that most of the Dalit people have not get chance to participation in planning and implementing policy in the study area.

5.8.2 VDC Works to Increase Income of the Villager's

Participation in cooperative organization policy making program conducted by GO's and NGO's and agriculture market in study.

Table 5.20

VDC Works to Increase Income of the Villager's

VDC works to increase Income		Participation in cooperation organization	Policy making program conducted by GO's and NGO's	Agriculture market in VDC
Yes	0	3	0	0
No	60	57	60	60
Total	60	60	60	60

Source : Field Survey, 2008

There has been shown that there are the data which shows that VDC has not done any work to increase the Dalit people income only 3 households heads have participation in cooperative organization. All households head has said that there is not any program conducted by GO's and NGO's in study area. There is not available agriculture market, 47 households heads do not have any participation in cooperative organization.

5.9 Employment and Poverty

Employment is the basic determinant of income. This is direct relationship between poverty and employment. If population of study area

is fully employed the existence of poverty is low due to their earning on the other side, if the people are unemployed their income is low and there appears high degree of poverty.

To analyze the relationship between the poverty and poverty employment it is supposed that 10 to 60 years age group of people are in working age group over 60 and below 10 years are of non-working age group. So employment opportunities are very important in helping to reduce poverty.

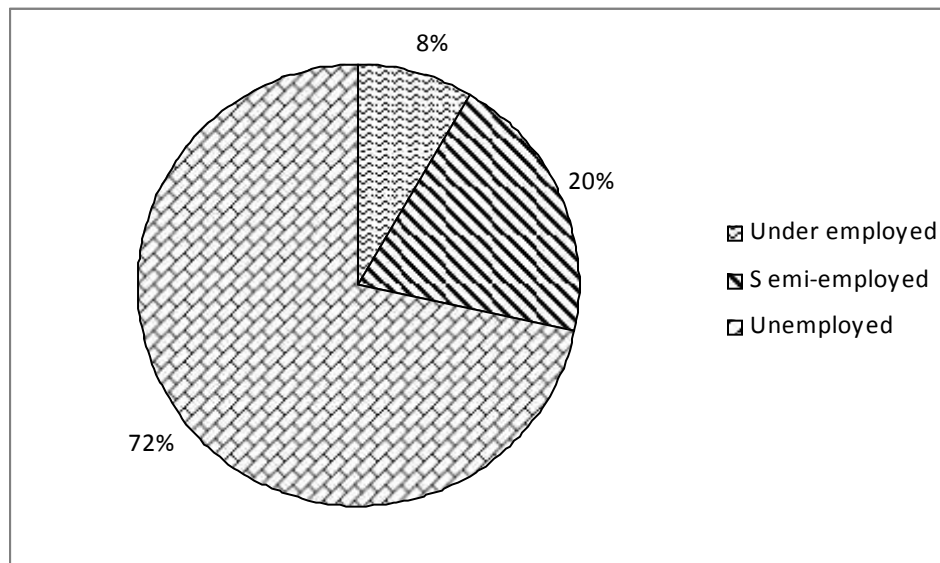
Table 5.21
Population Distribution by Working Age Group

Employment Status	Working Age Group Number	Percent
Under employed	5	8.33
Semi-employed	12	20
Unemployed	43	71.66
Total	60	100

Source : Field Survey, 2008

The above table shows that, only 8.33 percent of the total study area are under employed 20 percent are semi-employed and the large portion of the study are 71.66 percent are unemployed it means poverty is serve there due to the unemployment problem.

Figure 5.12
Population Distribution by Working Age Group



5.9.1 Education and Poverty

Education means the light that takes us away from darkness to radiant higher. Most of the people in the study area are poor due to insufficient education which may be a serious cause of individual poverty. If the people are educated it will increasing, inner skill. Therefore, it can be said that lack of education and major cause of poverty.

Table 5.22
Educational Status of Respondents

Level of Education	Number	Percent
Illiterate	37	61.87
Literate	20	33.33
SLC and above	3	5
Total	60	100

Source : Field Survey, 2008

The above table shows that 61.67 percent of the households are illiterate in this area. But in comparison with the whole nation where 53.04 percent of the people are literate, the illiteracy rate in study area is relatively much higher.

5.10 Causes of Rural Poverty in this Study Area

5.10.1 Occupation

In the study area, majority of Dalit people are engaged in agriculture, which based on traditional technology, generates the low production implies that low income and they become poor.

5.10.2 Size of Landholding

In the study area, size of landholding of Dalit is very small than non-Dalit. There are some households that they have no land or landless. They are poor because they have low irrigated land or they depend only upon the rainfall.

7.10.3 Education

Many Dalit in the study area are illiterate. They have no opportunity of vocational training. So their unskilled labour gets low levels of job and wage. So they suffering head to mouth problems. Which is also a cause of unemployment and they are forced to remain unemployed and underemployment.

5.10.4 Gender Disparity

Son's are preferred than daughters in the study area. Comparatively son gets the opportunities of education service and other social work etc than daughter, it is also cause.

5.10.5 Family Size

There has seen that Dalit household has large family size than others. The Dalit have to expand all of their income in food of their family members because of their large family size. Rapid growth rate of population is also a cause of large family size is a cause of poverty in the study area.

CHAPTER - SIX

SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

This chapter summarize concludes some major findings and provides some recommendation for the alleviations and reduction of the prevailing poverty.

6.1 Summary

Poverty is problem of Nepal. About 40 percent of the people are below the poverty line more than 86 percent (NPC 2003) of them live in rural areas of the country. The nature of poverty is more series in case of lower caste and is less series in case of Brahmin caste.

From the field survey can be concluded in the following points :-

- Dalit are the exclusive group in the society. So they are backwarded in the entire field.
- Most of Dalit are engaged in agriculture and few in other field.
- Dalit are too poor because they don't have sufficient land for cultivation. Most of them engaged in land lords.
- The nature of poverty is found to be more series among the occupational caste group in the study area. Out of 60 households 21 households are of occupational caste people.

- Dalit community is very backward in the field of education. Because it is found that out of 60 households (61.67%) households head are illiterate. They are unable to get education opportunity.
- People dependent upon education, employment and size of land holding. The poverty is inversely related to level of education, employment and size of landholding among the sampled households.
- There is high disparities in the landholding agriculture labor in the study area. Because most of the Dalit households are found to be landless or marginal landholding.
- Poverty in the Dalit is like heredit in nature.
- Health conduction of the Dalits is poor.
- Female population is higher in the village.
- It is proved that most of the Dalit spend a large properties of their income on smoking, drinking, liquor consumption and traditional festivals.
- Dalit people dependent on the agriculture sector due to lack of government support, encourage and employment.
- There is the existence of problem of employment literacy un-nutrition, youth mobilization, social discrimination.

6.2 Conclusion

Poverty is a rural phenomenon deeply rooted in the rural areas of our country. Most of the rural people of Nepal are engaged in the

agriculture sector for their livelihood. In rural area poverty seems due to the small size of landholding, production for self-consumption, take market facilities, unemployment, lack of irrigation facilities and primitive technology on farming and subsistence agriculture.

- It shows that most of the 32 (53%) households have 0.5 to 5 ropani which is insufficient if the compare with the family size of Dalit.
- The mainly income sources of the study area are agriculture and livestock. But 59.03% income from abroad which is not reliable income source for them they are temporary source of income.
- The research shows that the Dalit have little land on account of inequality and size of distribution of land. Agriculture is main occupation poor people are mostly illiterate and unemployed. Due to lack of sufficient land for farming and unskilled labor they can't earn above the subsistence level.
- In the study area total population is 6267 and out of them Dalits are 11.69%.
- Economically active population of age (14-59 years) are 49.28 percent.
- In this area education analysis illiterate are 61.67 percent and literate are 38.33 percent.
- 70 percent are engaged in agriculture and 30 percent household engaged in non-agriculture sector.

- 14 households have marginal land upto 0.5 ropani and only 3 households have 1- ropani land.
- In source of income 49.97 percent income generation activities as well as foreign employment.
- Farmers are seen cultivating their land in the traditional way.
- Most of households are half-fed while other have been borrowing even for consumption. Some of them don't have their own land, these who involves have unproductive and only small area of land. So they have land offer and borrow money from rich people called sahu in the villagers for their necessities. But the sahu charge take a very high interest rate (nearly 36%).
- Most of the Dalit children especially the daughter do not go to schools because their parents do not feel that education is necessary.
- The young male people households go to the ktm, other places, Delhi -Gorakhpur in India and foreign countries for employment.

So the women and children have to work very hard to fulfill their daily necessities. The people who go to earn money get only manual labour as they have no skill. As the result they can not save much money. Other side, their households bear the burden of loans. So their family cannot use this money for daily consumption purpose and their living standard never changes for the better.

6.3 Recommendation

Dalit is one of the target community of Nepal. It is better reality that day by day they are becoming poor and poor.

- Agriculture is the backbone of our country and Dalit are extremely dependent on this sector. Dalit are spread all over the country and land is the main source for their income low quality fertilizer, uneducated, inconvenient of irrigation and primitive method of farming. This government most provide sufficient loan distributes seeds vocational technical education of farming construction canal.
- Majority of Dalit people are still uneducated and illiterate so to uplift this community from the level of poverty. To inspire the Dalit people government should run schools and colleges at free of cost and government would have launch some striking education programs particularly for Dalit community.
- Dalit are also suffering from illness so they spent most of their income in treatment. Due to lack of education awareness and superstition mind they do not go to hospital rather they consult with dhami, Jhakri as the result patient die.
- The effective and result oriented program should be launched by government sector which should be well cooperated by Dalit the people social worker.

- The population growth rate is very high poverty increase with population growth. Family planning and population education should be extended on the wide scale in this area.
- To increase enrollment of school, age children in school and to control the dropout compulsory education program should be launched sector ship should be provided to those Dalit children who can't afford to continue their study because of poverty.

Thus, specific economic and social development program should be formulated targetly those lower caste group. Similarly necessary arrangement of land and source of income from livelihood should be made for the poor family.

The government should be fair transparent responsible and participatory process of decision making and implementation other wise the poverty reduction remains only a slogan in the study area.

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Survey Questionnaire (Nature and Causes of Rural Poverty)

Village :

Ward No. :

1. Personal Profile

Name of Respondent :

Ward No. :

Age :

Gender : Male/Female

Main Occupation :

Secondary Occupation :

Religion :

Education :

Marital Status :

2. Family Structure by age and sex

Sex/Age	Below 10 yrs	10-14 yrs	15-59 yrs	60 yrs and above
Male				
Female				
Total				

3. Household Schedule

S.No.	Name of the members	Relation to HHs Head	Sex	Age	Marital Status	Occupation
1						
2						
3						
4						
5						

4. Economically active member engaged in different sectors.

Agriculture

Non-Agriculture

5. Types of respondent houses

a) No. of rooms

b) Roofing types

c) Wall type

6. What kind of fuel is most often used by your household for cooking?

a) firewood

b) Kerosene

- c) Bio-gas d) Electricity e) Others

7. How much land does your family hold?

Types	Khet	Pakho	Bari
Amount (In ropani)			

8. What types of crops do you mainly produce from your land?

.....

9. How much do you earn from animal husbandry and poultry?

.....

S.No.	Animal and Poultry	Annual Income (Rs.)
1	Goat	
2	Buffalo	
3	Poultry	
4	Sheep	
5	Cow	
	Total	

10. What are the other sources of income in your family?

Sources of Income	Amount per Annum (in Rs.)
Agriculture	
Foreign employment	
Job	
Business	
Pottering	
Others	

11. General Expenditure of Respondents (Food and Non-Food Items)

S.No.	Items	Amount per annum (Rs.)
1	Cereals (Wheat, Paddy, maize, millet)	
2	Pulses	
3	Vegetables	
4	Meat	
5	Cloths	
6	Education	
7	Health care	
8	Smoking and liquor	
9	Miscellaneous	

	Total	
--	-------	--

12. Education Level

Literacy Status	No. of members
Illiterate	
Literate	

13. How many festivals do you celebrate annually?

14. Is there unemployed situation in your family? a) Yes b)
No

If yes, please specify

a) Underemployment no. ()

b) Unemployed no. ()

c) Disguised unemployment no. ()

15. How do you carry out agriculture?

a) Traditional way b) Modern way

c) Both ways d) Others

16. Does your agriculture product sufficient to your family for a year?

a) Yes b) No

If yes, then do you have saving?

a) Yes b) No

17. What kind of health services is available in VDC?

a) Dhami/Jhakri b) Health Post

c) Hospital d) Others

18. Do you satisfy with available health services?

a) Yes b) No

19. Have you got access to safe drinking water?

a) Yes b) No

20. What is the main sources of drinking water for your family?

a) Piped water b) Kuwa

c) River d) Other

21. What kinds of toilet facilities do you have?

a) Kachhi b) Pakki

c) Khalde d) Kholsa

22. Do your family total income to enough to fulfill your basic needs (food, cloth, shelter)
- a) If yes saving (Rs.)
- b) If no any deficit (Rs.)
23. Do you have access to rural credit?
- a) Yes b) No
- If yes what is the interest rate ?
24. For what main purposes do you utilize the credit?
- a) Fulfilling the basic needs
- b) For agriculture purpose
- c) For health care and treatment
- d) Others
25. Do you have any income source of foreign currency?
- a) Yes b) No
- If yes, from where?
26. Do you participate in making planning and implementing programmes in local level?
- a) Yes b) No c) Unknown
27. What kind of Dalit/women participation in policy making process in your community?
- Women (no.)
28. Has VDC done any programme to increase villagers income generating?
-
29. Do there any programme conducted by GOS/CBO's/NGO's/INGO's to reduce poverty?
30. What is your personal opinion to reduce poverty from your area?
31. What is the main reason of backwardness of Dalit community?
32. Do you get any change in local political scenario in recent years?
- a) Yes b) No

33. What is your suggestion to reduce poverty level for raising the standard of living of the people.
34. What about your traditional occupation?
i) Reformed b) Left c) As it is
35. What is your view to access empowerment in your community?
.....
36. Do you have access in the executive committee of the micro-finance?
.....

Thank You Very Much

Key Informant Questionnaire

1. Personal profile

Full Name : _____ Address _____

Age _____ years old Sex : (M/F) Education _____

Occupation _____ Religion _____

2. Do you think poverty is a prevailing factor in study area for development?

a) Yes b) No

If yes, what are the serious problems indicated in the study area due to poverty?

.....
.....

3. What are the main reason of backwardness of Dalit community?

.....
.....

4. What in your suggestion to create the employment opportunity?

.....
.....

5. Do you think what there will be Dalit peoples participation in policy making?

.....
.....

6. Why do you think dalit youths are going abroad? How this problem can be solved?

.....
.....

7. What are your suggestion for removing poverty level and raising to standard of living of the study area (Dalit people)?

.....
.....