

# CHAPTER-I

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background of the Study

A young human being between birth and puberty is called a child. And the children whose life style grows up in the street without parental love, and support are regarded as the street children. For a child nothing is warmer than a home with parental care and love. But every child is not privileged of this thing although it is his/her inherent right. Half of the world's populations live in the Asia-Pacific region; 30% of them live in poverty, and of them 40% are children and young people (ADB 2001). Child labor and street children are sometimes found taking synonymously. Going into the 21<sup>st</sup> century, child labour remains a serious problem in many parts of the world, despite the efforts to combat it made by the International Labour Organization (ILO) since its inception in 1919. Many child laborers live in underdeveloped countries in Latin America, Africa, and Asia. Typically they work in poor conditions, and have little or no chance of receiving a proper education. Often their eager income is necessary for the survival of their families (Encarta, 2007).

Child Labour, designation formerly applied to the practice of employing young children in factories, now used to denote the employment of minors generally, especially in work that may interfere with their education or endanger their health. Throughout the ages and in all cultures children joined with their parents to work in the fields, in the marketplace, and around the home as soon as they were old enough to perform simple tasks. The use of child labour was not regarded a social problem until the introduction of the factory system. (Encarta, 2007)

Street children are not usually counted, nor subject to census, so are they not known. Different organizations produce local estimates; even conservative figures indicate that there are millions of street children in the region. The

problems experienced by street children include homelessness, exploitation, the worst forms of labour, abuse, health difficulties, coercion and control by adult gangs, conflict with the law, lack of education, and lack of identification papers. Their experiences overlap with other categories of children, such as those who are trafficked and those involved in exploitative work, which increases the problems of counting their numbers.

Nepal, a land linked Himalayan Kingdom with a population of 23 million people, is considered one of the least developed countries in the world. It has been striving to accelerate the pace of its socio-economic development within the framework of a multiparty parliamentary system adopted since 1990. It ranks 136<sup>th</sup> in the Human Development Index (HDI), with a per capita income around US\$ 270, and thirty one percent of the population estimated to live below the poverty line (UNDP, 2005, NLSS 2003/4). Poverty, illiteracy, unemployment and underemployment, poor health, sluggish economic growth and agrarian economy characterize the Nepalese society. As a consequence of this situation, child labour is widespread, and a major socio-economic problem. Such practice has been recognized, as jeopardizing children's potential to become productive adults, by precluding them from health, education and other basic rights.

Child labour is not a new phenomenon in Nepal. It is a part and parcels of the feudal economy. For years, child labour has been perceived as a way of life in this country. In the rural economy, children have played a significant role in the family subsistence: fetching water, collecting firewood, grazing cattle, caring for children and supporting parents in the fields are the most common works that children in the rural areas perform. In addition, many children of poor families also extend support as a family breadwinner working as domestic servants in the homes of village merchants. The migration of children to urban areas has been tremendously increasing these days and this has led to the increase of child labour in the urban areas. Street children: mainly beggars, rag pickers, street vendors and workers in sweet shops, restaurants and bars are also very common in the cities. The rising number of slums and squatter areas has also contributed to the growth of the child labour population.

The issue of street children cannot be viewed in isolation, because this is a consequence of the country's exploitative socio-economic and political reality. Inequitable distribution of land, lack of people-centered and sustainable development programme, poor access of resources to the under-privileged sections and environmental degradation are also responsible for it in Nepal. Though many cultures regard children as the future architects and backbone of their country, the situation is different in Nepal, due mostly to these socio-economical conditions. Children are often neglected, abused and exploited, and exposed to the worst forms of labour such as trafficking for commercial sexual exploitation and physically exerting or dangerous work. (ILO, 2001)

Street children are not a traditional phenomenon in our society. But it has been increasing every year as a part of our urban reality. The number of street kids in Nepal is not so big at present but magnitude of this problem is intolerable. Poverty in our society has created many problems and it is complex with other issues. The state of street children is therefore an outcome of such complexities. Street children are not a homogeneous group. Despite their common conditions of living on the streets and making their own living, they differentiate themselves based on the kinds of jobs they do or the locality they have appropriated as their social and economic space. However, they do acknowledge similarities among themselves based on their experiences of poverty, displacement, violence, and daily struggle to make ends meet.

## **1.2 Statement of the Problem**

Street children are taken as problem and social burden in every society and this phenomenon is a serious matter of concern in developing countries like Nepal. Rapid unplanned urbanization and its consequences, rural to urban migration with the multidimensional expectation of livelihood, are adding the number of children in street. Due to the lack of wealth and opportunity, people came towards urban areas with their children. The inner reality of urban life for the poor people is very miserable. Imparting education to their children is beyond

their dream as they even suffer from hand to mouth problem. There are number of factors/reasons behind the children, which pull them towards the street or push them from their house/village. Whatever the reason behind their arrival to cities/streets, they are perceived as both children-at-risk and children-as-risk.

Pokhara is one among the highly urbanizing cities in our country and hence contains the street children on its highly populated streets. As we have already mentioned that children out of place are always perceived as problem these children are also problem for this beautiful city. It is said that these children in Pokhara are aggravating the problem of pity crime such as pick pocketing, rowdy activities, and are disturbing the foreign tourists by begging. Hence, they are assumed as problem and there are only few to take them as they are in problem.

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

The general objective of the study was to find out the life of street children after their arrival to the street of Pokhara Sub-metropolitan city. This research was aimed to fulfill the following specific objectives.

1. to recognize their shelter and food problem in day to day life,
2. to identify their previous and current living style, and
3. to assess the difficulties and the nature of ill-treatments they are facing on the street

### **1.4 Scope of the of the Study**

As we know that morning shows the day, the childhood shows the man's future image. There is huge investment in child development in developed countries while the situation in developing countries is quite different. Though in the contemporary global arena the conventions on the child rights are getting concerned, most of the developing countries could not look quite serious about this matter. Hence, we can see street children's problem as one of the most severe problem in these countries. Mass poverty, low level of school enrollment,

lack of awareness, lack of visionary leadership, lack of proper legal provision, etc. are working as catalyst to bring the children in the street.

Increasing urbanization in Nepal shows the increased number of children on the street. Instead of bringing them in the mainstream of development, urban middle class society ignores the street children, which not only keep the children at risk but also pose threat to the society. Hence, this problem deserves a better solution not only for the shake of the children but that of the nation too.

Pokhara is a newly urbanizing city of our country. It is renowned as a prominent tourist destination due to its natural setting. Like other urban centers, it also became the point of attraction for many people from surrounding rural areas. Many people migrate here in search of opportunities so many slum settlements are establishing. Mostly these settlements are the sources to create street children. Children of any country or specifically speaking of any family is the hope of a better future for the family as well as the country. If the children are there, on the street, they are themselves in vulnerable situation and they create difficult situation in society. In the case of Pokhara this problem is giving threatening to its tourism industry as the tourist are troubled by street children by begging, moreover they are involved in pity crimes such as thieving, pick pocketing, drug abuse, prostitution, etc. It may be their compulsion to beg but this is to be stopped. To stop these things the situation of street children should be understood and relying on these facts, they should be addressed.

The study will provide the analysis part on the problems faced by street children. It may guide future researchers working on similar areas. Finally, it may contribute to policy makers by furnishing the necessary information on the child right sector.

## **1.5 Organization of the Study**

Whole study has been divided in to six major units. First units deal about the introduction of the research comprising with introduction, statement of the

problem, objective and the scope of the study. Second unit deals with research methodology which depicts about the sources of data and information, methods of data collection and procession and data analysis. It also deals about the limitations of the study. Literature review and description of the study area are dealt in unit three and four respectively. Unit five consists of analysis and discussion. All the data (primary and secondary) collected in the field have been presented and analyzed and discussed in this chapter. Unit six deals with Summary, Conclusion and Recommendation.

# **CHAPTER-II**

## **RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

There are as many methods for conducting a research. However they differ as per time, place and the objectives of the studies. As per the convenience and precision following research methodology was adopted for this research work.

### **2.1 Research Design**

This research study was a small attempt to explore the situation of street children after their arrival on the street. This research was descriptive as well as explanatory in character. Since the street children keep on moving it would have been very difficult to prepare any sampling frame, out of which to select the desired sample applying principles of random method. Instead, the places where the children were generally found were selected. The field visit (field observation), questionnaire survey, scheduled interview methods, case studies, and focused group discussion were followed, which are found more valid and authentic.

### **2.2 Rational of the Selection of the Study Area**

This study was conducted in core areas streets of Pokhara Sub-metropolitan City where the street children mostly hang out to conduct their day-to-day life. This city has good recognition in the field of tourism and is full of natural beauty. Due to increasing population growth, followed by high in-migration from surrounding VDCs the number of street children is increasing. The following were the main causes to select Pokhara as study area:

- Increasing number of street children in Pokhara
- Pokhara is a city with high urbanization and in migration rate
- Also Pokhara is easily assessable with all the transportation communication facilities it was more convenient for the field visit

## **2.3 Nature and Sources of Data**

Both primary and secondary types of data were collected during the study. The source of primary data was the field survey whereas the sources of secondary data included both published and unpublished literature i.e. books, journals, articles, research reports and dissertation. Most of the secondary data used in this study is based on the publications of CWIN and ILO.

## **2.4 Universe and Sampling**

In case of street children they are mobile in nature so can not be visited in definite location hence snowball sampling was done in mostly populated streets of the city such as Mahendrapool, Chipledhunga, Prithvichowk, Lakeside, Gandaki hospital, Baglung bus park, etc. One of the publications of CWIN Pokhara has mentioned the number of street children in Pokhara was 260 up to 2005. In this study, a sample of 30 street children is selected which represents nearly 12 percent of the universe.

## **2.5 Data Collection Tools and Techniques**

To collect the required information the researcher had visited the selected streets to visit the children and fill up the questionnaire. For the further and supplementary information, personal interview, focused group discussion, case studies and observation method are carried out.

### **2.5.1 Questionnaire Survey**

A sample of 30 street children was selected for the study. Structured questionnaire, mostly with open-ended question were developed. The questionnaires were filled up directly through the interviews with the street children.



### **2.5.2 Informal Survey (Observation Method)**

The observation method was found very useful for data collection. Information for the places mostly visited by street children was gathered with the help of CWIN Pokhara staffs. The activities of the street children were observed there on the street by the researcher himself.

### **2.5.3 Focused Group Discussion**

Focused group discussions with group of children were carried out to check out the information given in individual interviews. This method detected the false information since it was difficult to lie in group.

### **2.5.4 Case Studies**

In this kind of descriptive research case study plays a very crucial role to expose the reality. Here in this study case study of two street children was done which became fruitful to explore the life of street child.

### **2.5.5 Analysis and Presentation**

The gathered data was categorized, tabulated and analyzed using different methods. Statistical tools such as frequency, average, percentage, pie chart, bar diagram etc were used for the analysis of data. Qualitative data were analyzed in descriptive way so that the real situations were mirrored.

## **2.6 Limitation of the Study**

This study was limited to some core streets of Pokhara city and was a small attempt to learn research so could not be generalized in other cities. This research was also constrained by the time and budget limitation so it may not give the expected results as in other studies. Though the term street children addresses children on the street as well children of the street, this study was focused mostly on the children encountered on the street so it could not generalize the entire street children which includes children working as vender, cobbler, or working in the restaurant, etc.

# CHAPTER-III

## LITERATURE REVIEW

### 3.1 Concept about Street Children

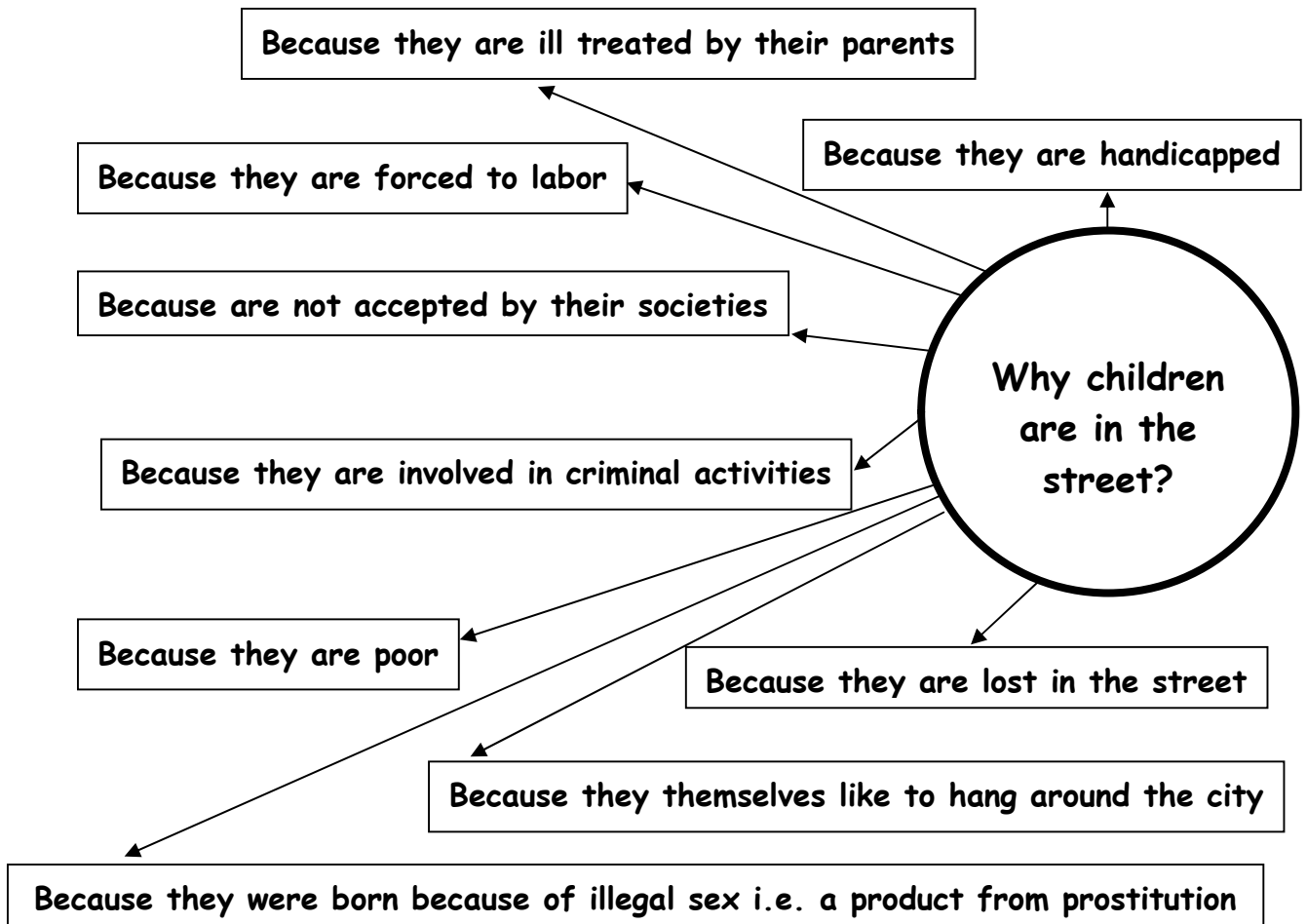


Fig 3.1: Why children are found in the street?

What can we guess about the condition of the street children's?

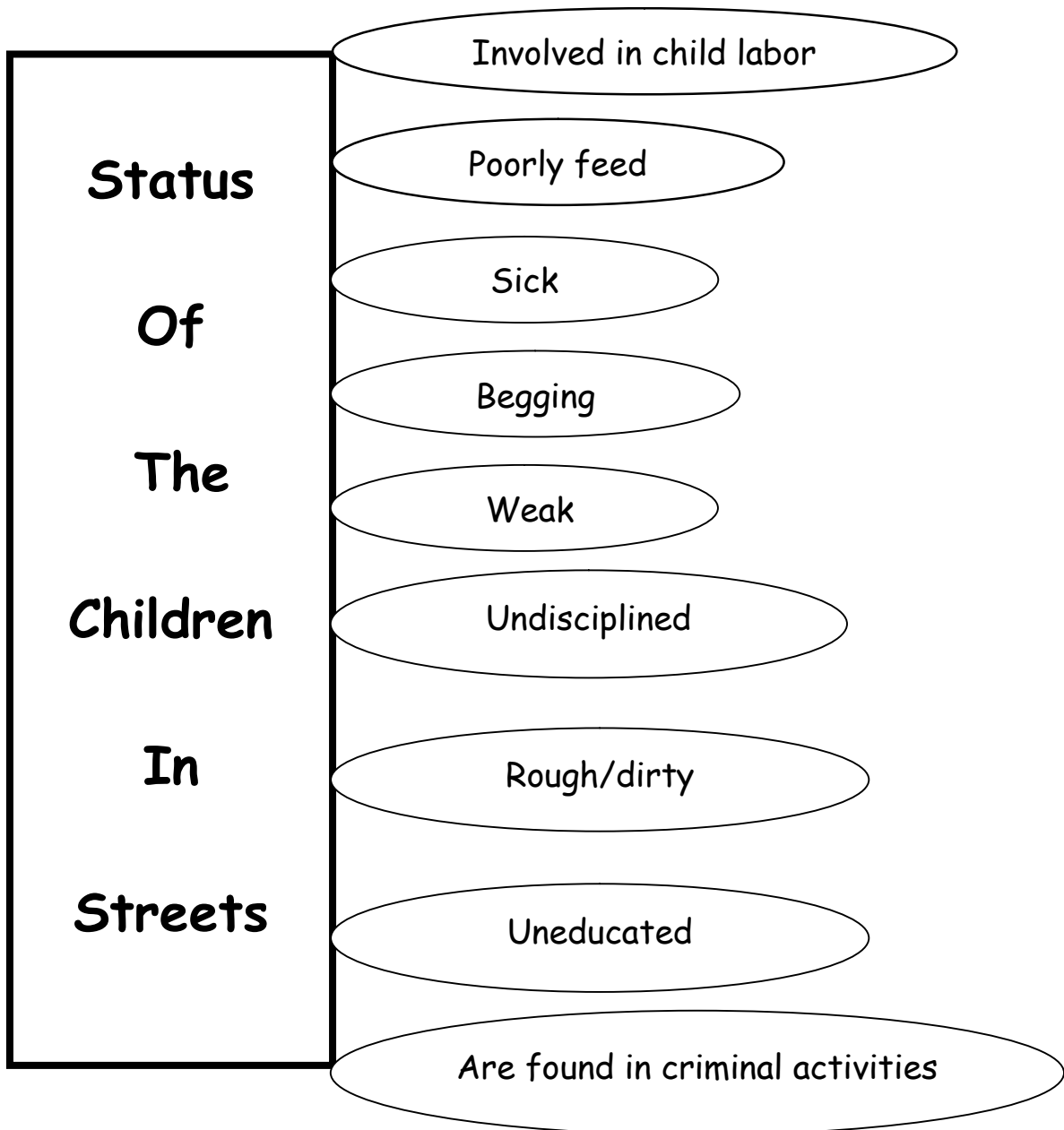


Fig. 3.2: Conceptual frame on the condition of the children in streets

## 3.2 Theoretical Framework

### Definition

The definition of a child varies in laws, traditions and customs across states and cultures with different standards or approaches in many countries. Legislation often complicates definitions, for example by different ages of criminal responsibility (often for different acts), by regulating the ages for different kinds of works, and by regulating the age for marriage.

The Convention on the Rights of the Child includes a standard international definition of a child. This denotes children as humans under the age of 18 years, to whom all human rights conventions apply, taking into account the special circumstances regarding the age, but emphasizing their humanity and rights, including respect for their person, privacy, and identity. The ILO Convention 182 on the Worst Forms of Child Labour follows the CRC: “A child includes anyone under the age of 18, with no exception.”

Anyone who is thinking of working with street children comes up sooner rather than later against the problem of definition. Two dominant versions attempt to distinguish between ‘real’ street children and children who are working on the street but return home to their families at night. The first is the definition drawn up by the *Inter-NGO Programme for Street Children and Street Youth* in the early 1980s:

Street children are those for whom the street (in the widest sense of the word; i.e. unoccupied dwellings, wasteland etc) more than their family has become their real home, a situation in which there is no protection, supervision or direction from responsible adults.

Somewhat later in the 1980s, UNICEF suggested a distinction between children on the streets and children of the streets, derived largely from experience in Latin America.

Children on the streets are those 'whose family support base become increasingly weakened [who] must share in the responsibility for family survival by working on city streets and marketplaces. For these children....the home ceases to be their centre for play, culture and daily life. Nevertheless while the street becomes their daytime activity, most of these children will return home most nights, while their family relationships may be deteriorating, they are still definitely in place, and these children continue to view life from the point of view of their families.'

Children of the streets are 'a much smaller number of children who daily struggle for survival without family support, alone. While often called "abandoned", they too might also have abandoned their families, tired of insecurity and rejection and aged up with violence....[their] ties with home have now been broken...de facto [they] are without families' (Tacon, 1985, pp 3 and 4).

### **The Earlier form of Street Children**

Earlier references to underprivileged children in Nepal use different terms such as *garib* (poor), *anath* (orphan), *asahaya* (guardian less and helpless), *magnate* or *magne* (beggars), and *bewarise* (abandoned or neglected) (Gorkhapatra 1994 V.S.; International Child Year Committee Nepal, 1979). Although these terms have overlapping meanings and the categories are not exclusive, each also refers to a particular set of characteristics. Among these categories, the orphans have received the most attention of the society, and orphanages were established in Kathmandu Valley by governmental (e.g. Bal Sangathan in 1966), non governmental (e.g. Paropakar in 1952), and international organizations (e.g. S.O.S. Children's Village in 1971). The urban society was, however, far from sympathetic towards those who begged for a living including children. Beggary was considered counterproductive, demeaning, and undesired in the moral order of things, and efforts were made by the state to curtail beggary. (Onta, 1996)

Until the late 1980s, the term “street children” or its Nepali equivalent ‘*sadak balbalika*’ had not become part of the vocabulary of the child welfare sector in Nepal. Today, “street children” has become an established category representing a marginal group in the urban society. The development organizations, the media, the state, and the children who live on the street have contributed to the construction of this category in Nepal. However, the definition of street children still remains ambiguous and contested. The NGOs and the international development organizations working with street children are gradually adapting internationally accepted definitions of street children, which categorize them into different groups depending on their relationship with their families and the street. The Nepali term *khaate* has however, developed into a popular identity of all street children through its purposive use by the NGOs in their publications and activities, and through the representation of the street children in the media. The identity represented by the term *khaate* is, however, resented and rejected by certain street children.

The term *khaate* continued to be used in the publications produced by CWIN to refer only to those street children who rag picked. CWIN published a study based on a survey consisting of 100 children in Kathmandu in 1990 (CWIN 1990). The study employed the following definition of street children: “Street children are those who use the street as their permanent homes, spending majority of their time out there doing whatever is necessary for their survival. Sometimes it also includes the support to the family” (ibid: 1). the survey report maintained that a child who uses the street as a regular and permanent habitat may have the following characteristics depending on the degree of contact with their families (ibid: 3)

- a. Survives in the street
- b. Has little or no family contact
- c. Has no adult care
- d. Involves in various antisocial activities including thieving, pick pocketing
- e. Basic needs unsatisfied
- f. Beggars or is subject to exploitation as a laborer
- g. Lives either alone or with those in similar positions

- h. Works as a khaate (slang for garbage, rag or plastic picker)
- i. Street smart in solving hassles with the police and out-witting other people

### Perception about Children

The global discourse on childhood today defines childhood as the first seventeen years of life in which children spent their time learning and playing in school, and living with their families at home as dependent, fragile, vulnerable beings that need to be protected, supervised, and controlled by adults (*Bayden, 1997*). In this conceptualization, children are perceived as innocent, pure and malleable beings who transcend the politics of class, caste, ethnicity, and region, but who symbolize the future of each nation. The emphasis on purity and innocence places them closer to nature thereby making cultural differences among children irrelevant at the discursive level. It is, however in each nation's interest to protect children's innocence and purity, and ensure that they are molded into "good and productive citizens" as children biologically and symbolically embody the nation's future.

With regard to guarding children's innocence and purity, the primary emphasis is on keeping them in their "place" i.e. the designated public space of schools, the domestic space of homes, and perhaps the familiar settings of one's neighborhoods. Children's wanderings are therefore circumscribed by such spatial boundaries that are justified by the ideologies of care, protection, and welfare. Each of the designated space for children, however, comes with its own particularities, organization of time, and specific rules demarcating these places not just spatially but also normatively. Various mechanisms- including disciplinary techniques, labeling, and violence are employed to maintain these boundaries that not only delimit children's physical movement, behaviors and practices, but also reproduce and maintain power relations between adults and children. Hence, at the core of the process of boundary making and boundary breaking are issues of power and resistance.

When children cross these boundaries, they are perceived to be not only “out-of-place” but also potentially dangerous to others in the society. (cf, Douglas 1988). The street children, therefore, represent such an “out-of-place” category in the eyes of the urban privileged classes that uphold the dichotomous separation of public and domestic space the most. Operating within the framework of designated spaces for children, the state and the NGOs as collective agents perceive the street children as “children out-of-place” because they live on the street doing street based jobs instead of living with their families at home and going to school. Street children are assessed in juxtaposition to these normative notions of children, thereby leading to their criminalization and condemnation. In addition, because many of the street children smoke, have access to money, and are free and independent, they are perceived as both children-at-risk and children-as-risk. In other words, street children are a subculture that challenges the normative conceptions of children and childhood, and thereby pose a threat to the social and moral order constructed, upheld and propagated by the state and the urban dominant classes.

### **3.3 Empirical Studies**

#### **History of Child labor**

Meanwhile the industrial system developed in other countries, bringing with it abuses of child labour similar to those in Great Britain. In the early years of the 19th century children between the ages of 7 and 12 years made up one third of the work force in US factories. The shortage of adult male laborers, who were needed for agriculture, contributed to the exploitation of child laborers. In addition, the majority of adults cooperated with employers, helping them to recruit young factory hands from indigent families.

Legislation followed to check illiteracy among child laborers, establish minimum working ages and maximum working hours, and restricting child labour in dangerous industries. The first International Labour Conference in Berlin in 1890 was the first concerted international attempt to formulate standards for



employment of children. The International Association for Labour, founded in Basel in 1900 with branches in over 16 countries, was organized to press for statutes on child labour to be incorporated into international labour legislation. Abuses were gradually addressed, so that now all developed countries operate extensive restrictions on the employment of children.

Modern legislation against child labour in the developed world is usually tied to educational legislation on school attendance. Though most industries and businesses are prohibited from employing underage staff on a full-time basis, many children are able to work as newspaper deliverers and sales personnel, as part-time workers at home, or even as actors and performers in radio, television, and films. (Encarta, 2007)

### **Child labor is an international problem**

In the latter part of the 20th century, child labour remains a serious problem in many parts of the world. Many of these children live in underdeveloped countries in Latin America, Africa, and Asia. Their living conditions are crude and their chances for education minimal. The meager income they bring in is, however, necessary for the survival of their families. In other cases, children are bonded, working to pay off an initial cash advance from the employer with escalating interest that leaves them effectively slaves.

In some countries industrialization has created working conditions for children that rival the worst features of the 19th-century factories and mines. In some countries legal provisions are evaded through clauses which permit work within the family. Precise statistics are difficult to arrive at because child labour is formally illegal almost everywhere, and consequently authorities have the greatest difficulty quantifying the problem, let alone controlling it. Anti-Slavery International gives the following estimates by country for children below the age of 15 enduring exploitative child labour, although these countries do not necessarily have the worst records and others with poor records may have been excluded: Bangladesh: 5-6 million; Brazil: up to 5 million; Egypt: 1.4 million;

Guatemala: 1 million; India: up to 40 million; Indonesia: over 2 million; Mexico: up to 8 million; Nepal: up to 2 million; Nigeria: 12 million; Pakistan: over 2 million; the Philippines: 5 million; Thailand: 4 million. Widely accepted estimates put child labour at 2 to 10 per cent of the labour force in some areas of Latin America and Asia, and more than 10 per cent in some Middle Eastern countries. The continuing problem of child labour is evidenced by the fact that in October 1998 Pakistan's carpet manufacturers were given up to 10 years to remove child laborers from their workforce, part of an agreement reached with the International Labour Organization (ILO). The agreement followed similar arrangements to phase out child labour in Pakistan's soccer ball industry and in Bangladesh's clothing industry. (Encarta, 2007)

Child-labour problems are not, of course, limited to developing nations. They occur wherever poverty exists in Europe and the United States. In Great Britain, the Low Pay Unit recently estimated that up to 2 million children were engaged in part-time work: the worst record in the European Union. A growing concern in recent years has been the increase in prostitution among youngsters in urban centers.

The most important efforts to eliminate child-labour abuses throughout the world come from the ILO, founded in 1919 and now a special agency of the United Nations. The organization has introduced several child-labour conventions among its members, including a minimum age of 16 years for admission to all work (whether within the family or not), a higher minimum age for specific types of employment, compulsory medical examinations, and regulation of night work. The ILO, however, does not have the power to enforce these conventions; it depends on voluntary compliance of member nations. The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, adopted in 1989, includes restrictions on child labour and is formally binding on all countries that have ratified it, but it also has no enforcement mechanisms attached. A new treaty, known as the Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, taking effect in late 2000 and intended to outlaw the most serious abuses of children, such as slavery, debt bondage, and child prostitution, was passed unanimously by members of the ILO in June

1999. Again, the treaty is dependent on ratifying nations enforcing it within their borders, and contains no sanctions against violating parties. UN estimates stated that by the year 2000 there were 375 million child laborers worldwide. (Encarta, 2007)

### **The Convention on the Rights of the Child**

The Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) by the United Nations General Assembly on 20 November 1989. Nepal ratified the Convention on 14 September 1990. The convention is a landmark treaty which sets minimum standard for the rights of the children to survival, to proper care and nurturing, to protection from disease, neglect, exploitation and abuse, to development of their full potential and to the benefits of a healthy, stimulating family environment.....

In countries where the convention has been ratified, the endorsement has brought the public, the government, and the media together to form a common platform for the welfare of children. While it may take decades before developing countries ensure all the rights enshrined in the convention, a beginning has been made.

The convention places responsibility on governments to provide free and compulsory primary education to all, to encourage regular attendance in school, and to lower dropout and repetition rates, which are greatest for girl children.

#### International Efforts on the Rights of the Child (instruments supporting CRC)

- The Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), adopted by United Nations General Assembly on 20 November 1989.
- The world summit for children, convened at the United Nations in September 1990, and attended by 71 national leaders, set goals to be reached by the close of the century to ensure the wellbeing of children.
- The World Conference on Education for All was held in Jomtien, Thailand, in March 1990 and was attended by some 2,000-education professionals from 150 countries.

- The United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, or Earth Summit, was held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in June 1992.
- The International Conference in Population and Development held in Cairo in September 1994.
- The world Summit for Social Development held in Copenhagen in March 1995.
- The International Convention of Worst Form of Child Labour, 1999, Convention 182 (Geneva)

*Nepal's initiatives in light of CRC*

Following the ratification of the CRC by the government of Nepal in 1990, the Children's Act was approved by parliament in 1992. The act guarantees the equal rights of children, regardless of gender, caste, religion, language or social status, to health, education, water, sanitation and protection.

The National Programme of Action for Children and Development for the 1990s, based on the Summit Declaration and Plan of Action, describes initiatives to be undertaken related to child health, nutrition and education, as well a children in especially difficult circumstances, poverty alleviation, food security and communication.

Other instruments enacted to safeguard the rights of the child and ensure their protection and development includes Labour Act (1992), the Brest Milk Substitutes Act (1992) and the Social Welfare Act (1992).

1994, Government of Nepal constituted the National Council for Woman and Child Development, under the chairmanship of the Prime Minister. The purpose of the council is to formulate national policies for the development of children and women, and to monitor progress towards World Summit for Children Goals.

The most significant initiative taken by the government of Nepal is the establishment of the Ministry of Women and Social Welfare in September 1995.

This ministry is charged with the responsibility for activities related to child rights and welfare.

### **About the Children Themselves**

More is known about the actual life of children on and of the streets and much of this defies the negative images. It is said that they are starving. The nutritional status of street children is not well documented but there is some evidence that, in certain circumstances, they may be better nourished than some of their contemporaries. Research in Nepal measured the nutritional status of rural children and compared this with three groups in Kathmandu: street children, schoolchildren and slum children. It was found that the rural children suffered from the greatest degree of malnutrition, followed by those from slums, streets and schools in that order. Researchers in South America have also noted that street children have better physical health overall, and are better nourished than their siblings at home.

One reason for this is that street children often have access to leftover food from restaurants, another that they earn and spend their own money. Children working on the street and returning home have to share their money with the whole family. In Jamaica, it has been noted that some working children are in the habit of buying and eating fast food before they get home.

It is also said that they are thieves and that they have no choice but to be prostitutes. While some children may steal and prostitute themselves from time to time, this is not by any means their only means of survival. They have other opportunities for making money, such as car washing and minding, newspaper selling, street vending, rag picking and scavenging, shoe shining, running errands and carrying bags, begging. Some children specialize; others jump from one opportunity to another, often in the same day. Although some do eventually specialize in stealing and prostitution, others want nothing to do with these activities, and still more only do them when they are forced to, either from necessity or because of coercion.

In addition, it is said that they are uncontrollably violent, have lost the ability to feel emotions such as love, have no morals and do not know how to play., children living most of their lives on the streets do encounter violence on a daily basis, often at the hands of the police who are, after all, paid by society to keep the streets clean and safe. They also tend to experience violence from some older children and from psychologically disturbed street adults. Those who have experience of jails and detention centers almost always have scars to prove it. This all adds up to learning experiences that inevitably lead to fights between children. But this need not be irreversible.

### **Child Welfare**

Child Welfare, term used to refer to a broad range of social programmes that contribute to the well-being of children, usually adapted to the needs of children whose families do not have the means or the inclination to take proper care of them.

Few efforts were made by any government to protect the health and welfare of children before the advent of the 20th century. In 1959 the United Nations adopted the Declaration of the Rights of the Child, which affirmed the rights of children everywhere to receive adequate care from parents and the community. The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, adopted in 1989, attempted to consolidate international law on the basic rights of children to survival, education, and protection from abuse and exploitation.

Universal programmes of child allowances (financial grants) for every family are common, as are subsidized medical care, numerous day-care centers, and communal foster care, although the extent of these programmes and their availability vary from country to country. Both the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the World Health Organization (WHO) are working with the governments of developing nations to reduce their high mortality rates (by comparison with those of the West). The UN organizations provide medical supplies and technical aid. Some progress has been made, but malnutrition and

disease still cause the death of many thousands of young children every year and affect many more. A UN report on North Korea published in November 1998, for instance, indicated that nearly two-thirds of North Korea's young children were seriously malnourished, a result of chronic food shortages and a virtual collapse of the public health system. (Encarta, 2007)

### **Situation of Street Children in Nepal**

A recent study indicates that there are approximately 30,000 street children nationwide, of whom 28,000 are children “on the street”, that is children with residences who spend the majority of their time playing and working on the street, and 3,700 children “of the street”, that is children who both reside and work on the street. While the increase in the population of street children is very noticeable, the study states, the conditions associated with this occurrence have not previously been well understood, due to lack of information.

The study, undertaken by *Children and Women of Nepal, a Situation Analysis, 1996* in 13 cities of Nepal, revealed the following:-

- The majority of the children are boys.
- Most of the children are between the ages of 9 and 16.
- The majority have both parents alive, although not necessarily living as a family unit.
- The majority collect and sell recyclable goods for a living.
- A significant number come from families with stepparents, single parents or no parents.
- Lack of love, care and parental guidance, and violence in the family are among the main reasons why children leave their homes.
- Other situations that push children out of their homes include significant changes in family structure due to death, remarriage or polygamy.
- No access to education and a high drop-out rate in school are correlated with children living on the street.

- Many are rural children who have come to the cities to work because of peer influence, parents' expectations and personal desire, and who have left their jobs after being exploited.
- The move to the street for many children, especially those of urban squatter areas, is a slow process of separation from the home and socialization into street culture.
- The children, especially those of the street, build social networks with adults and peers for support.
- The services available for street children through NGOs are extensively utilized by the children.

No information is available regarding the magnitude and nature of the problem concerning abandoned, destitute and orphaned children in Nepal. In the absence of proper research on these children, it is hard to assess the extent and the nature of the problem.

The rapid population growth, worsening of economic condition of poor families, shortage of agricultural land and lack of opportunities for gainful employment in the villages are some of the factors, which have contributed to children leaving home for basic livelihood. In other cases, children have left home early because of the death of the parents or the earning member of the family, or maltreatment from stepparents or family conflicts. Once they are dislocated from home they find themselves without shelter and the means of livelihood. If they are lucky, they may find jobs, otherwise, they become abandoned or street children. Some of them operate as beggars.

According to ILO's rapid assessment on child ragpickers of six major cities of done in 2001, findings are based on the interviews of 300 children ages 5-17 years in six major municipalities,

- Child rag pickers come mostly from hill/mountain rural areas. Out of the 300 respondents, only 36 were girls. The average age of participants in the survey



was 12 years for boys and 10 years for girls, and most came from the Dalit ethnic group, (21 percent) followed by Brahmins and Chhetris (18 percent).

- The number of child rag pickers was estimated to be 2,969 for the sample sites and 3,965 overall for urban centers in Nepal, with the highest concentration in the Kathmandu Valley and Dharan.
- Almost half of the child rag pickers are literate (49 percent), though only 23 percent of girls were found to be literate.
- The average family size of child rag pickers is 5.4 members.
- The child rag pickers collect mainly plastics (both polythene and *gudiya* or plastics pots), bottles (full and quarter size), cardboard papers, tins, aluminum, iron, brass, and copper. The price rag pickers get for the materials varies according to their quality and nature. The usual collecting places are street corners, dumpsites, and riverbanks.
- Most children work all seasons (92%), though winters are clearly more favorable. Mornings and evenings are peak hours for rag picking.
- Many children enjoy rag picking, though some indicate they feel it is dirty work. This attitude could be in part influenced by raised awareness through regular contact with NGOs.
- The average day for all rag pickers ranges from five to six hours in length. Their earnings are positively associated with age and number of working hours.
- Child rag pickers 'of the street' earn more than their 'on the street' counterparts, especially as they become older.
- Staying hungry is common among child rag pickers (27%), who live day-to-day from their earnings.
- About 62 percent have experienced sickness related to their work, and most know they can get treatment and medicine from local NGOs.
- Rag pickers enjoy the freedom associated with their lives on the street. Smoking and use of alcohol is common among them, especially in the older age group (15-17 years) where 85.4% report smoking and almost 42% report drinking alcohol.

- The prevalence of drugs is 6.7 percent overall, but almost 17 percent of older children admit to using drugs. This trend is particularly common in the areas of Butwal and Dharan.
- Rag pickers have fear of the police, dogs, and street bandits, and they are highly vulnerable to being exposed to or involved in criminal activities. Many of the children interviewed have used in drug peddling and commercial sex as middlemen, or abused sexually.
- The nature of the rag pickers' work conflicts with the possibilities to pursue an education. However, most of the children demonstrate a positive attitude towards education, though school attendance is only 6.3 percent. A considerable majority (66 %) reported they would go to school if all expenses were covered, although older children showed no interest in going to school. This may be due to self-consciousness about attending school with younger children or other conflicting interests.
- Many NGOs have been working to provide informal education to street children, and their contribution is invaluable.

### **Street Children in Pokhara**

Pokhara lies 200 Km west from the capital city Kathmandu. Due to its geography it is very rich in natural resources which are contributing to make it major destination of domestic as well as international tourists. It is a small valley with an area 55.22 square kilometers and consisting of 1, 56,312 population (*Census 2001, CBS*). It is recognized as Sub-metropolitan city due to its population density and the revenue it makes.

It became not only the destination of tourists but also migrants from surrounding rural areas are eyeing on it as a better destination. Many people such as paid worker, porter, vendors, etc. including small children came to this city to earn their bread. In this course many children made this city not only the place of earning bread but its street belts also become their part of life since they are taking shelter over there.

According to the study made by CWIN Socialization Center, Pokhara, on 2006 the number of street children in Pokhara is 260 up to 2005. This is the number of street children registered in CWIN Socialization Center, Pokhara. Among them 215 are male and only 45 are female. Most of their working background is rag picking and nearly 45 percentage are engaged in this work. This study also revealed that 57 percent of the children have both of the parents while 22 percent have single parent. Same study shows that 26 percent of the children have smoking habit and 11 percent have smoking with glue sniffing.

# CHAPTER-IV

## DESCRIPTION OF STUDY AREA

Looking at the map of Nepal we can see Pokhara almost exactly in the centre of Nepal. Pokhara valley lies in the Kaski district whose location is  $28^{\circ}36'$ - $29^{\circ}6'$  Northern Latitudes to  $83^{\circ}49'$ - $84^{\circ}12'$  Eastern Longitude. It is 827m high from sea level. Manang in the North, Shyanga in the South, Lamjung in the East and Myagdi in the west are boundaries of Kaski district and Pokhara is a beautiful city within this district. Pokhara lies 200 Km west from the capital city Kathmandu of a small South Asian country Nepal. Due to its geography it is very rich in natural resources which are contributing to make it major destination of domestic as well as international tourists. It is a small valley with an area  $55.22 \text{ Km}^2$  and consisting of 1,56,312 population (CBS,2001). It is recognized as Sub-metropolitan city due to its population density and the revenue it made.

### 4.1 Physical Setting

Physically looking Nepal is a beautiful country. Pokhara, an enchanting city nestled in the tranquil valley is the hearth of whole beautiful Nepal. When we are lured by its natural beauty then we will be compelled to believe that it is nature's play ground.

Pokhara is an inter-mount plain in the middle stretch of the Seti River in Central Nepal. It falls within the hill country ("Pahar") bounded by great Himalaya in the north and the Mahabharat Lekh in the south. The significant ecological levels encountered here are low valleys ("Bensi"), Sub-montane hills ("Kachhah") and Mantane highlands ("Lekh"). (Gurung, 1969-70)

Pokhara valley lies in the hinterland of Mahabharat Lekh. This is a tectonic valley formed in the Quaternary period of geological time. There was a tectonic movement from North and in that time tributaries of Seti were blocked which resulted in the formation of extinct and existing valley of lake. Gorge, a river

made land feature I the main in Pokhara. Seti has made many gorges in different places like in KI Singh Pool, Ram Bazaar etc. During its course Seti has made terraces which can be seen. Besides we can also see many Karst topographic features like caves, poljee, uvala etc. superficial gravel deposit is the structural feature of Pokhara. Since water percolates easily through such topography it doesn't remain muddy like in Kathmandu after a heavy rain. This valley is sloppy from North to South. Nevertheless we can find hills like Sarangkot, Kaudanda, and Gharmidanda, which seems like a hump of a bull.

In Pokhara, summer is hot and winter is warm. Summer condition is humid. Mean temperature of the plain is always above 56<sup>0</sup>F and summer mean exceeds 72<sup>0</sup>F with a range of 20<sup>0</sup>F.

## **4.2 Change and Development**

In the due course of time Pokhara certainly has changed a lot. It has developed a lot in its all aspect i.e. social, cultural, educational, economic and health. It became not only the destination of tourists but also migrants from surrounding rural areas are eyeing on it as a better destination. Many people such as paid worker, porter, vendors, etc. including small children came to this city to earn their bread. In this course many children made this city not only the place of earning bread but its street belts also become their part of life since they are taking shelter over there.

According to the study made by CWIN Socialization Center, Pokhara, on 2006 the number of street children in Pokhara is 260 up to 2005. This is the number of street children registered in CWIN Socialization Center, Pokhara. Among them 215 are male and only 45 are female. Most of their working background is rag picking and nearly 45 percentage are engaged in this work.

## **4.3 Economic and Social Setting**

Pokhara is one of the industrial towns in Nepal. However tourism is also equally fostering in Pokhara. Small and cottage industries are found here. Wool weaving

and clothes manufacturing industries like Dhoti, Chhyadar, Ghalek, bag along with basket making and extraction of forest product are found in Pokhara. In terms of large scale industries such industries are found in the Industrial State of Pokhara. Noodles, biscuits confectioneries, milk processing etc are factories are found in Pokhara. Brick making is confined to the plain. Newly introduced industries include furniture making, rice mills and match factories. Tourism industry is the latest modern industry. This is one of the major industries of Pokhara. One fourth of the total tourist that comes to Nepal visit Pokhara.

We can find both rural and urban settlement in Pokhara Valley. More percentage of settlements is sited on the hills. Nucleation increases with altitude and distance between settlements also increases in the highlands. Bazaars with retail shops are all confined to the plain along the main roads. Their size decreases with the increase of distance from metropolitan Pokhara. It has grown in importance as a service as well as an administrative center. In the lake area circular or semi circular settlement is seen. From Prithvi Chowk to Bagar checker settlement can highly be observed. Linear settlements are obvious in the developing part of the city.

#### **4.4 Infrastructure Facilities**

Since Pokhara is a tourist center, tourist facilities like hotels, restaurant, recreational sites along with transportation and communication is well developed. Pokhara is linked with Prithvi Highway. Similarly Baglung Highway which is 73 Km is linking Pokhara in the west. Para Gliding is one of the important mean for tourist to look over Pokhara. Besides daily flight to different part of Nepal are in available in Pokhara. At present postal services, STD, ISD, email and Internet are easily available in Pokhara. Regional broadcasting centers of radio Nepal, NTV and F.M are found in Pokhara.

Gandaki Hospital is the regional hospital which serves its people. Manipal Teaching hospital is also serving people with latest scientific technology. Gandaki Boarding School is the regional school which provides quality education. Besides Pokhara is well equipped with many physical infrastructures.

# **CHAPTER-V**

## **ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION**

The research carried out in Pokhara with major purpose of finding out the status of the street children is able to assemble some primary and secondary data. They were obtained through different tools and techniques. Those data are presented and are analyzed here, in an elaborative form.

### **5.1 Shelter and Food Problem of the Street Children**

There were 30 children with whom the study was made. All of them were met on the street. All of the respondents are male respondents of age group 8-16 years, since no female respondent are met in the street. Among these respondents, most of them are rag pickers and rests are beggars.

It was found that no female street children were there in Pokhara. This may be due to the sample size, but the number of female street children is almost negligible in nationwide survey also since they were often married at very low ages, and that mobility of women and girls in society at large scale is heavily restricted by social and cultural norms.

#### **5.1.1 Problem of Shelter among the Street Children**

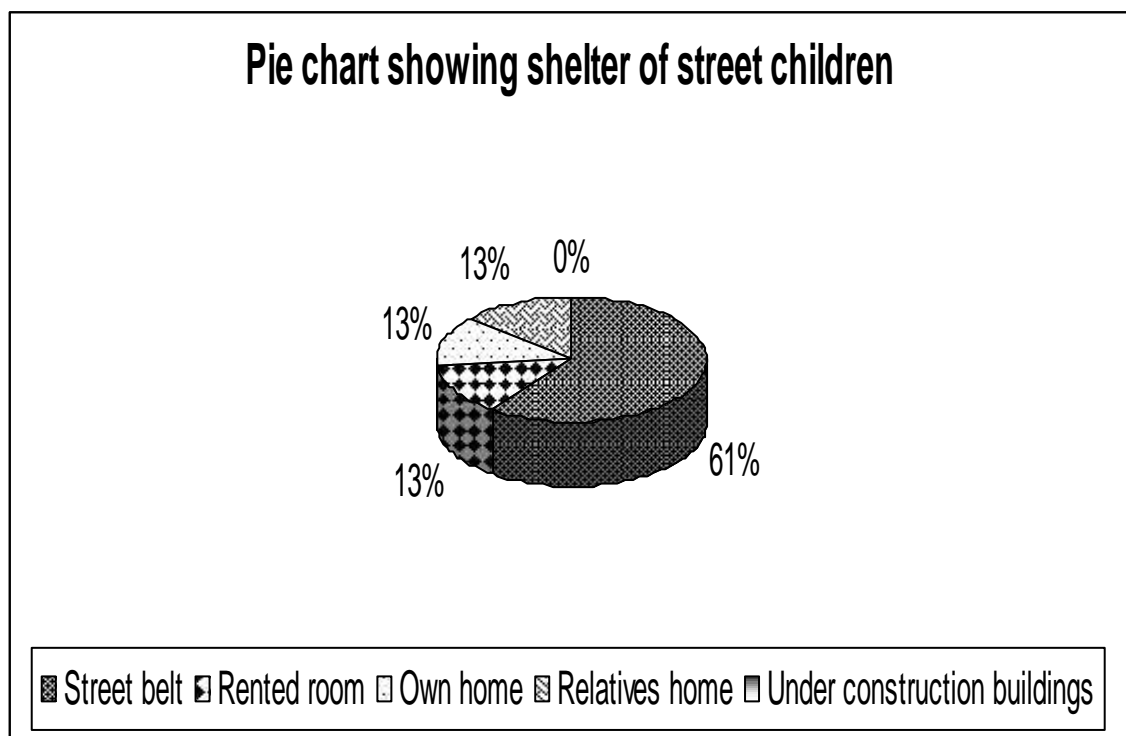
In general street children are divided into two sub groups called 'children of the street' who pass out their nights also on the street and 'children on the street' who work on the street and return back to their shelter other than the street may be their own home or relatives home or rented room.

**Table No. 5.1.1 Problem of shelter among the street children**

Place of shelter	Frequency	Percentage
Street belt	18	61
Rented room	4	13.33
Own home	4	13.33
Relatives home	4	13.33
Under construction buildings	0	0
Total	30	100

Source: Field survey, 2008

The problem of shelter is main problem for street children. They have to sleep at the street belt where they are much more vulnerable to weather as well as other problems such as that of losing of their belongings, scolding by the shopkeeper etc.



**Figure No 5.1.1:** Pie chart showing problem of Shelter among the Street Children



Table 5.1.1 shows that 61 percent of the street children take shelter on the street belt. 13.33 per cent of the children reside on rented room. Same 13.33 per cent of the children reside on their own home and 13.33 percent reside on their relatives homes. High percentage are found sheltering on the street belt.

### 5.1.2 Problems Faced on the Place of Night Stay (shelter)

Table no. 5.1.2: Problems Faced on the Place of Night Stay (shelter)

Problems	No. of respondents	Percentage
Rain	18	60
Cold	18	60
Street bullies	12	40
Thieving	14	46.7
Police	12	40
Other	8	26.7

Source: Field survey, 2008

Since most of the children remain in street belts, it is very common that they are much more vulnerable to seasonal changes as well as from other things such as security of their life and goods. Here since the children can mention more than one problem total number has exceeded 30 and same about the percentage.

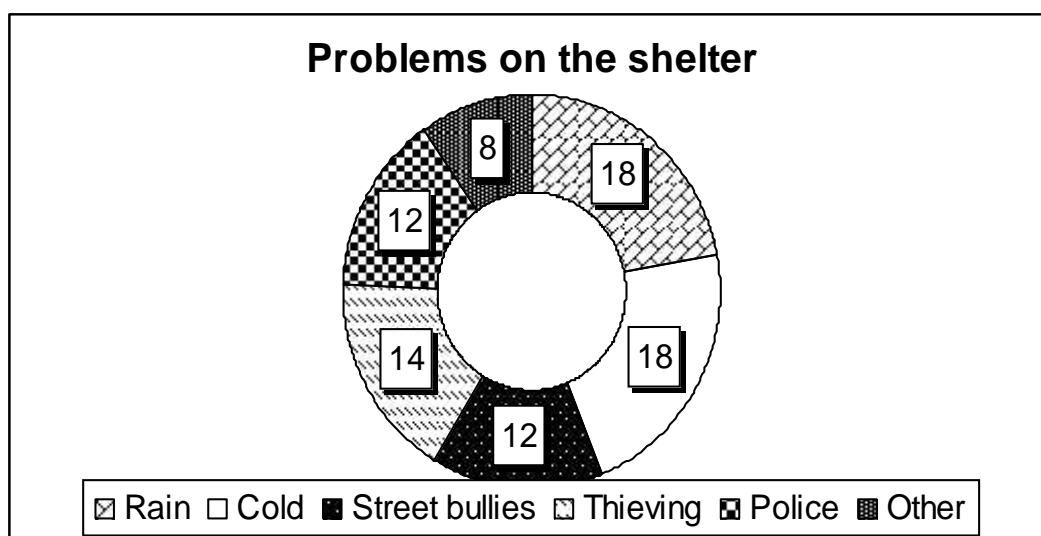


Figure No 5.1.2: Pie chart showing problems faced on the place of night stay

Above table shows that most of the respondents are facing rain and cold as their main problem in their shelter. Similarly, 46 percent of them responded thieving of their goods as a problem. Problems related to police and street bullies are 40 percent and other problem are 26.7 percent.

### 5.1.3 Help for Night Stay

**Table No. 5.1.3: Help for Night Stay**

Help from	No. of respondents	Percent
Night shelter*	4	13.3
Relatives	4	13.3
Local people	--	0
Other	--	0
Total	8	26.6

Source: Field survey, 2008

It is found that only 26 percent of the respondents only have either help from their relatives or contact center. (*\*Night shelter is provided for younger street children under Jyoti Street Project of CWSN a non-profitable and non-aligned NGO.*). 13.33 per cent get help from night shelter and similarl 13.3 per cent get help from their relatives.

Here these 26.6 percent of children having safe shelter are either from their own home or from relatives, this shows that most of the children are compelled to pass their nights on the street belts and they have no other option than to face the risk of street.

#### 5.1.4 Street Children's Perception about their Shelter

Table No. 5.1.4: Street children's perception about their shelter

Perception	No. of respondents	Percentage
Not secure	12	40
Funny	6	20
O.K.	8	26.6
Don't know	4	13.3
Total	30	100

Source: Field survey, 2008

When the street children were asked their feeling about their shelter 40 percent said it is not secure, 26 percent said its o.k. and 20 percent replied it is funny. At the same time, 13 percent do not have any comment i.e. they their answer was "don't know". The data reveals that 40 per cent of the children are aware with their unsecured shelter.

It is not surprising that the street children's shelter is not secure. Here those who returned to safe shelter have said o.k. and those who are accustomed to street belts have taken the street as a funny place. Children of younger age could not express their feeling so their reply became "don't know".

#### 5.1.5 Food and Dieting Problems among Street Children

Table No. 5.1.5: Food and dieting problems among the street children

Times meal taken in a day	No. of respondents	Percentage
One	18	60
Two	12	40
Three	0	0
More than three	0	100

Source: Field survey, 2008

Data reveals that 60 percent of the respondents take food only once a day while 40 percent of them take it twice a day. Here the number of respondents taking their meal thrice or more in a day is zero. This shows the vulnerability of the street children. They can be imagined to be poorly feed.

Taking meal is the necessary phenomenon for all living beings, in the case of street children, they can have meal only when they can earn for it. Since they could not same money to buy their food, its timing depends upon when they earn. Therefore, there is fluctuation on the time to take meal. When they have good earning they can have their meal twice or thrice a day but they are not so fortunate to do so, most of them have to satisfy themselves by the meal of one time in a day. When any researcher stands in front of them they may want to show their pitiful condition, it may be the cause that most of them said they took meal only once a day.

#### 5.1.5.1 Source of Earning/Way of Collecting Food

**Table No. 5.1.6: Source of earning food**

Source of earning	Frequency	Percentage
Rag picking	18	60
Begging	12	40
Porter	2	6.7
Looking after vehicle	1	3.3

Source: Field survey, 2008

Table no 5.1.6 shows that 60 percent of the respondents earn their living from rag picking. Next to rag picking comes begging which accounts for 40 percent. Very few of them found working as porter and looking after vehicles which is just 6.7 percent. In the above table, we can see total number of respondents exceed 30 it is because one can involve himself in different work. When one's earning from rag picking is not sufficient he may engage into begging or other options. It can also be said that rag picking is the easily available source of income for the street children in Pokhara Valley.

### 5.1.5.2 Common Food of Street Children

Table No. 5.1.7: Common food of street children

Food	Frequency	Percentage
Bread and junk food	6	20
<i>Chiura Tarkari</i>	12	40
<i>Dal bhat</i>	12	40

Source: Field survey, 2008

Table 5.1.7 shows that 40 percent of the street children prefer *Chiura* and *Tarkari*, while other 40 percent also prefer *Dal Bhat* as their common food. Remaining 20 percent have bread and junk food like noodles, *bhakku* etc. as their common food. It is believed that since they are not in access with good quality food due to the limitation of money they are compelled with less quality food. More than that stale food are commonly taken by the street children as they are cheaper to buy.

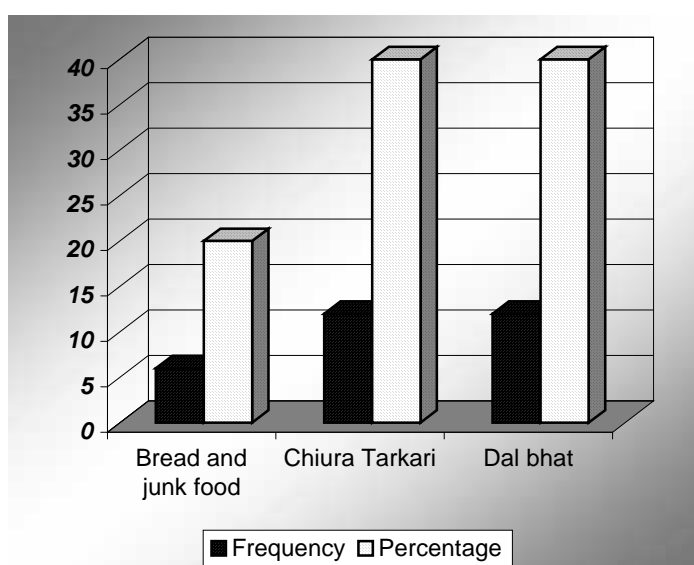


Figure No 5.1.3: Bar diagram showing dieting habit of the street children

Since the time and cost of their meal is not fixed, they have to choose the meal according to their earning. *Chiura* (beaten rice) and *Tarkari* (cooked vegetable) is cheaper and easily available so most of them consume it. Contact Center run by CWSN is providing *Dal Bhat* at Rs. 10 for street children so some of them also go there for cheaper food.

### 5.1.5.3 Sufficiency of Earning to Survive

Table No. 5.1.8: Sufficiency of earning to survive

Response	Frequency	Percent
Sufficient	0	0
Insufficient	30	100

Source: Field survey, 2008

Table 5.1.8 shows that all of the respondents earning is insufficient for their living. Although they are living in their earnings, they said it is insufficient because all of them are facing the days without meal. The food which they can buy with their earnings is of very low quality does not have the required amount of nutrition. 100 percent children's income is insufficient for them to survive.

### 5.1.5.4 Nights without Food in a Month

Table No. 5.1.9: Nights without food in a month

Nights	Frequency	Percent
Less than 3	16	53
3 to 6	14	47
More than 6	0	0

Source: Field survey, 2008

This table shows that 53 percent of the children have less than 3 nights in a month without food, while remaining 47 percent have 3 to 6 days. This table shows that they are facing the problem of shortage of food and they have such nights in which they are compelled to sleep without having meal. It signifies such a bitter reality that the future of our country is lying on the street with empty stomach.

## 5.2 Past and Present Life of Street Children

When a child is compelled to come to the street, it is obvious that his life becomes more vulnerable and deteriorating. Here in this chapter I have dealt with different dimensions of street children after their arrival on the street. To compare their previous and present living their parent's occupation, sufficiency of their earning to feed them, their contact, work at home, work at street, bad habits developed in them etc. are studied.

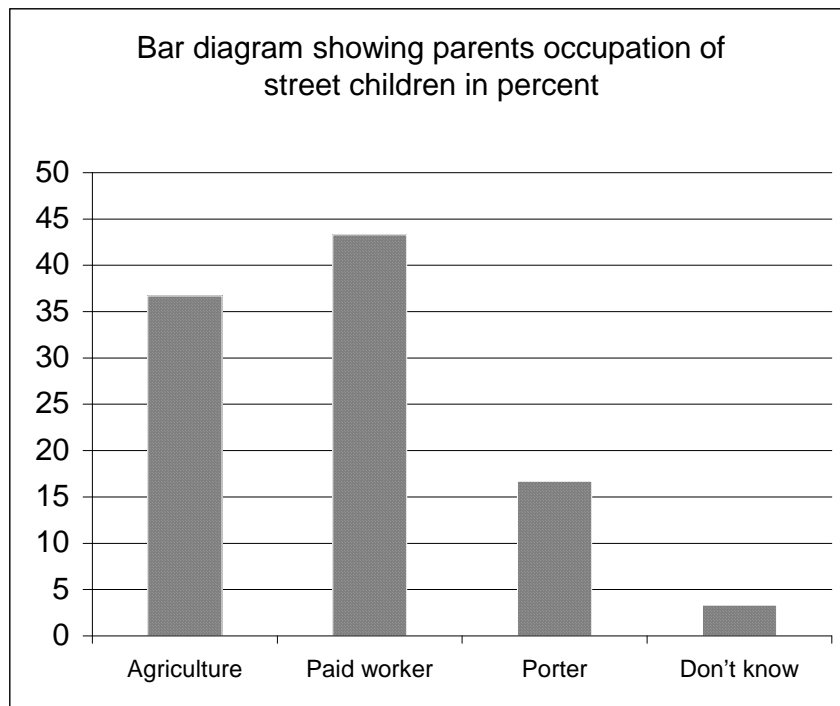
### 5.2.1 Occupation of the Parents of Street Children

Table No. 5.2.1: Occupation of the parents of the street children

Occupation	Frequency	Percent
Agriculture	11	36.7
Paid worker	13	43.3
Porter	5	16.7
Don't know	1	3.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>100</b>

Source field survey, 2008

Table 5.2.1 shows that 43.3 percent street children's parents are paid worker. Next to paid workers are the agriculture workers which are nearly 37 percent. At the same time nearly 17 percent of the respondents said that their parent's are porter. 3.3 percent of the children are not aware about their parent's occupation. It is hard to believe that farmers sons are begging in the street for food. Paid workers children are in the street begging money.



**Figure No 5.2.1: Bar diagram showing parent's occupation**

Children on the street were found from the family of lower standard. Since their parents could not afford their children's aspiration and much more problems are also created in such families children leave their families and come to the street. Some of the children have come to the street on so younger age that they could not mention their parent's occupation.

### 5.2.2 Street Children in Contact with their Family

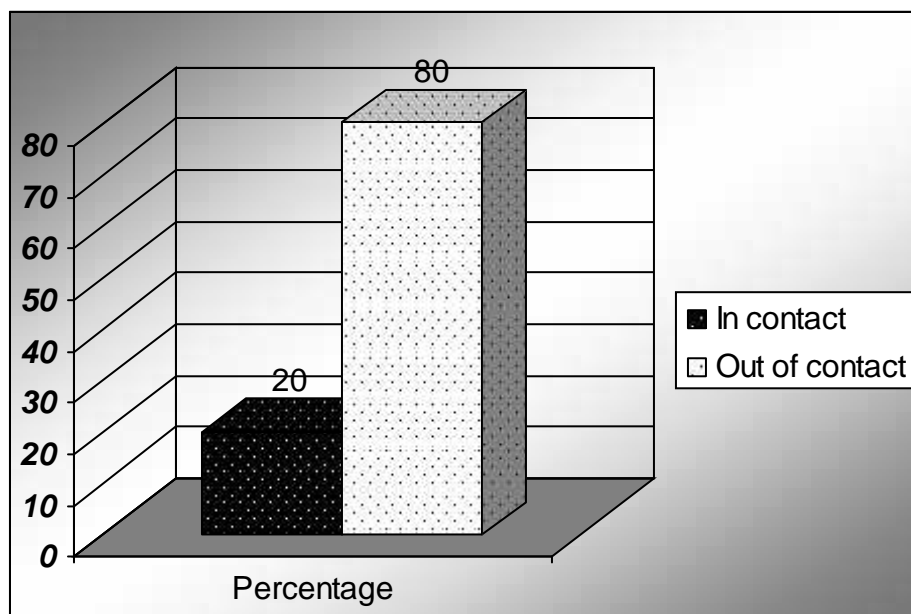
**Table No. 5.2.2: Street children in contact with their family**

Description	Frequency	Percentage
In contact	6	20
Out of contact	24	80

Source: Field survey, 2008

Table 5.2.2 depicts 80 percent of the respondents are out of contact with their family and 20 percent are in contact with their family. More children are out of reach from their parents.





**Figure No 5.2.2:** street children in contact with their parents

Here most of the children seem not in contact with their family. There are so many reasons behind it such as they came to street due to the maltreatment of their parents especially by stepmother, domestic violence, poverty, loose/death of their parents, etc. In such condition, they have no one to be in contact. On the other hand, it may be that they have fear of getting scold if they came to the street without the permission.

### 5.2.3 Sufficiency of Parents Earnings to Feed Them

**Table No. 5.2.3:** Sufficiency of parents earning to feed the children

Parents earnings	Frequency	Percentage
Sufficient	7	23.3
Insufficient	12	40
Don't know	11	36.7

Source: Field Survey, 2008

Table 5.2.3 exposes that 40 percent of the respondent's parents had insufficient earnings. Similarly 23.3 percent's earning were sufficient to feed them. Here it is also shown that nearly 37 percent children do not know whether their parent's earning was sufficient to feed them or not.

According to this table, we can say that most of the street children's parents did not have sufficient earning and this may be the cause of their arrival to the street. Those who came to the street instead of their parent's sufficient earning to feed them must have stepparents or the domestic violence against them. On the other hand, they may have come to the street due to the maltreatment from school and their parents.

#### 5.2.4 Street Children's Work

Table No. 5.2.4: Street children's work

Work	Frequency	Percentage
Animal rearing	6	20
Going to school	11	36.7
Helping in household works	6	20
Labour	3	10
Collecting fodder and fuel wood	3	10
No works	7	23.3

*Source: Field Survey, 2008*

According to table 5.2.4 only 36.7 percent of the street children used to go to school when they were at their home. Similarly, 20 percent of them used to go to animal rearing, and another 20 percent helping household works. The table above also tells that 23.3 percent of them did not have to do any works. Ten percent children used to collect fodder and fuel when they were at home. According to the above table, most of the children used to go to school when they were at their home. It may be their younger age, which led them to the school. While growing on many problems came to their life, which pulled them toward the city life. It must be the poverty, which compelled younger aged children in labour work as we can see 10 percent children were engaged in labour work when they were at their home.

### 5.2.5 Reasons for Leaving Home

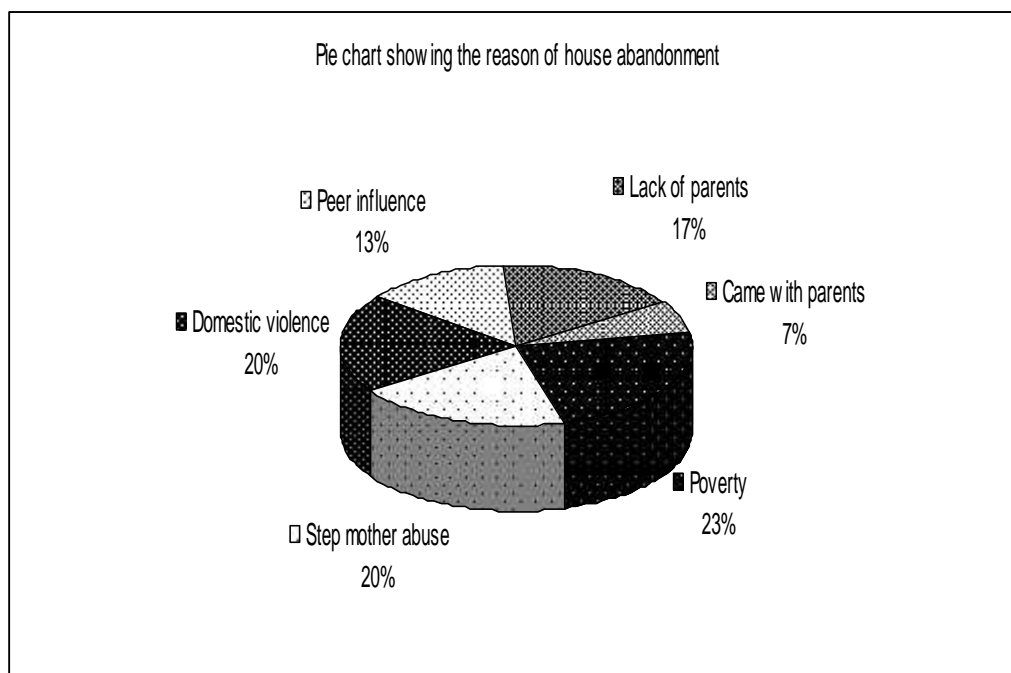
Reasons	Frequency	Percent
Poverty	7	23.3
Step mother abuse	6	20
Domestic violence	6	20
Peer influence	4	13.3
Lack of parents	5	16.7
Came with parents	2	6.7
Total	30	100

Source: Field Survey , 2008

**Table No. 5.2.5: Reason why street children's left home**

Table 5.2.5 reveals that 23.3 percent of the street children had left their home due to the poverty. In this case, the contribution of domestic violence and stepmother's abuse is 20/20 percent. At the same time peer influence, lack of parents and lost while came with parents made 13.3, 16.7, and 6.7 percent as the reason behind leaving home.

Definitely, poverty becomes the main reason behind the measurable life of street children. Social insecurity due to the prevailing social practices involves the problem of domestic violence and stepparent's maltreatment over the children. since there is not any strong mechanism of government to look after the children having no parents they are compelled to engage themselves into the worst from of child labour.



**Figure No 5.2.3:** Pie chart showing reason for leaving home

### 5.2.6 Occupation of Street Children

**Table No. 5.2.6:** occupation of street children

Working as	Frequency	Percent
Rag picker	24	80
Beggar	6	20
Total	30	100

Source: Field Survey , 2008

Table 5.2.6 shows that 80 percent of the street children taken into observation are involving into rag picking and remaining 20 percent are beggar. Here since the observation is done only with the children met in the street the number of rag picker seems quite high. Anyway, among the street children most of them are rag picker and then come the beggar.

### 5.2.7 Working Hours of Street Children

Table No. 5.2.7: Working hours of the street children

Working hours/day	Frequency	Percent
1 to 5	6	20
5 to 8	14	46.7
More than 8 hrs	10	33.3

Source: Field Survey , 2008

This table 5.2.7 illustrates that near about 47 percent of street children work 5 to 8 hours daily while 20 percent work less than 5 hrs a day and 33 percent work more than 8 hours in a day.

The above table elucidates most of the children work 5 to 8 hours in a day. Here this working hour for such age group is very large, in such situation, also they could not earn sufficient to survive. It shows very deteriorating condition of street children.

### 5.2.8 Bad Habits Developed among the Street Children

Table No. 5.2.8: Bad habits developed among the street children

Habits	Frequency	Percent
Smoking	22	73.3
Drinking	10	33.3
Gambling	15	50
Glue sniffing	15	50
Chewing tobacco	0	0
Taking drugs	4	13.3
Thieving, pick pocketing	4	13.3

Source: Field Survey , 2008

Table 5.2.8 depicts that most of the children on the street has smoking habits i.e. more than 73 percent of the respondents use to smoke. After that gambling and glue sniffing is the mostly done habits and 50 percent of the children said yes to this habit. 33 percent informed that they use to drink wine. Taking drugs and thieving and pick pocketing is also committed by 13 percent of the respondents.

Street children are very much exposed to bad habits since there is no one to restrict. They have their own decision on their life and their habits. Some of the respondents said that it is compulsory for them to smoke or drink to avoid the coldness of the street; otherwise, they could not get slept. According to the table only 33 percent of them are involved in thieving and pick pocketing this may not be the real fact because it is difficult for any of them to accept they commit such crimes. And in the case of using drugs they are aware about that it is taken by the society as a very horrific habits so they may have hide the information.

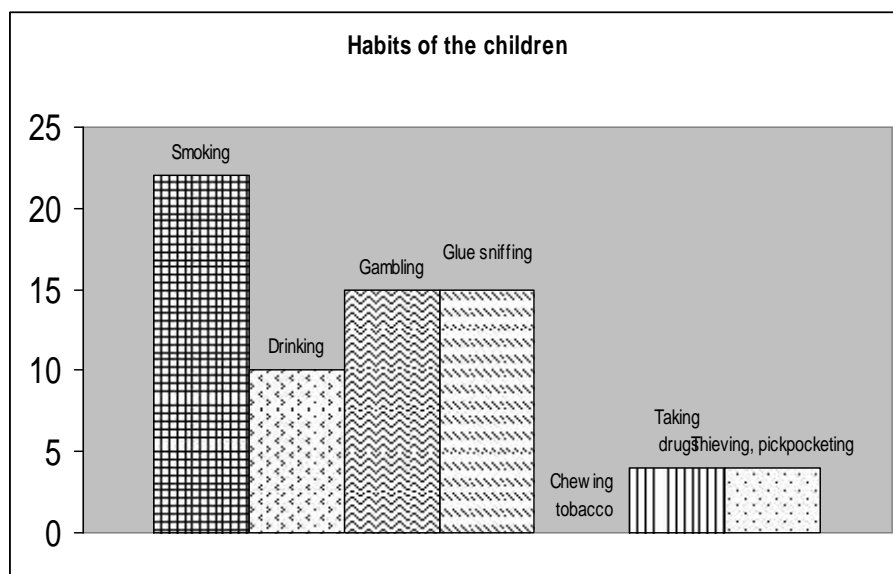


Figure No 5.2.4: Bar diagram showing bad habits developed among the street children

### 5.3 The Nature of Il-Treatments against Street Children

Street children on its own are enough to reveal that they are in exploitation of different kinds. Childhood requires a great care and security to produce able

nationals. Instead of this, thousands of children are working as child labour as well as begging and searching rags in dumping sites and corners of the street. In this scenario only the children are not in the ruin but whole country's future seems to be ruined.

### 5.3.1 Sufferers of Street Children on the Street

**Table No. 5.3.1: sufferers of street children in the street**

Sufferers	Frequency	Percent
Passer-by	12	40
Seniors	14	46.7
Police	10	33.3
Shopkeeper	10	33.3
Street bullies	5	16.7
Other	0	0

Source: Field survey, 2008

On their street life, their seniors suffer them the most i.e. nearly 47 percent and according to the data, obtained 43 percent of them are suffered by police. Passers by, shopkeeper, and street bullies came next to suffer them and their percent is 40, 33, and 16.7 respectively.

Street children are vulnerable to many kinds of suffering on the street. They are tortured with out being guilty. Since there is no one to speak from their side, no one requires proof to accuse and punish them. They are used as the place to show anger by passers by, police, shopkeeper, etc.

### 5.3.2 Maltreatments against the Street Children

Table No. 5.3.2: Maltreatments against the street

Maltreatments	Frequency	Percent
Beating	14	48
Taken into custody	8	27
Accusing of different crimes	10	33.3
Misuse of labour	5	16.7
Other	0	0

Source: Field survey, 2008

Table 5.3.2 shows that nearly 48 percent of the respondents are beaten, 27 percent are taken into custody, 33 percent are accused of different crimes, and 17 percent of the children's labour is misused.

Above table reveals that most of the children are beaten by either their seniors or passers by. It is very easy for general citizen to accuse street children if they lost any goods. Some of the people made the children to work without paying them.

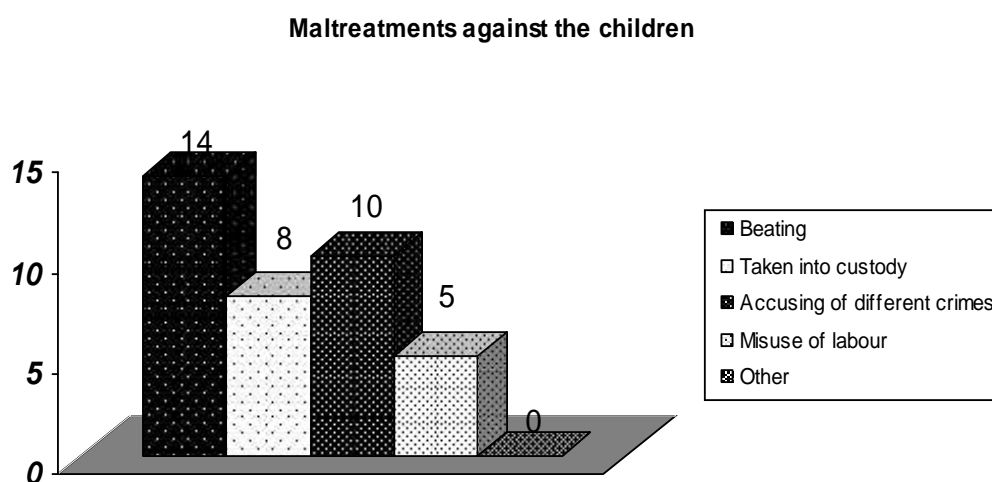


Figure No 5.3.1: Bar diagram showing maltreatments against the street children



### 5.3.3 Jail Experience of Street Children

Table No. 5.3.3: Jail experience of the street children

Experience	Frequency	Percent
Yes	7	30
No	23	70

Source: Field survey, 2008

According to the table 5.3.3, most 70 percent of the respondents did not have jail experience, while remaining 30 percent have. From the table we can conclude that many street children are involved into petty crimes and hence are taken into custody. Although they are of small age their difficulties to collect food, friendship with the people of criminal nature, may compel them to such crimes. In some cases when some citizen complains about their theft police took them into custody only for interrogation. Anyway, this research also shows that they are involved into petty crimes like thieving, pick pocketing, etc.

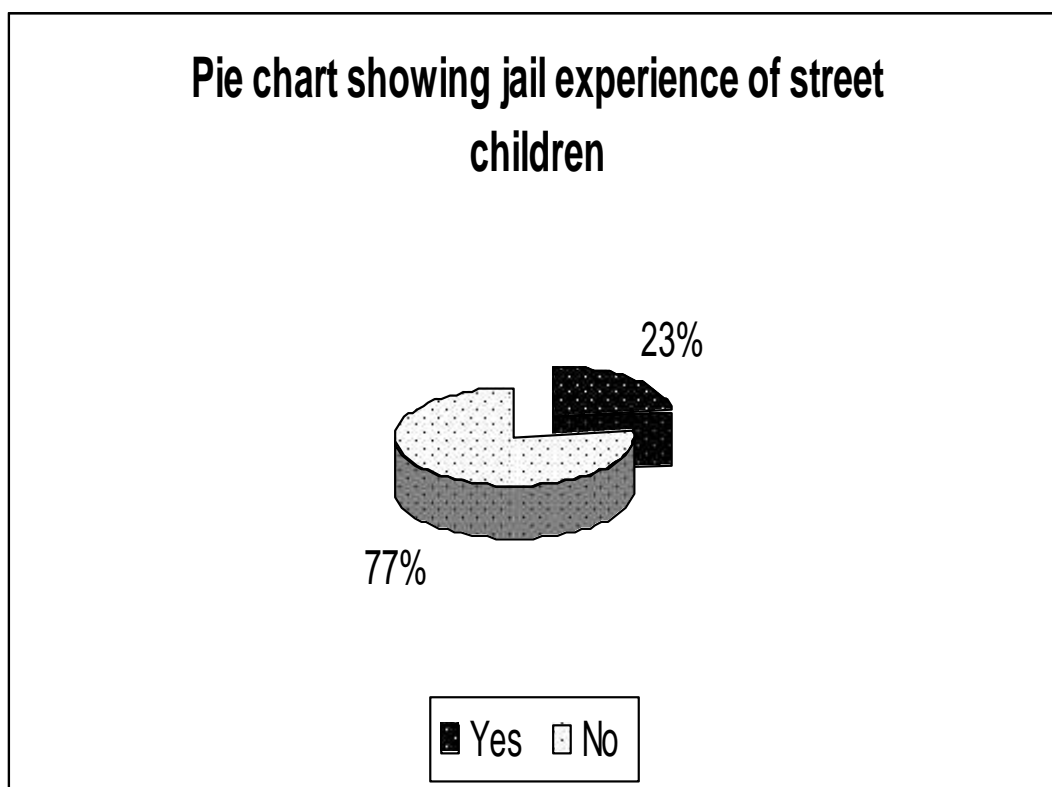


Figure No 5.3.2: Pie chart showing jail experience of the street children

### 5.3.4 General People's Perception toward them in their Opinion

Table No. 5.3.4: General perception of the people towards street children

People's perception	Frequency	Percent
Bad people	10	33
Good people	1	3
Subject of pity	5	17
Don't know	14	47

Source: Field survey, 2008

Table 5.3.4 shows street children's perception about how they are perceived by general people. In this of perception question 47 percent said they do not know about it. 33 percent said they are perceived as bad people, 17 percent said they are subject of pity and 3 percent said they are good people.

In the above table most of the children said they do not know how people perceive them, it may be because they do not want to reveal that they are perceived as bad people. In the same time there are many children who did not heisted to say that they are perceived as bad people. Among 30 respondents, only one said they are perceived as good people it may due to his lack of awareness.

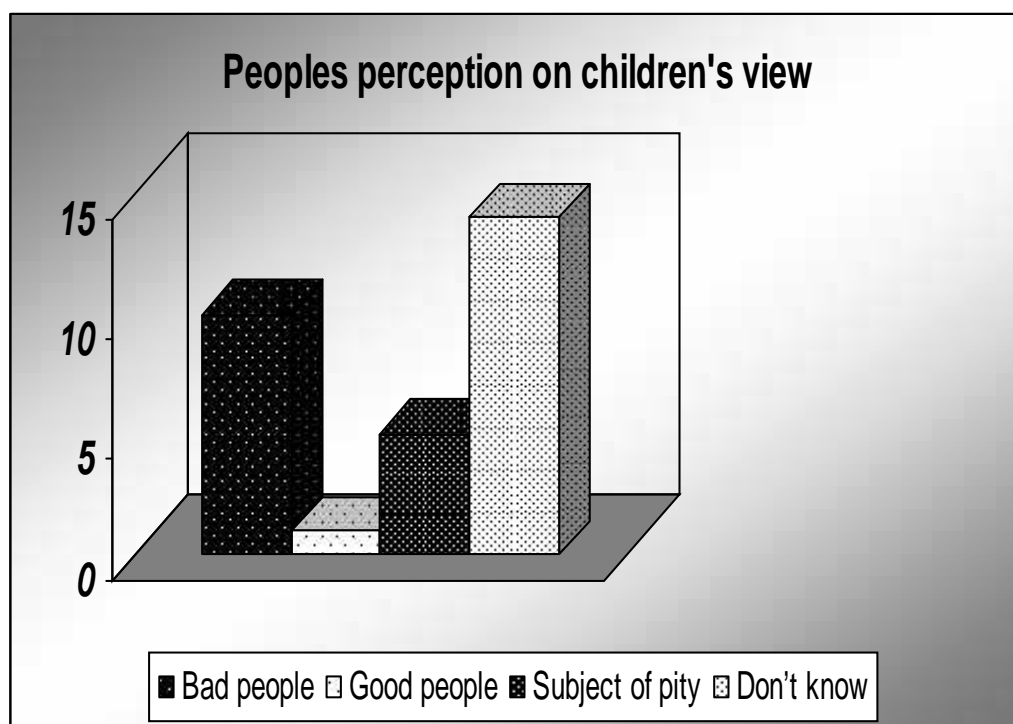


Figure No 5.3.3: People's perception on street children

## 5.4 Case Studies

### Case study-1

A boy named **Jeevan Thapa** at the age of seven left his home at **Arughat Gorkha**. He was convinced that he would get a better work at Pokhara. In the first month of his arrival, he worked in a hotel called Cozy Corner at Chipledhunga. Due to the maltreatment of the hotel owner, he left the hotel and came to the street life. With in a month school-going child first changed into child labour of a restaurant and again climb to the street a ragpicker (street child).

As it is said when it rains it pours same thing happened in the life of Jeevan, first he lost his father and then one day her mother didn't return from the market where she used to go to sell vegetables. After loosing their parent's three children (one brother and one sister with Jeevan) were left with their uncle. In the meanwhile, Jeevan arrived Pokhara initiating by peer influence.

He wakes up early in the morning and starts his search of cartoons, if he is able to earn a little he use it to buy his tea. After tea, again he wanders here and there in the street to continue his job in search of rags. Until midday collection, he sells the articles collected and takes his meal. His common meal is beaten rice and vegetable (*Chiura* and *Tarkari*). Sometime he takes beaten rice with chicken curry if he is able to earn a little bit more. After his food, he passes out time by playing carom board with his friends. Sometime he uses to visit contact center to take morning class where he can get free breakfast instead of taking breakfast. There street children can get food (*dal, bhat*) in Rs. 10, Jeevan also goes there to have food.

About the bad habits developed within himself he says that he plays cards sometimes and he did not have other habits as most of his friends have such as smoking, drinking, glue sniffing, thieving, etc. according to him he once tried the glue sniffing due to which he had vomited, after that he had never tried it.

Jeevan has a group of four street children. They share their earnings to each other when any of them became unable to earn. He had more than 6 nights in a month without food. When he was asked whether he wants to return home he replied that there is no one to look after him so his life of street is better for him. He is fond of street life. He also does not want to work at hotel.

## Case Study 2

It has been three years since **Subas** left his home and mingled in the different world of so called 'Khate'. His stepmother's maltreatment especially accusing him thieving compelled him to climb down the street.

Bhairahawa was his birthplace and his destiny brought him to the street of Pokhara. It sounds strange that a boy of 15 has jail experiences of more than six times and he knows all the police station/post in Pokhara municipality. All the times when he was taken into custody he was accused of stealing. While giving such information no hesitation was found on him. Smoking, drinking, gambling and glue sniffing are the new habits he had developed within himself. He had given the name of glue he uses mostly that is 'maxbon'.

His father Prakash Thapa is a taxi driver, when he brought second wife, Subas's life became very miserable. In such an age of 12 when a child needs more family care and protection, Subas could not bear his step mother's treatment and left his home.

Nowadays, streets of Mahendrapool provide shelter for him. According to him, shopkeepers woke them up early in the morning. His every new day starts with the search of cartoons, selling which he could collect some money for tea. Again, he goes in search of "*kawadi*" (rags or recyclable materials) toward dumping sites, riverbanks, street corners, or in residential areas. After selling whatever he gets up to midday, he bought his food commonly beaten rice and cooked vegetable, sometimes *dal bhat*. He uses his remaining money to buy glue. The most common thing he shares with his friend is glue. Here glue sniffing has become a part of his life. Although he was aware about its bad impacts, he uses it to be hallucinated to have victory over his grieves.

## CHAPTER-VI

### SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

The research carried out in Pokhara valley with major objectives of finding out the status of the street children was a Herculean task. This chapter summarizes the major findings of the study, draws conclusions of the research about street children of Pokhara within the limitation of the objectives. There are so many other aspects of street children but this research only circumscribes into the food and shelter problem, comparison of previous and present life and the difficulties and ill-treatments they are bearing on the street. Summary mainly focuses on the objectives, methods and findings of the study. Conclusion part covers to synthesize the results of the study on the mirror of its objectives. Similarly, the recommendation section consists of some fundamental recommendations.

The study "Status of Street Children: *a case study of Pokhara*" was conducted in some densely populated streets of Pokhara Sub metropolitan city aiming to develop clearer understanding about the existing status of street children, the problems they are facing on the street and the bad habits they have developed within themselves in the study area. To conduct this research random sampling was applied due to the nomadic characteristics of street children. Some valuable information about the street children of Pokhara was gathered with the help of CWIN staff of Pokhara. Primary data was collected by the researcher with the help of structured questionnaire, focused group discussion, and observation method. The study was carried out some sequential steps of research methodology such as defining research problems, reviewing literature, designing research, collecting data, analyzing data, interpretation and organizing the report.

## 5.1 Summary

The following are the findings about street children of Pokhara within the limitation of the objectives of the study and are based on the interviews and questionnaire survey of 30 children encountered in different streets of Pokhara Sub-metropolitan city as well as some key informants interviews.

- The majorities of the street children were male and in this study none of the respondent encountered were female and hence all of the street children found were male.
- Among the respondents, 60 percent were 'children of the street' and 40 percent were 'children on the street children'.
- It is found that 60 percent of the street children use street belts as their shelter only 40 percent were found returned to safe shelter. Those, who use street as their shelter had rain and cold as major problem, thieving of their goods and the ferocity of street bullies and brutality of police are the problem faced by most of the street children.
- Some of the children (13 percent) were found to have shelter from their relatives and some (13 percent) use Night Shelter run by CWSN as their shelter.
- Although most of the street children did not have safe shelter and pass their nights on the street, their response was found funny (20 percent) and o.k. nearly 27 percent about their night stay. In this regard, 40 percent said it was not secure.
- Staying hungry was found common among street children, 60 percent of them were found to have their meal only once a day and 40 percent twice a day. None of them used to take their meal thrice or more in a day.
- Most of the street children earn money for their food through rag picking (60 percent) and other 40 percent earn through begging. Sometimes when they get opportunity to do small works such as looking after vehicles or carrying small bags they did this also. It was also found that if one who could not earn sufficient to buy his food he might shift to begging.
- None of the street children earn sufficient for their living. All of their earning was found insufficient for them. It was also found that most of them have nights with out having food. Most of them i.e. 53 percent had less than 3 nights in a month without food and 47 percent have 3 to 6 nights.

- It was found that most of the children coming to street were from poor family. Their background was found paid worker 43 percent, agriculture worker/farmer 37 percent and porter 17 percent.
- This study found that only 20 percent of the street children are in contact with their parents are 80 percent are out of contact.
- Very few families (23 percent) of the children were found able to feed them or their earnings were sufficient to feed the family.
- According to this research, 37 percent of the children were found school going when they were at home. 20 percent were involved into animal rearing, other 20 percent helping into households. 23 percent were found with no works and remaining was found involved into labour work and collecting fuel and fodder.
- The main reason behind the children to climb down to the street was found poverty. The contribution of poverty for the abandonment of house was found 23 percent; similarly, stepmother's abuse, domestic violence, peer influence and lack of parents contribute 20, 20, 13 and 17 percent respectively.
- Although street children are suffered by the problem of lack of earning, they were found busy most of the time in a day. 47 percent of the children were found working 5 to 8 hours in a day. Not only were that 33 percent of them found to work more than 8 hours in a day.
- In the case of bad habits, although it is difficult to tell about own bad habits 73 percent of the children were found with the habit of smoking. Half of the children were found with the habit of glue sniffing and gambling. Thirteen percent were found to be engaged in thieving and pick pocketing.
- It was found that their own seniors suffer them the most. Nearly 47 percent of the children are suffered by seniors, other 40 percent by passer-by, 33 percent by police, thirty-three percent by shopkeeper and street bullies 17 percent.
- Among the maltreatments they are tolerating, beating was found 48 percent, next they are accused of committing different crimes. The percentage of children found to be taken into custody were found 27. Similarly, 17 percent were found misused of labour.

- Although they are of younger age ranging from 8 to 15, 23 percent of them were reported to taken into police custody.
- People took street children as bad people in 33 percent children's opinion. In this regard, 17 percent of them perceive themselves as subject of pity in general people's view and most of them 47 percent don't know how they are perceived.

## 5.2 Conclusion

This research has used general observation, key informants interview, focus group discussions, case histories and semi structured questionnaire survey as the tools of data collection, which were found very useful for such research.

The phenomenon of children resorting to street life is mostly due to their instinct to survive in hard life conditions. Being street children may not be their primary goal, but rather a natural procession in their search for easy work and relative freedom. But this development represents a significant problem for the children, making them vulnerable to illness and crime, and for society at large, as their reintegration becomes more difficult over time. In fact, the problem of street children is one that cannot be solved unless children from disadvantaged families are given a way to fully enjoy their fundamental child rights. The socio-psychological issues caused by poverty and family adversity, which are amplified by lack of social support and structure, contribute to the migration of these young boys and girls away from their family and environment, and into a life of the street. The more time these children spend on the street, the more difficult it is to take them away from it, as they enjoy a sense of freedom and self-dependence, which they feel they cannot have in other environments.

Therefore, the ultimate solution to this problem is by way of social awareness and action groups to help develop these children's sense of society and belonging, and provide them with the tools to reintegrate into society in an agreeable way. Such social work requires commitment and dedication from government agencies, non-government organizations and society as a whole. This



process includes the support and implementation of the government policies and programmes at the national and regional levels. One way to accomplish this may be to build closer working relationships between concerned government agencies and NGOs dedicated to child rights and development.

This study also reveals that the misery behind street children is the bitter reality of our society. Children of school going age are lying on the street wandering around the dumping sites. They immediately require such programs, which could bring them in the mainstream of our society. In this situation, again our socio-economic reality comes on the way. So including strict implementation of programmes to protect children right, there has to be done a lot to uplift whole country's socio-economic status.

Though many acts and policies have been introduced to address child labour issues, it is apparent that their implementation has so far had little or no impact. This may be due in part to poor monitoring mechanisms and lack of proper co-ordination or commitment among concerned government bodies.

### **5.3 Recommendations**

Street children is not the cause of only one aspect but all the aspect of our society are equally responsible to create street children and hence their combined effort only can stop children to climb down to the street life. This problem should be addressed from policy level and strong implementation of them is required. Until and unless a strong mechanism for implementation of policies could not be formed, other efforts remain less effective. We can see so many NGOs and INGOs related to child right, only few of them are found working according to their ethics and more are found as the sources of earning for the organizers. Based on the study following recommendations are suggested to different organizations working in the field of children, parents, government and other stake holders of street children.

- In order to solve the problems related to street children first they should be categorized into the following groups
  - ✓ Children who have parents and a home at their place of origin
  - ✓ Homeless children who live on the street
  - ✓ Children who live at home but come to the street to work
- After such categorization, the programmes and policies to address these separate groups should be formed separately
- There is need for awareness raising and behavior change among adults and society as a whole to realize full scope of children's rights
- There also is need for sensitization and training in arrange of professions including police and the judiciary
- An efficient system of solid waste management in urban areas of Nepal is needed without which rag picking is not likely to be eliminated
- Income generating programmes should be launched for those families who are unable to send their children to school as an alternative to making their children work
- Justice system should be child friendly and people involved in such areas should be trained and sensitized to the rights of children
- Most of the street children who have no family contact at their place of origin, do not have their citizenship papers should be facilitated the procurement of citizenship by the government
- Society should stop looking down of them and humiliating them by using the term "khate" (a slang meaning those surviving on the street). Society should be able to give them a chance to prove themselves to enable them to acquire a better livelihood. Another highly emphasized point was that society should stop all kinds of exploitation of children.
- Programmes with broad overviews of street children's problems are needed to prevent children from getting into substance addiction and drug use.
- Whenever possible, the children who still have parents willing to take them back should be reintegrated into their families.
- Most studies rely on poorly structured interviews with children and make no attempt to compare the samples with groups of children who are not on the street. Thus is not possible either to confirm or deny any of the negative myths. So detailed study of street children to reveal the reality is strictly recommended.

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# APPENDIX - 1

## Sample Questionnaire

### STATUS OF STREET CHILDREN: A Case Study of Pokhara City

S.n.....

Place.....

Date of interview: .....

---

#### 1. Description of the respondent

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Age: \_\_\_\_ years

Age of arrival to the street: \_\_\_\_\_ years

Birthplace (place of origin): \_\_\_\_\_

Dwelling area in Pokhara: \_\_\_\_\_

Working as: \_\_\_\_\_

---

#### 2. About the shelter

1. Where do you stay at night?

- |                |                                 |
|----------------|---------------------------------|
| i. street belt | iv. under construction building |
| ii. own room   | v. returned to own home         |
| iii. not fixed | vi. other                       |

2. What are the problems you are facing in your living place? (multiple choice)

- |             |                    |
|-------------|--------------------|
| i. rain     | iv. street bullies |
| ii. cold    | v. thieving        |
| iii. police | vi. other          |

3. Are you getting any help from others for living? (Yes/No). If yes, from whom?

- |                  |                    |
|------------------|--------------------|
| i. tourist       | iii. organizations |
| ii. local people | iv. other          |

4. What do you think about the place you are living?

- |                 |          |
|-----------------|----------|
| i. not secure   | iv. o.k. |
| ii. funny/happy | v. other |
| iii. boring     |          |

### 3. About the food/dieting

5. How many times do you take your meal in a day?

- |               |                          |
|---------------|--------------------------|
| i. one time   | iii. three times         |
| ii. two times | iv. more than three time |

6. How do you collect your food?

- |                      |                           |
|----------------------|---------------------------|
| i. spending earnings | iv. stealing              |
| ii. begging          | v. other                  |
| iii. scavenging      | vi. staying nearby temple |

7. What is your source of earning?

- |                |                            |
|----------------|----------------------------|
| i. rag-picking | iv. looking after vehicles |
| ii. porter     | v. pick-pocketing/stealing |
| iii. begging   | vi. other                  |

8. What do you eat commonly?

- |                        |                                |
|------------------------|--------------------------------|
| i. bread and junk food | iii. left over from restaurant |
| ii. dal, bhat          | iv. other                      |

9. Is your earning sufficient for you to survive? (yes/No)

If not, how do you survive?

- |                         |                             |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------|
| i. sleep without eating | iii. collect by other means |
| ii. share friends food  | (stealing, begging, etc.)   |

10. Do you have such days in which you are not getting food? (Yes/No)

If yes approximately how many in a month?

- |                |                  |
|----------------|------------------|
| i. less than 3 | iii. more than 6 |
| ii. 3 to 6     |                  |

11. Are you getting any assistance from anywhere for your meal? (Yes/No) If yes, mention it. \_\_\_\_\_

### 4. Comparison of previous and present living

12. What is your parents' occupation?

- |                |            |
|----------------|------------|
| i. agriculture | iv. porter |
| ii. service    | v. worker  |
| iii. business  | vi. other  |

13. Do your parents' earn sufficiently for your family?  
 i. (Yes/No) If no how they survive \_\_\_\_\_.  
 ii. Don't know
14. Are you in touch with your family? (Yes/No) If not why? \_\_\_\_\_.
15. What did you used to do when you are at home?  
 i. animal rearing  
 ii. collecting fodder and wood  
 iii. going to school  
 iv. helping in household works  
 v. labor work  
 vi. other (\_\_\_\_\_)
16. Were you feed well when you are at home? (Yes/No) If not mention the reason  
 \_\_\_\_\_ if yes, why you came to the street? \_\_\_\_\_
17. Do you work somewhere?  
 i. in hotel/restaurant  
 ii. rag-picking  
 iii. porter  
 iv. other
18. How many hours do you work in a day?  
 i. 1-5 hrs.  
 ii. 5-8 hrs.  
 iii. more than 8 hrs.  
 iv. no work
19. Do you save money? (Yes/No). If yes how much in a month? \_\_\_\_\_
20. Do you have to send money to your family? (Yes/No) If yes how much in a year?  
 \_\_\_\_\_ (in NRs.)
21. Is there any one with you to whom you need to look after? (Yes/No)
22. What are the habits you have started after coming to street? (multiple choice)  
 i. smoking  
 ii. drinking  
 iii. chewing tobacco  
 iv. taking drugs  
 v. glue sniffing  
 vi. gambling  
 vii. other \_\_\_\_\_
23. Which one you prefer comfortable? (Home/Street)
24. Do you want to return home? (Yes/No) If not why \_\_\_\_\_
25. Any condition, which can make you to return home, is \_\_\_\_\_

## 5. Exploitation/abuse/violence

26. Who suffers you the most?

- |                    |                |
|--------------------|----------------|
| i. Passer-by       | iv. shopkeeper |
| ii. street bullies | v. other       |
| iii. police        | vi. seniors    |

27. What are the maltreatments you are facing in the street?

- |                                   |                        |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------|
| i. beating                        | iv. taken into custody |
| ii. misuse of labour              | v. sexual harassment   |
| iii. accusing of different crimes | vi. other              |

28. Do you have to pay your street earning to anyone? (Yes/No). If yes, to whom?

- |                   |              |
|-------------------|--------------|
| i. street bullies | iii. seniors |
| ii. police        | iv. other    |

29. Have you ever been in jail? (yes/No) If yes, how many times? \_\_\_\_\_ and why?....

30. Have you ever faced any sexual or other abuses? (Yes/No). If yes, by whom?

- i. local boys
- ii. seniors
- iii. tourists
- iv. police
- v. others

31. What do you think about how you are perceived by general people?

- i. as bad people
- ii. good people
- iii. subject of pity
- iv. don't know



## APPENDIX - 2

### Check List Used in the Research

Check list and issues of discussions with key informants

---

#### Key informant's introduction

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Sex: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization involved: \_\_\_\_\_

Responsibility in the organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Experience in this field: \_\_\_\_\_ (years)

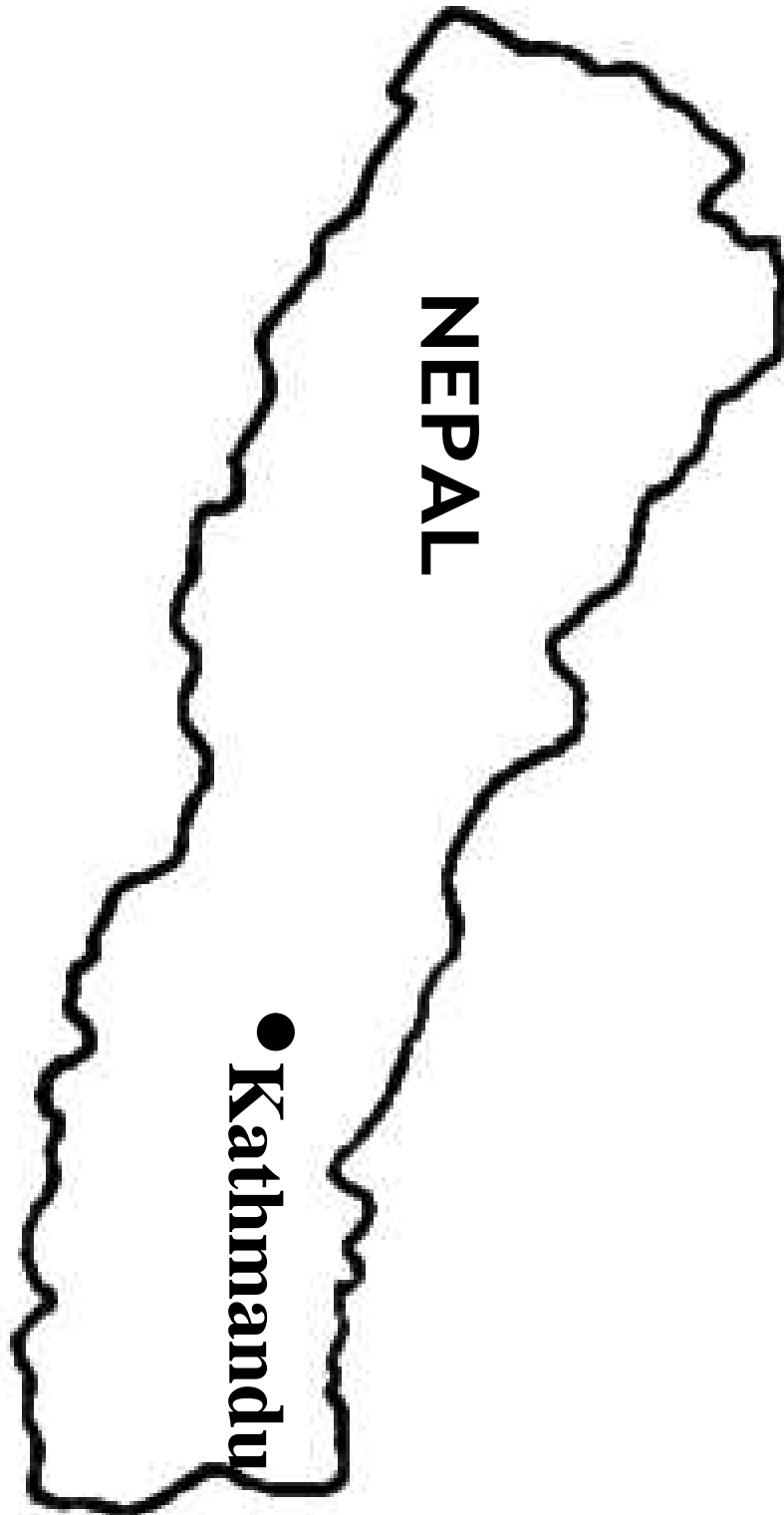
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#### Issues of discussion

- How the organization he/she working is helping the street children
- The areas frequently visited by street children in the city
- How street children are defined in his/her perspective
- The problems faced by him/her in fieldwork
- The bad temper shown by the children to the field worker (*researchers*)
- The way to deal with difficulties created while taking information from the children
- His/her view about the main difference between pre and post street life of street children
- Number of organizations involved in the welfare of street children in Pokhara
- The way in which we can get information from the street children (*or the way to deal with*)
- The works involved by the street children noticed by him/her
- Bad habits developed in street children
- His/her suggestion to government to reduce street children
- Any suggestion to this researcher for the preparation for the field work

## APPENDIX - 3

### Out Line Map of Nepal



Source: Microsoft Encarta 2007