

CHAPTER -I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 General Background

Children are an integral part of the society and precious. They are our sources of hope, joy and inspiration that grow with love, care and understanding. So, we must understand that a child who is innocent, vulnerable dependent and voiceless the proper support of adult care.

Household guardians encourage their children to leave in search of jobs that leads a lot of the children to adopt street living for survival. Through many cultures regard children as the future architects and backbone of their country. The situation is different in Nepal, due mostly to the socio-economic conditions. Children are often neglected, abused, exploited and exposed to the worst forms of labour such as sexual abuse and physically exhausting or dangerous work. Children working on the street are clearly a much more visible phenomenon in Nepal than other forms of child labour.

The popular image of street child is the neglected, abandoned or orphaned child who begs, collects and sells recyclable goods such as plastic metal, and sleeps on the street. The conception is based upon certain assumptions about street children and their lifestyles. While some of these assumptions are grounded in reality, the criteria for defining street children still remains vague. In the late 1980, when programs for street children were initiated from the non-government sector in Nepal, the term street children was use to refer to children who literally lived in the streets, i.e. those who worked, are and sleep on the street. By 1993, the definition of street children became ambiguous. This ambiguity is in

the report of the street flexed children's national convention held in October 1993 (CWS, 1993). The report uses terms such as "homeless", "helpless", "Khate", "Uncared for", and underprivileged to refer to and thus define street children. It also tends to categorize children into "hard core street children" and those who work but do not sleep on the street. This implies that who work on the street but live with their families are also street children. This conceptual ambiguity is still prevalent among those who work with street children in Nepal.

The definition of a street child used in this research is based on the definition provided by the inter NGO committee on youth and is also follows " . . . any girl of boy' for whom the street (in the widest sense of the word including unoccupied dwellings, waste lands etc.) has become his or her habitual abode or source of livelihood and who is inadequately protected supervised or directed by responsible adult" (Inter NGO program on street children and street youth 1985).

This definition best suits the prosper of this research as it includes both "children of the street" and children on the street." The former refers to children who live in the street and the letter refers to children who only use the street as their workplace or social hangout, but live with their families. Hence, "Street children" in this research is used to refer to all children who have a special relationship with the street. Hence forth the terms "children of the street", "Children on the street" and "street children" are used without quotes. It must emphasize here that the two categories children at the street and children on the street are not fixed and exclusive. In other words, children move between the categories all the time. For example. Children who work on the street and usually live with their families occasionally spend a few days on the street. Also, children who work in hotels, restaurants or in home sometimes live on

the street in between jobs. The terms are used here to point out the different relationship that the children have with street culture their families and their peers.

In Nepal, different terms are used to refer to the street children. The direct translation of this is Sadak Balbalika. The media and NGOs use the term Khate, which, originally created by the children of the street who worked as ragpickers. This term however, is popular only in Kathmandu. Street children in Butwal are called "Kawadi". Those who work as rag pickers in Narayanghat, Hetauda and Pokhara also call them selves Kawadi and their work "Kawadi Kaam". The term Kawadi is derived from the work Kadadi the Nepali word for Junkyard where here children sell the recyclables they collect. Some people also refers to the street children as Sadak Chhap meaning those who live and sleep on the street. In this study, children are defined as those who are 14 years and younger. The concept of the street broadly includes all public lands, Buildings, temples, pavements and public shelters built for travelers. The nature of the work these children do is an important criterion that determines whether they are street children or not. For example, those children who beg and sing on the street, who work as tempo conductors, rag pickers, street vendors, porters, and those working in restaurants and hotels but living on the street are all considered as street children whether they live with their guardians or not.

However, in this study those children working in restaurants, hotels and private homes have not been considered as street children unless they work in these places and live in the street. Those living with their families but spending their time on the street have also been considered as street children.

Street Children of Nepal: A General Overview

Nepal, a landlocked Himalayan nation with a population of about 2.5 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.

Child labour jeopardizes children's potential to become productive adults, robbing them of their health, their education and their prospects for a better future. It is an affront to the principles of social justice, child rights and to the protection of human rights. Children are among the most neglected, abused and exploited segments of the population, exposed to such worst forms of labour such as becoming street children. In Nepal, child work in general and child labour in particular is a common phenomenon, as estimated, 42 percent of the total population of children from 5-14 years old is economically active (Suwal et al. 1997). At the expense of education, children who work as family helpers as well as wage laborers must take on heavy work loads for survival. This deprives them of their right to development, protection and participation (ILO/IPEC, 1995).

The phenomenon of street children related to caste/ethnic group of Nepal and constitutes children from Chhetri, Brahmin, hill ethnic groups and Dalits including Indian nationalities. The literacy status was seen as low 31 in 100 were illiterate and among those who attended school, the mean grade completed was 3rd grade. Dalit and the most backward ethnic groups such as Magar street children (Majority of the Street Children were from Magar ethnic group were deprived from education opportunities, parents lack of desire to send children to school

was the leading reason for children not attending school (67.63%), followed by poor economic condition (27.27%), Most of street children come from large households with the average household size of 6. (ILO/IPEC, trafficking and sexual abuse of street children in Kathmandu, March 2002) Most children run away from their origin because of ill treatment in their households. Mass ill treatment reported included physical abuse (49%) mental abuse, malnutrition, lack of schooling and being thrown out from the house. Household poverty associated with death and absence of own mother was the main reason for most children coming to the street. Also the respondents fathers were reported to be literate (ILO/IPEC, 2002).

The growth in the armed insurgency by the Maoist in rural Nepal, where by young children are indoctrinated into the struggle, many believe, has resulted in forced migration and the increase in numbers of internally displaced people (IDPS). This has increased the children's vulnerability in general in these areas. Though there are not figure available on this issue it is generally believed that trafficking of children for military indoctrination is rampant.

Street children are highly vulnerable to sexual abuse and exploitation as well. Their vulnerable condition in the street, increases in cases of pedophilia. The expanding sex market appears to be one of the major causes of sexual abuse and exploitation of street children. Foreign pedophiles abuse about 5 percent of the street boys in Nepal (CWIN/2001a), Various from of negative media, cheap cinema, availability of alcohol and drugs in the market, pornographic activities including sex tourism are some of the major factors putting adverse impacts on the street children due to their vulnerability. The fact that children are left to

gang protection for survival inscribes in them a distinct coping strategy and survival technique.

This study surveys the general situation of street children in Nepal and looks into the factors that compel children to leave their homes and motivate them to live and work on the street. The study includes a report on the children's street life and overview of the national context in which the situation has arisen. The street has become the place of survival, serving as home and workplaces for many children. The phenomenon of children living on the streets of Nepal's cities has also greatly increased. The changes created by the situation have important implications for the country. While the increase in the population of street children is very noticeable, the conditions associated with the occurrence are not generally understood because of scarcity of information and data. Mere assumptions about causes of the movement to the street may be inaccurate and thus cannot clearly the situation clearly, poverty is one of many factors that could play a role in bringing this situation.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

The problem of the worker children in each sector is universal. The nature and characteristics of worker children differ from normal children who have been brought up in warm hands of parents. They have been influenced by the environment of places where they work; the culture is reflected in their lifestyle. Although there are several acts and amendments framed out in the constitution regarding the protection of child against the hazardous work that is likely to interfere with child's education, Health or physical, mental, spiritual, moral or social unpleasant and intolerable situations, many children are exploited at work

and facing ordeal of hardship, their spontaneous work without payment is indeed a matter of pathetic wail.

The extent of a country's development can be shown by the extent to which its child population has got its rights because children are the future of nation. However, most of the people in Nepal are living a very poor life and they are unable to feed their children even one a day. In such a situation children have to work very hard from their early stage of life to survive.

The existence of street children is not a new phenomenon. Despite the growing number of INGOs and NGOs, it is even more difficult to get a count of those children who are invisible: work behind closed doors, confined to factories, mines black room bass, kitchen quarters, in illegal activities or other more invisible occupations such as domestic workers, or sexually exploited children and we do not even know the actual number of street children. the amount of information and data on street children is very limited. In such a situation, appropriate policies can not be formulated.

Report of UNDP 1998 has focused on poverty as the main factors of child labour because if a household is very poor and is unable to afford their food, cloth and shelter for everyone, then all the members the household have to work for living. But many children also work because their step mother or father do not accept them easily and they can not tolerate their domestic violence. So they run away form their home. and it is the main factor for a child to be a street child.

Butwal being focus of child labour in western development region. Thousands of children exposing in to the workforce are concerned here. The main reason behind it are the push factor of rural areas such as

poverty, landlessness, and the urbanization and industrialization of this city contributing to the pull factor for those categories of people who come to work in different sectors. Among the different forms of child labour, street children face various problems, which arise in different sectors. These problems are related to their living and working. But these living and working problems have many other problems, such as developmental problems, health problem, and educational problems. These problems are the burning issues for all developing countries including Nepal. The growing number of street children is one of the greatest challenges for all advocates of development, human right activities and policy makers.

So, this study has attempted to answer causes of those problems and assess the selected socioeconomic situations that have affected the life of street children. The main focus is on the exploration and description of the socio-economic dimension of delivery and consideration of the strategies for the improvement of the situation.

1.3 Objectives

This study is to bring out the socio-economic and residential characteristics of street children that have led to their current situation at an early age. The specific objectives are as follows:

1. To examine the major factors influencing the increase in the number of street children
2. To identify the working condition of the street children and the way they cope with street life.
3. To examine the socio-economic status of street children in Butwal municipality.

4. To assess the legal provisions and step taken by the government for the welfare of the street children.
5. To find out suitable solution of the increase in the number of street children in urban areas of Nepal.

1.4 Limitation of the Study

It is not so easy to explore that the different situations, the street children are facing. Due to their bad responses it is very difficult to identify the problems associates with them. Due to fear, unwillingness and hesitation of the respondents to provide detailed information, it is a very difficult task to identify the problems of street children. The responses collected are mainly personal experience which many not adequately represent their overall situation.

This research study includes the following limitations:

-) This study is limited only in area of Butwal metropolitan city. Hence, it may not be generalized for other are.
-) The sample size is small, so the findings cannot be generalized.
-) Time and financial factor also the limitation of the study.

1.5 Organization of the study

This study is divided into six chapter. The first chapter deals with the background of the study, street children of Nepal: A general overview of the country, statement of the problem, objective of the study, limitation of the study and organization of the study.

The second chapter presents the literature review and the conceptual framework for the study. The third chapter is concerned with

methodology of the study. This includes introduction, site selection, research design, sampling procedure and sample size, nature and sources of data, method of data collection, analysis and presentation.

Finally, chapter five presents, summary of the major findings, the conclusion and recommendations.

CHAPTER - II

LITERATURE REVIEW

General background of Review of Literature the problems of child labour remain a pressing problem in much of the world today no country has been out of these problems, which is originating from social problems, educational system and poverty But the problem of child labour as faced attempted is made to review the related literature and to present a child labour in general and street children in particular are reviewed.

Street children have been one kind of child labour which has been one of the critical but neglected issue for a long time. It is a universal phenomenon that no country has been out of their problems. However receiving a world wide attention is recent years it much grater the problems have been still critical. It is due to the poverty that compels parents to make children work for ways and the employer never hesitates to take advantage of it because of cheep labour.

Millions of child labouress in the world are exploited by greedy employers. These children are deprived of their childhood though national governments have taken action in different areas to help them, the question is will these polices help them, the question is 'will there polices help the children?' (Bajracharya, 1998)

Child labour, an integral part of Nepalese society, is the consequence of an exploitative socio-economic and political reality. The magnitude of the problem is very high and more transparent in South Asia. Exploitation of child labour in some part of the world is so human and intolerable. No sector of labour is completely free of child labour exploitation.

The street children is not only their home but also their working place. There children are engaged in activities like pottering, Begging

guiding tourists, picking money in temples, peddling rickshaws, petty vending, vehicle cleaning, rag picking, construction work, and as tempo conductors. These children earn amounts varying between R.s. 25 and R.s. 120 per day. The human stories of the children move one's heart. The recommendations given in the book for the improvement of the situation of the children are pragmatic (UNICEF, 1996)

Three Concepts- Child, work and labour constitute a major debate in development literature. Though childhood differs from one content to another, from one culture to another, from rural to urban areas in Nepal the children labour Act, 1992 defines a childhood to those children who are under 16 years of age. It explicitly states that those children who are under 14 should not be employed at the expense of their mental, spiritual and physical status. Children under the age of 18 are also prohibited to work in the health hazardous work and work that is likely to interfere with the child's education, or to be harmful to the child's health or physical, mental, spiritual, moral or social development.

Child welfare society (1996) in the publication entitled 'situation analysis of street children in Nepal' explores the actual condition of street children. This book presents an account of the situation analysis of two kinds of street children in Nepal (a) those that live and work in the street and (b) the others who live with their families but spend most of their time playing and working in street. It goes into details in analyzing the factors that compel the children to leave their homes and pass their hard life of the street. Many of those children desert their homes because of their abusive and alcoholic parents, maltreatment by step parents and also due to the attractions in the towns.

Child labour in the context of Nepal should not be defined in terms of paid and unpaid jobs. Rather, it should be defined in terms of the nature of child labour, abolitionism and protectionism. Abolitionists

believe that any form of economic activity is detrimental to the development of children and hence children employment at a certain age should be prohibited. They saw child labour and education as antithetical and their intervention is to remove children from the labour market and enable them to attend School. Abolitionist views to deal with the child labour in the context of rural area of Nepal may not fit. Firstly the role children to the livelihoods of household should not be underestimated. Secondly most children may combine work and School Simultaneously because of fragmentary nature of work. Finally, parents attitude towards education may be negative because of immediate economic hardship and illiteracy. Several studies from Nepal and other countries indicate that the main reasons for child labour are poverty, discrimination of gender and caste/ethnicity, dysfunctional families, parents illiteracy and unawareness towards children's educations.

Lower is both causes and consequence of child labour. Extreme poverty and landlessness in rural areas are fuelling child labour not only in urban area but also in rural areas as well (CWIN 1989 b /NSEC, 1996). The obvious causes of poverty include structural inequality in access to assets, education and health services and the absence of social security system in many developing countries.

Lower the household per capita income is, larger the proportion of children in work and lower the school participation rate. The effect of poverty on school enrolment has been after adverse because of direct and indirect cost involve in schooling vis-a-vis heavy workload of children.

Parents perception of child labour has been documented as influencing the child labour in a society. In the case of schooling, parents perceptions are dubious. While some regard the possibility for children to learn how to read and write, others consider education as irrelevant. Also, when school and labour schedulable conflict, they tend to give more

important to work which has immediate benefit for the subsistence of the family.

2.1 Empirical Literature Review

Child labour is a major social problem in the developing countries. Every child has an inherent right to justice, freedom and peace and deserves access to all kinds of human needs such as education, health care, protection, love and respect the social commitment is thus a must for the overall social, physical, emotional development as well as promotion and protection of the coming new generation.

The number of working children is growing with every passing day, which is mainly due to an increase in population and migration from the rural to urban areas. These working street children are involved in begging, rag picking, street vending, pick pocketing, shoe shining, cart pulling and pottering.

Information on child labour is relatively scarce because of a general tendency to conceal it since child work is illegal yet most of the laws have not been implemented and child right violations have been taking place in the country. However, there has been progressive change in socio-cultural, political and economic attitudes of the people towards the problem of the children. Our country has adopted the Labour Act 1992 and Children's Act 1992. Efforts made by certain NGOs and INGOs have brought about awareness in the society against the exploitation of children. Thus the issue of child labour exploitation is a social, national and international concern.

CWIN 1990, in a survey study entitled 'Lost Childhood', Survey Research on street children of Kathmandu, which is based on a survey of street children of Kathmandu, whose number is estimated at about 500. In 1990, one fifth of these children were personally interviewed and

asked about their personal history current status, income origin etc. It was found that the children were of three types run away children, squatter children and orphan children. Most of those children were engaged in rag picking, Pottering, betting and staling. They suffered form illnesses like scabies, cold, fever headaches, diarrhea, dizziness, tuberculosis and ENT infections. Because the children lacked adequate and hygienic food, they were malnourished. Some of them survived on food lying in the garbage bins. Schooling was unknown to them. Because they were indifferent about their future, they were not only indulging, smoking and pick pocketing but were also sometimes addicted to drinking and drugs.

According to Pradhan, street children survive by collecting by bits of plastic and garbage form the litter lying in the streets. They are one of the most neglected groups of children in Nepal society.

"A study on child labour in Nepal,": tried to understand the altitudinal aspects of owner about giving employment and also the altitude to he children toward work. There are various factors governing the demand and supply of a child workers. Low ways, lack of rules in regard to the termination of job and labour intensive production in most of the units are the major factors are the demand of child labour. On the other hand, low level of family education, larger family size, poor financial status of family and the lack of care, love and attention to the children increased the supply of child labour in the labour market. Enforcement of minimum working conditions, compulsory education, skill development and income generating programmes targeting the parents/families and legal measures are the major recommendations for the improvement in the condition of the child labour (Bajracharya a 1998).

Sattaur, in his book entitled child labour in Nepal, published by Antislavery International and child workers in Nepal concerned center, Kathmandu, (1993) gives an account of different types of child labour in

Nepal. It discusses why children work despite regulations. Relevant regulation against child labour in Nepal, are also mentioned.

The author also suggests specific areas that government, NGOs international organizations, lawyers, trade unions, media and international funding bodies should look into for example the government should fully implement its policy of free primary education, trade unions should introduce priority programme form child labourers and the media and NGOs should raise more awareness on the issue (Sattaur Omar, 1993).

" State of the rights of the child in Nepal 2002" Published in co-operation with Red Burma Nepal is divided into five chapters and gives and authoritative account of the conditions of children in Nepal. It is stated that the employment of children under the age of 19 is declared illegal Yet most of laws have not been implemented and child rights violations have been taking place in the country. Rampant cases of child abuse, sexual exploitation, sexual violation and rape, trafficking and child migration are matters of concern. However, there has been progressive change in socio-cultural, political and economic. Attitudes of the people towards the problems of the children. As a result, Nepal has ratified the convention of the Rights of the child and ILO minimum age of employment convention. The country adopted the labour Act 1991 and children's Act 1992. Efforts made by certain NGOs and INGOs have brought about certain awareness in the society against the exploitation of children (CWIN, 1998 a).

CWIN's publication (1998 a) Urban child labour in Nepal: Realities and challenges is a compilation of several study reports, which shows how children younger than 16 years have to labour in order to support themselves and their families. The number of working children are growing with every passing day, which is mainly due to an increase in migration from the rural to the urban areas.

ILO/IPEC'S publication (1995) child labour in Nepal: Volume 1 and 2 begins with the statement that child labour is a major social problem in the developing countries. It finds that the situations of the child labour is getting rapidly worse in Nepal and this is more so due to migration of children from hills to the terai and from rural to urban areas. The global pressure against the use of child labour in carpet factories and the problems of girl prostitution and trafficking have been able to draw much of public attention.

After the restoration of multiparty democracy in 1990, the issue of child development is accorded priority in the national agenda. As a result, sweeping changes were made in the governments attitude towards the problem of child labour. The interim government ratified the UN convention on the right of the child on August 19, 1990. The government signed world summit declaration on December 12, 1990 and formulated a "Ten Year National Programme of Action for Children and Development" through a national task force, coordinated by the National Planning Commission. Specific provisions were made on the issue of child labour both in the constitution of Nepal and labour Act 1992. Legislation like children's Act was passed in 1992. A memorandum of understanding was signed between the ministry of labour and the ILO on the international programme and the Elimination of child labour in February 1995 in which it was mentioned " The aim of such Co-operation will be promote conditions to enable HMG to progressively prohibit restrict and regulate child labour with a view to its ultimate elimination , and increase awareness in the national and international community of the consequences and solutions of the child labour problem: "over and above, the book has analyzed in details the nature and extent of child labour , legislation and enforcement, education and other important aspects of child labour in Nepal (ILO/IPCE, 1995, Vol-2).

Sattaur (1993) enlisted that types of work under by the working children of Nepal under 10 main heading: agriculture cottage industry, manufacture, plantation, domestic, scattering, selling manual labour, sexual exploitation and street child. It is recognized that no labour market is completely free from child labour exploitation in Nepal.

The consequence of child labour has an adverse impact on the productivity capacity of the children themselves, even when they reach adulthood. They are underpaid, which makes them, unable to meet their requirement of housing and food. Thus the various circles between underdevelopment and child labour are self-perpulation (CDPS, 1997).

A substantial proportion of children are being restricted from schooling because of poverty (K.C. et al, 1997; Suwa et al, 1997). As a consequences of the vicious cycle of poverty, these children are out of school and are forced to go to the labour market, which could have been prevented through proper education.

Therefore, it is desirable to have the provision of compulsory education up to the secondary level. Nepal is a rural agrarian country with persistent poverty, which is the most important reason for child labour. Poor household needs money, with their children can earn children generally contributes.

"A situation of street children in Nepal" a paper presented to South Asian workshop on street children organized by Tata institute of social services, Bombay India collaboration with International association of schools of social work Vienna, Austria by establishing a correlation between poverty and growth in the number of street children as those, "who spend about 5-6 hours each day in the street go back every evening to their parents in slum areas." The existing legal provision failed to be effective in addressing the problems of child labour. Therefore. it is

necessary to establish a body at the highest level and ombudsman to supervise action on behalf of children (Manandhar, 1992).

In 2001, ILO/ IPEC published a report entitled. "situation of child porters and research on porters focus on uncovering the causes, characteristics, magnitude and consequences of there children and their involvement in this worst from of the porters. This research presents the investigation of child porters under the age of 19 and 19 in different survey sites. There's children are divided in to two categories (i) porters carrying loads over long distances. Journeys requiring more than one day and (ii) porters working short distances in such areas as markets business centers bus and truck parks. A total of 349 child porters were come form rural areas of hill and mountain districts. Average family size of a child consists of 6.5 people more porters landless than homeless.

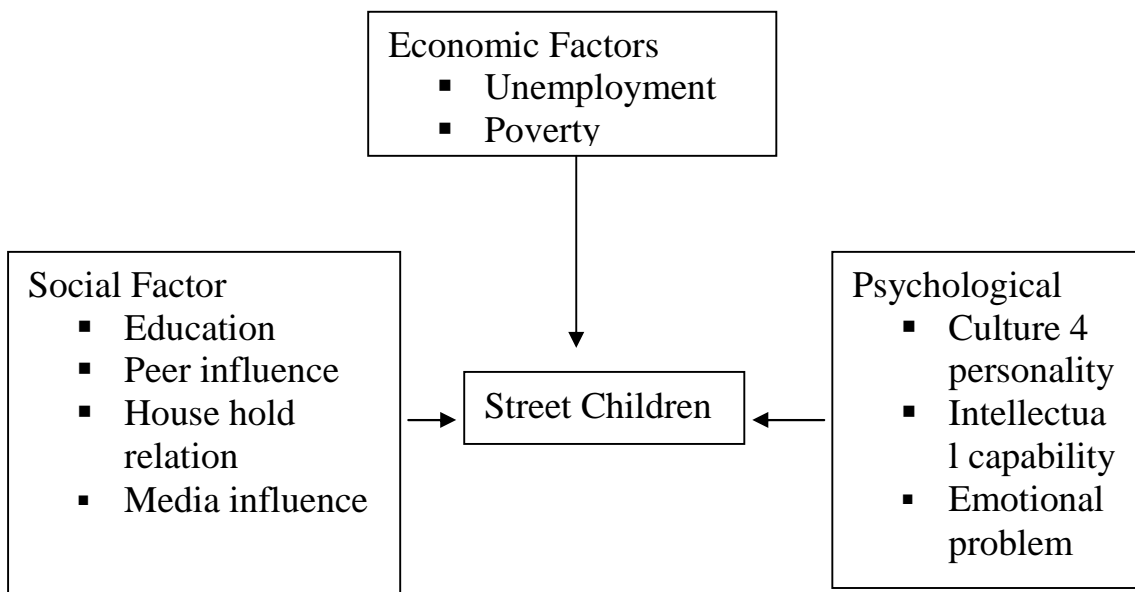
The findings of this study will provide invaluable and much needed background information and child porters to assist future action programmes aimed at eliminating this worst from of child labour.

"The right of the child is to be protected from economic exploitation and from pre-forming any work that is likely to be hazardous or to interfere with the child's education or to the harmful to the child's health or physical Mental, spiritual, moral or social development (CWIN, 2002).

2.2 Conceptual Framework

The aim of the present study is to provide a systematic and empirical examination of socio-economic factor to emphasis to increasing the street children in Butwal city. So the conceptual framework adopted for this study is as follows.

Conceptual Framework



Economic Factors

Economic theory basically the Marxist one suggests that deviant behaviour is the result of inequalities of social and economic order in which an acquisitive society encourages aggression and discourages altruism. Children are forced to commit offences due to the lack of very basic requirements of life, are forced to run away from their rural homes to urban areas due to the lack of food security. So unemployment and poverty incidence are that kind of economic factor that challenges their survival and creates tension in the family.

Social falter

A child does only those things that he learns from the society family is primary institution where a child starts to be socialized, so the family should have good and strong relationship with each of each member, if family is itself suffering from bad condition like turmoil or broken home and loose family ties, in this situation a child always feels

insecure and cannot learn well parental care determines the nature of child like family, a child also learns from his friends or peer group. If he meets bad companion we cannot expect good behaviour from him like wise education and media are also influencing on the personality of a child.

Psychological Factors

Individual have different personalities because certain universal treats link all humans. Their common characteristics are not necessarily biologically based. They may also result from universal or nearly universal psychic experiences VIZ, birth it self, stage of psychological development. Siblings and others experiences with other objects. The psychological factors Viz. culture and personality, intellectual capability, emotional problem affect the degree/extent of street children.

CHAPTER - III

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This chapter deals with the methodology adopted of for the study. To achieve the mass objective of the study and to make systematic study, Certain research procedures or methods have been applied to explore the hidden facts and realities of street children, the following methodologies were as follows:

3.1 Site Selection

Butwal municipality is the large city in the western development regions. The number of street children in this city is increasing day by day. So, Butwal municipality is selected for the study. this study concentrated on the main Jankyard and highway Road side of Butwal; Golpark, Traffic Chowk, Haatbazar, Deepnagar, Sukhanagar, Biscamp, Yougikuti, Kalika Nagar, Phulbri (A picnic spot)

3.2 Research design

This study is investigate the hidden facts and nature of street children in Butwal Municipality city. In this research, exploratory and descriptive method are used. This research design is made to describe the socio-economic condition of street children and major problems associated with them which enables us to present a clear picture of the phenomena under investigation.

3.3 Nature and Sources of Data

In this study, both primary and secondary data have been used for required information. Priamry data were collected by interview of street

children during field visit. The secondary data from different sources such as published books and periodicals, publications and reports of different national and international organizations, journals, research reports, newspapers and magazines.

3.4 Selection of the Target Population and Sampling Method

As this study is to investigate the extent of street children in Nepal, all street children are the target population. Since street children are the most exploited section of our society. So, they are chosen for this study

It is not possible to cover all children scattered through out the country. Depending upon the availability of children, cluster sampling is used based on the predetermined clusters. Street children are mobile nature so, every child is not interviewed each cluster.

3.5 Methods of Data Collection

The following approaches have been used and data collection

- a. **Questionnaire approach:** Structured questionnaires were used to get the detailed information about street children. Since street children have no fixed living place, they were interviewed wherever they were met.
- b. **Observation Approach:** The street children's behaviour and physical conditions had been observed and noted. In this approach, more emphasis was given mainly to the following aspects.

) Working and living conditions

) Age, health, clothing and

) Attitude and behavior among themselves and with others.

- c. **Formal and Informal Interviews:** In this process, structured and semi-structured questionnaires had been used. Information from formal and informal interviews with the owners of Junkyard local people whom they live or do job permanently, and collected. The formal information collected from where interview were conducted with the leaders of local NGOs for key information.

3.6 Method of Data Analysis:

In this study, the analysis of collected information (data) from both quantitative and quantities method is made through the particular rules and regulation available documents and studies related to child labour and street children. Studies on economic condition of street children, reason to be children street and socio-economic changes are analyzed. Discussion are made on the existing policy and programme to protect and promote street children. The quantitative data obtained from structured questionnaires are first processed through validation, edited carefully, and then hand tabulation was made. Finally, the data are interpreted with additional information.

In short, the nature of this study is basically descriptive and explanatory. Simple statistical tool i.e. percentage and ratio has been used to present data, which has enabled to present a scenario of the prevailing condition of street children.

CHAPTER - IV

DATA ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

4.1 Demographic and Socio-Economic Characteristic

Nepal is famous for its economic and cultural diversity. The gap between the poor and the rich is unreasonably huge. There are so many factors that contribute to such situation. The socio-cultural trend of this country is basically influenced by feudalistic norms and values. A large majority of the people is uneducated and unconscious and moved by superstitionis and conservative thinking.

Most parents in the rural and urban areas who send their children to work not only for an additional income, But also to reduce the number of hungry stomachs to be feed. This miserable condition of our country has affected each and every sector of society and the children are its main victims. So, there is no other way to there children except to run away from their home to city areas in search of betterment of life. The migration of children to the urban areas has been increasing tremendously that is also the factor of child to be street.

There are two categorizes of street children which can be defined as follows children of the street refers to children who only use the street as their working place and live with their families. Other terms also used Kawdi (A Madeshi term which denotes street children/person) and popular assumptions about street children, which depict them as victims of poverty and abandonment.

4.1.1 Socio-demographic Characteristics

Street children are an unavoidable phenomenon in the country like Nepal where unplanned urbanization is a growing trend. In this country, there is huge gap between villages and cities rich and poor. Most of the cities have been pointed by so called new development models where are villages are deprived from ever a basic facilities like food health care, drinking water education and employment. This has also causes a growing number of street children in the major cities in Nepal.

This section describes characteristics of the 55 children that ere interviewed for the purpose of this study. many children have left home due to poverty too much of work at home, maltreatment by step (father/mother) parents. Before finding out the life style of street children. It is necessary to know their place of origin, age group ethnicity, family status their educational status.

4.1.2 Origin of the Street Children

From the survey report, street children can be categorized into two groups, in terms of migration and their home in the villages and are living in town. They migrated to these places in search of job with close relatives and friends. The second cateogr8es are whose family live in nearby towns. Their guardian's maltreatment them and they run away form their homes. The migration from rural to urban is mostly found among landless laborers with the desire to escape from hardship and in search of employment.

The respondents point the following reasons for leaving their home influenced by friends. Maltreatment by the guardians, too much work at home, expectation of better life and no schooling around study

shows that most of street children migrate from different parts of the nation to Butwal. Which are listed below table.

Table No. 4.1: Origin own Place of Street Children

Area	Number	Percentage
Periphery of Butwal	22	40
Western Hill	15	27.27
Western Terai	9	16.36
Mid western Terai	5	9.09
Eastern Terai	4	7.25

Source: Field Survey, 2007.

It has been clear that the place of origin of the street children have mostly form periphery of Butwal. There comprise 40 percent in two 55 (total) respondents. In this way, 27.72 percent of street children arrive from western hills which is the second largest majority of the street children. 7.25 percentage of the street children came from the eastern Terai, which is the lowest percentage of the total respondents.

4.1.3 Age Structure

The age between 10-16 years is a critical period fro child. This age is period of socialization and self-eastern. most of child labour falls under this age. It is found that out of 55 children surveyed, 49 were boys and 6 girls, which indicates a very low percentage of girls among the street children. This may partly be explained by the fact that street are not safe places for girls.

Table No. 4.2: Distribution of Street Children by Age Group

Age-group	Boys	Girls	Total	Percentage
6-9	8	2	10	18.19
9-12	12	1	13	23.64
12-14	20	2	22	40.00
14+	9	1	10	18.19
Total	49	6	55	100.

Source: Field Survey, 2007.

All respondents were categorized into four groups based on their age structure i.e. 6-9 years, 9-12 years, 12-14 years and above 14 years. Out of 55 children interviewee of 18.19 percentage street children are 6-9 age group. 23.64 percentage were in 9-12 age group, 40 percentage were in 12-14 age group, 18.91 percentage were in above 14 age group. Among 55 respondents only 6 respondents were girls.

4.1.4 Educational Status

From the case studies of 55 children, about 37 percentage children among those interviewed are illiterate. Among those who had been to school before, most of them had studies only between 1 and 2 classes.

Children were willing to go to school, but they can not go to school because they are needed by their family sources of income, which supplement's their family's survival. A data suggest that the high drop out rate of the primary school level has become one of the contributing factors to the growth of street children.

Table No. 4.3: Distribution of Status of Children's Education Level

Age-group	Boys	Girls	Total	Percentage
Illiterate	18	2	20	36.36
Literate	8	1	9	16.36
Primary (5)	21	2	23	41.82
Secondary (6-10)	2	1	3	5.45
Total	49	6	55	100

Source: Field Survey, 2007.

As shown as above table, 36.36 percentage of the total respondents are illiterate and have not attend any school, 41.82 percentage children have studies upto primary school and only 5.45 percent had acquired secondary level education. similarly 16.36 percentage of the total respondents are just literate. During the survey period of this study, no one was studying at school.

4.1.5 Cause of not Joining School

Every children has a dream to go to school. But they cannot go as most of these children come from poor families main sources of income generate form agriculture. Many of these families have a little land or to land at all. Though, primary level of education is free in Nepal but the prevailing socioeconomic condition like poverty, illiteracy, lack of adequate working and employment facilities compel parents send their children to work rather than to school for their survival.

During the Survey, when they were asked to give the reason for not joining or not continuing school, respondent give different reasons, which were show the below table

Table No. 4.4: Distribution of Children by Causes of Not Attending Schools

Age-group	Boys	Percentage
Poverty	15	27.27
Not interested	12	21.82
Father distorted	2	2.18
Negligence of parents	11	20.00
No school around	10	18.18
Death of parents	5	9.09
Total	49	100.

Source: Field Survey, 2007.

From the above table, it is clear that the large number (30 out of 55 total respondents) of the respondents were not joining the school due to poverty; similarly 21.82 percent children were not interested to join continue their study and 20 percent were deprived because of the negligence of their parents. Death of parents 9.09 percent, father distort 2.18 percent of the total respondents gave reason for not joining/continue school.

4.1.6 Household Status

Street children's household status is affected by various factor such as household structure, parent's educational level and economic condition. Nepalese society is male dominant society. On the other hand when one of the parents of a child especially mother dies then father will do second marriage. And discrepancy between own their children and stepchildren arises. These children are badly treated by their stepmother.

So, to understand the family status, this chapter tries to attempt such as parental status (alive or dead), educational and overall awareness as well as their economic condition.

4.1.7 Parents Alive or Dead

Most of the children have both parents certainly suggest that the parents have not carried out their responsibility of taking care of their children adequately. This suggests parental negligence as one of the factors behind children's moving in to the street.

Table No. 4.5: Parents Alive or Dead by Children's Sex

Age-group	Boys	Percent	Girls	Percent	Total	Percent
Father alive	35	71.43	4	66.67	39	70.91
Father dead	14	28.57	2	33.33	16	29.09
Total	49	100	6	100	55	100
Mother alive	40	81.63	5	83.33	45	81.82
Mother dead	9	18.37	1	16.67	10	18.18
Total	49	100	6	100	55	100

Source: Field Survey, 2007.

The above table clearly demonstrated that out of 55 street children, 70.91 percent children's have their father alive. Similarly 29.09 percent children's father was dead. Among the children, 81.82 percent respondents have their mother alive and 18.18 percent children's were dead.

The main reason leaving children out of their stepparents. Because either one or both of the parents death lead to fulfill the vacancy by step parents. This observation may not be true in all cases because most of the respondents of this study are from the families of both parents alive. But

it is definite that death of any one of the parents brings stress and strain beyond the management of the child and the family dissolution may isolate the child and drive him, her away from family.

4.1.8 Parent's Education

In developing countries like Nepal, illiteracy rates high and is a serious drawback. Although, the Nepal's government budget on education is high, the progress in literary is very low.

Table No. 4.6: Structure of Parents Education Status

Educational Status	Number	Percentage
Illiterate	21	38.19
Literate	9	16.36
Primary	7	12.73
Secondary	5	9.09
Don't know	13	23.64
Total	55	100

Source: Field Survey, 2007.

The above table shows that the majority (38.19 %) of these children's parents' are illiterate and only 16.36 percent are just literate. This table shows that only 12.73 percent of parents of the respondents have primary level education. 9.09 percent parents of the street children have secondary level education and lastly, 23.64 percent of respondents do not know either their parents are literate or illiterate.

4.1.9 Status of Street Children's Parent Occupation.

Over 79 percentage of the total population in Nepal live in rural areas and more 77 percentage depend on agriculture for their survival

(Final Report of tenth Plan). So that the major sources of income is agriculture followed by labour, the study supports the general assumptions that the child labour is a result of poverty of the family. It is often response to he basic requirement of the family parents occupations of street children are not always same.

Table No. 4.7: Status of Parents Occupation

Educational Status	Number	Percentage
Agriculture	20	36.36
Porter/worker/Driver	14	25.45
Domestic servant	8	14.54
Service	4	7.27
Business	3	5.45
Others	6	10.91
Total	55	100

Source: Field Survey, 2007.

Tables shows that the majority (36.36 %) of the children's parents were engaged in agriculture. Likewise 25.45 percent of the children's parents are engaged in wage labour. Only 5.45 percent of the children's parents are involved in petty business. Similarly, small percentage of street children's parent are involved in service, domestic servant and other occupation.

This date indicates that most of the parents are invoked in low paying and less prestigious jobs. Only few are found involved in well-paid and prestigious jobs.

4.1.10 Household Income

This study supports the general assumption that child labour is directly related to the poverty to the household. Fulfilling the basic requirements of household completed for children. The children of the under or unemployed families, therefore, must work of the household's survivals.

Table No. 4.8 : Distribution of Household Income Sufficiency

Educational Status	Household	
	Number	Percentage
Insufficient	22	40
Just sufficient	18	32.73
Sufficient	5	9.09
Don't know	10	18.18
Total	55	100

Source: Field Survey, 2007.

The above table shows that 40 percent of street children's household income insufficient for their household survival. Out of total 55 respondents 32.73 percent children's household income is best. Sufficient for their family survival that means tightly sufficient but no invest for education and health etc. Only 9.09 percent of the street children's household income is sufficient that means sufficient enough to a certain level and 18.18 percent children do not have any knowledge about their parent's earnings.

4.1.11 Caste Composition

Table No.4.9: Distribution of Street Children by Ethnicity

Age-group	Boys	Girls	Total	Percentage
Magar	12	1	13	23.64
Chaudhari	10	1	11	20.00
Tamang	8	1	9	16.36
Tharu	8	1	9	16.36
Kumal	2	-	2	3.64
Chhetri	3	-	3	5.45
Brahmin	2	-	2	3.62
Others	4	2	6	10.91
Total	49	6	55	100

Source: Field Survey, 2007.

The caste diversity of street children in Butwal from various ethnic groups such as Magar, Chaudhari, Tamang, Thru, Kumal, Chhetri, Brahmin and other (Means from India) which is presented in table. In this study, Magar has the highest 23.64 percent of street children among total 55 residents. Similarly, Chaudhari constituted 20%. Tamang and Tharu constituted 16.36% respectively of the street children population. The remaining caste like Kumal 3.64% Chhetri 5.45 percent Brahmin 3.62 percent and others 10.91 percent.

4.2 Working Condition and Its Causes

Children in Nepal start working of a very young stay in and around their own homes. In rural economy, children's have played a significant role in the family subsistence, like collecting firewood, grazing cattle, carrying children and supporting portents in the field are most common work that Nepalese children's perform in rural areas.

Nowadays, the migration of the children to the urban areas has been increasing tremendously and this has ultimately contributed to increment of child labour. In this way a majority of children are imaged in roads and building construction, transportation cleaner, garment industries, news paper. Hawker and domestic service are major child labour employing agencies in Nepal. The reason for street children are a cheap source of labour.

Increasing poverty, illiteracy and ignorance are leading our society into more and more misery. this miserable (very unhappy, uncomfortable) condition of our country has affected each and every sector at society and children are its main victim. We desire our children to grow up into good citizens, but there is a lack of proper opportunities for their overall development. Not only have they been deprived of basic necessities like nutrition, shelter, clothing, education, and health care but they also suffer from humiliation negligence, abuse, explanation and disease. In other words they are missing their entire. There are many problems and obstacles in their path that prevent them from leading a normal childhood.

The causal factors, poverty at home, problematic family relationship, recent conflict phenomenon in the villages and the attractions of the city are the main causes of a child's home leaving. It seemed logical to assume that a child's perspective on his departure, as well as those of members of his community, would differ depending whether it was promoted by conflict within the family the encouragement of friend or the search for work.

Table No. 4.10: Distribution of Children by cause for Home Leaving

Age-group	Boys	Girls	Total	Percentage
Maltreatment/abuse	16	2	18	32.73
Influenced by others	10	-	10	18.18
Expectation of better life	8	-	8	14.54
Poverty	7	1	8	14.54
Conflict	2	1	3	5.45
Death of parents	4	-	4	7.27
Others	2	2	4	7.27
Total	49	6	55	100

Source: Field Survey, 2007.

The above table shows that, large proportions of the respondents leave their home due to the maltreatment abuse, which are 32.73 and 18.18 percent are influenced by others. Similarly, 14.54 percent of the respondents left their home due to expectant of better life and 14.54 percent of the respondents left their home due to poverty. Conflict and death of parents caused children to live their home which accounted. 5.45 percent, 7.27 percent respectively and the remaining 7.27 percent give other reasons for living the home.

4.2.1 Causes of leaving with their previous job

The factor are the main cause of leaving with their previous job have been domestic in a wealthy household assistants in cheap restaurants. Carpet heavers, and assistance on bus or tempo. Most of the respondents of this study were employed before coming to street. Main reason to quit their previous job is shown as table.

Table No. 4.11: Causes of Leaving with Their Previous Job

Age-group	Boys	Girls	Total	Percentage
Hard work	15	1	16	29.09
Low pay	10	2	12	21.82
Not getting salary	14	2	16	29.09
Risky	3	-	3	5.45
Others	7	1	8	14.54
Total	49	6	55	100

Source: Field Survey, 2007.

The table shows that 29.09 percent of the respondents left their previous job due to hard working. Similarly, not getting salary was found to be the second main factor for leaving jobs. Among them, 29.09 percent children said that not getting salary form previous job, thus they left those types of job. Low pay was found to be the third main factor for living previous job for 21.82 percent children. Other main reasons for street children's abandonment of their previous job is ill-treatment and long working hours scolding and beating by employers and physical abuse, Risky and cheating by others. 14.54% of the total respondents leave their previous job due to these factors.

4.2.2 Types of work

Most of the street children work either rag-picking and selling in on a Junkyards of or begging at tourist areas. To fulfill the immediate basic needs, except these two job many children are engaged in different types of work depend upon the area where these children live. for example, a street child at bus park works as a bus cleaner, at official area does shoe shining job and tourist area does begging.

Table No. 4.12: Types of Work Done by Street Children

Age-group	Boys	Girls	Total	Percentage
Rag pickers	15	1	16	29.09
Hotel/restaurant	7	-	7	12.73
Begging	8	2	9	16.36
Vehicles cleaners	9	-	9	16.36
Domestic work	2	3	5	9.09
Newspaper Hawker	2	-	2	3.64
Factory/Garment	4	-	4	7.27
Others	2	-	2	3.64
Total	49	6	55	100

Source: Field Survey, 2007.

Among the 55 respondents, 29.0-9 percent were found to be doing rag pickers and selling it in a junkyard, which cover 16 children, 16.36 percent (9 children) are found as beggars and vehicles cleaner respectively. Similarly, 12.73 percent were working as hotel/restaurant assistants where they can get food and 9.09 percent children were serving by domestic work. The minority of children were engaged as factory and also busy in news paper selling with loud voice on the road. Other work denotes different types of work such as shoe shining, pick pocketing, and stealing.

Table No. 4.13 : Working Hour of the Street Children (Per day)

Working Hour per day	Respondent	
	Number	Percentage
3-4	17	30.91
5-8	24	43.64
9-12	14	25.45
Total	55	100

Source: Field Survey, 2007.

The table shows that, the majority (43.64%) were found to be working 5 to 8 hours per day. About 30.90 percent worked 3-4 hour per day and 25.45 percent devoted to 9 to 12 hours per their work. Street children work in average 6 to 7 hours per day. Which is hard to bear for them in daily life.

4.2.3 Income Profile

The level of income of street children depend upon their types of work. Begging is an easy type of work where as pocketing is of hard and risky type. The beggars of tourist areas earn larger amount of income than all other children. Street children earn sufficient income for their daily survival but they spend huge amount of their income in watching cinema, taking alcohol and smoking.

Table No. 4.14 : Distribution of Street Children by Their Cash Income

Income Rs per day	Respondent	
	Number	Percentage
Below 20	7	12.73
20-40	17	30.91
40-80	9	16.36
90-100	14	25.45
100 above	8	14.54
Total	55	100

Source: Field Survey, 2007.

The table shows that 30.91 percent of children earn Rs 20 to 40 per day, Likewise, 12.73 percent of children earn less than Rs 20 per day. Only 14.54 percent of street children earn above rs 100 per day, The table

shows that begging and rag picking are the predominant sector of street children's income.

4.2.4 Expenditure Pattern

It is expected that street children usually earn sufficient income to cover their food cost after half and days rag picking in entertainment. So they have to borrow for food and clothes from the Jankyard owner. However, borrowed cash is more often spent on cinema tickets, tasty foods, alcohol, cigarettes and gambling with cards and carom board.

Table No. 4.15: Expenditure Items Perceived by Street Children

Expenditure	Boys	Girls	Total	Percentage
Food	16	3	19	34.54
Smoking	6	-	6	10.91
Clothes	6	1	7	12.73
Entertainment	5	1	6	10.91
Alcohol	8	-	8	14.54
Medical treatment	3	1	4	7.27
Lost	5	-	5	9.09
Total	49	6	55	100

Source: Field Survey, 2007.

From the above table, we can see that the street children's expenditure different items according to their priority basis. the main item of expenditure are food, smoking, clothing, and entertainment. Out of the total 55 respondents, 34.54 percent have incurred expenses on food. Almost 12.73% of the children gave priority to spending on clothes, 10.91% of children spent on different types of entertainment and third priority. Finally, 7.27% of the children's expenses went on medical treatment and 9.09 percent of children told about the looting of their

money by local boys. During survey period, it was found that these children did not worry about the future and wanted to enjoy at present

4.2.5 Saving pattern

During the survey, all respondents were influence by bad atmosphere and have learnt all types of bad habit. They do earn and also spend their earning immediately. These children do not have any incentive to save. So explained earlier drinking alcohol, taking smoking and watching film is the main area of their enjoyment. Some respondents said during the survey time, they also spend their money for sticking money for sticking mouth and noses into polythine bags inhaling the intoxication as intoxication. This is a new fund of getting high and other drags remains expensive and inaccessible to these street children.

Many factors are associated with dissaving of street children when asked about the reason of not saving different answer are found. The major factor is robbed by others and the other main reason is not enough besides there factors, 'fear of police, no idea and 'not interested to save' are the other main reason of not saving.

Table No. 4.16: Pattern of Daily Cash Saving

Working Hour per day	Respondent	
	Number	Percentage
1-10	15	27.27
10-20	14	25.45
20-30	9	16.36
30-40	8	14.54
40-50	4	7.27
50 above	5	9.09
Total	55	100

Source: Field Survey, 2007.

From the above table, seen that most of the children did leave i.e. 27.27 % of the total respondent children either do not save or less than Rs 10 per day. The rag pickers collect scrap in the morning and evening and spend their income in the day time either watching films, playing cards or gambling. When abused about their daily saving 25.45% said between Rs 10-20 daily. 16.35% saved Rs 20-30, 14.54% save the Rs 30-60 perday, 7.27% of said their saving is Rs 40-50 per day and remaining 9.09% reported their daily saving is more than Rs 50.

4.2.6 Harassment

Children working as garbage collectors shoe shiner and porters are described as part of the self employed sector often homeless and leading a marginalized life where crime, alcohol and drug abuse, gambling, violence and police harassment are an every day reality (CWIN, 1998: 40) The most enthusiastically contested aspect of Kadadi identify is their association with theft criminal activity in general. During survey period, it was found that police often harassed them as they have, taken to the police station, unjustly accused of theft, then beaten and hold for several days.

Table No. 4.17: Street Children Harassment

Harassment by	Respondent	
	Number	Percentage
Senior street boys	13	23.64
Local boys	11	20.00
Police	12	21.82
Tourist	-	-
Don't know	11	20.00
Others	8	14.54
Total	55	100

Source: Field Survey, 2007.

The above table clearly shows the harassment faced by street children. They are harassed and abused in different ways by different person. About 23.64 percent of the respondents were harassed and abused by the senior street boys. and policed harassed for 21.82 percent. Out of the total respondents, 20 percent were harassed by local boys. 20 percent told that they were harassed frequently but they did not who they were. Finally it was found that 14.54 percent of children harassed by others.

4.2.7 Future Appreciation

Table No. 4.18 : Future Plans of Street Children

Figure plans	Boys	Girls	Total	Percentage
Driver	12	-	12	21.82
Mechanical technician	5	-	5	9.09
Good person	4	2	6	10.91
Teacher	2	2	4	7.27
Police	6	1	7	12.73
Dancer	2	-	2	3.64
Army	4	-	4	7.27
Doctor	1	-	1	1.82
Not decided	6	1	7	12.73
Rich person (earn more money)	3	-	3	5.45
Don't know	4	-	4	7.27
Total	49	6	55	100

Source: Field Survey, 2007.

The respondents were asked that if they were give a choice what kind of work they would must likely to choose. As seen form table, 21.82 percent of respondents wanted to be driver & 12.73 percent of

respondents had not yet decided for their future plan. Similar, 10.91 percent respondents wanted to be good person in life and 12.73 percent street children wanted become policeman. Among the respondents, the proportion of those who wanted to become a teacher and Army was 7.27 percent. Similarly, the percentage of those wanted to become a mechanical technician, dancer was 9.09 and 3.64 percent respectively, 12.73% of the children did not any ambitions for future, and 7.27% of the street children said that they don't know about their future plan. Finally, 5.45% of children wanted to become rich person and only 1.82% of wanted to become doctor in future

From the respondents opinion, it is fairly clearly that Kawadi work was not considered to be attractive. Although some children's dream, as police officer or teacher may achieve in their future as well if the general police, government and non government organization help them.

CHAPTER -V

SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 Summary

This study presents the findings of the rapid assessment made about street children in some selected areas of Butwal Municipality city. The field survey conversed 55 street children, among which 49 were boys and 6 girls who were interviewed at different places of Butwal.

There is a lack information on child labour in Nepal. this study utilizing both quantities and qualitative data has attempted to provide some important aspects of the child labour situation especially of the street children of Butwal.

Most of the working children were between the age group of 10-14 years, followed by the age group 9-12 years. A majority of the child worker were from Magar and Chaudhari. All most all children were migrant workers coming from Palpa, Gulmi, Arghakhanchi, Nawalprasai, Kapilbastu, Bhairahawa, Dang, Rolpa, Syangja districts and there were a few child workers who have been recited locally. Regarding education, out of the 55 street children surveyed 41.82% had studied up to primary level and 5.45 % children had studied up to primary etc. Nearly, 36.36% of the street children were totally illiterate and only 16.36% were literate.

Different factors are responsible for illiteracy such as neglect from parents and poverty. there are many causes of street children's leaving their home. Out of the total respondents, 32.73 percent left their home due to maltreatment/abuse, 18.18% from their influences, and 14.54 is

expectation of better life and due to poverty at home and the death of parents is 7.27%. Serious political burning conflicts and other causes were also responsible for causing some children to leave their home. However, urban attraction and pull factors of urban facilities are also the reason for a child to be on the street in Butwal.

As for the respondents, most of the children came from the agriculture households (36.36%), wage workers 9.09% domestic servants 14.54% and others 10.91%. The households of 0.09% children were generating sufficient income for household survival, whereas the households of 32.73 percent were earning just sufficient and 40 percent were earning insufficient income. Over 70.91% of the children had their father was alive. Where as 29.09 percent children's father was dead. And 81.82 percent of the children had their mother alive and 18.81 percent children's had their mother dead. Illiteracy of parents is very high because 38.19 percent were totally illiterate. Street children were engaged in various types of work but rag-picking and begging were the most common jobs. Out of total respondents, 29.09 percent were engaged as rag-picking, 16.36 percent were engaged as begging, 12.73 percent were hotel and restaurant and minority groups were engaged in selling paper, domestic work, factory etc. Income level of street children depends upon their types of work. Begging is an easy type of work where as rag pickers earn higher amount of income in comparison of other types of work. The majority (43.64%) of children work 5-8 hours per day. Street children earned sufficient income for their daily food but they spend huge amount of their income in watching movie, alcohol, smoking etc. Most of the street children do not save their income. But only 9.09 percent saves more than Rs 50 daily. Other children saved a little money for their other purpose.

Street children were exploited and harassed in various ways by various persons. Among them, 23,64 percent were harassed by senior street boys, 21.82 percent by police, 20 percent by local boys, 20% children did not know the person who harassed them. Most of the children may be involved in sexual activity but they hesitate to talk about it. But some of them accepted that such case occurs in street life.

Street children's future dreams were different. But they have some incentive to do a good job in the future. Most of the children wanted to be driver, to be a good person, teacher, doctor, dancer, army and police. If these children are supported, they can do other prestigious works and become good citizens.

Street children come from the poor , least organized and most deprived segments of the urban population. From the survey, It can be inferred (reach form facts or reasoning) that street children do not give high important to health and personal hygiene issues. This is due to the fact that their main concern is with meeting the daily requirements of food along with the fact that they sleep on the streets had their meal twice a day, but a very simple food. However, fever, cough, diarrhoea, headache, back pain are the major forms of sickness among the street children.

In Nepal, the major legal instruments related to children are the children act 1992 and the labour Act 1992. These have strictly prohibited the employment of children in labour force and their rights of physical, educational, health and moral development. But it is not successfully, encouraging because of several reasons i.e. mass poverty, illiteracy and growing inequalities in socio-economic life of Nepal. The laws made of protecting weaker section of the society have become less effective

because the implementation and execution aspects are much weakly need in real sense. The success depends largely on the removal of mass poverty and the economic upliftment of the child labour.

5.2 Conclusion

"Day to day fears of walking through a dark street can indicted that rights of the children need to be realized." Lots of NGOs, INGOs, many other social organization including village development committee (VDC, District child Welfare Board (DCWB), Central Child Welfare Board (CCWB) and Ministry of Women, children and Social Welfare are working in the field of Child Rights so all these social organizations are engaged to uplift the socio-economic status of children.

The data presented in this research including only 55 respondents through cluster sampling survey. So, this study tried to given an overall picture of the situation of street children in Butwal municipality.

From this survey, it was found that most of the street children have come from different ethnic caste group but greater number of street children have come form Magar, Chaudhari, Tamang, Tharu, Kumal, Chhetri, Brahmin an other castes.

Survey shows that, most of working children are in between the age group of 12-14 years, followed by the age group 9-12. Study also found, due to lack of nourishing food, these children's physical growth is poor. So they seem to be younger than their actual age. Most of the children are willing to go to school but they are not able because of various factors and most of the children come to the street before completing their primary education. This is the another factor is contributing to increase the number of the street children.

From this research, it is found that maltreatment abuse influence by others, poverty, conflict, death of parents are the major causes for leaving home. Study also shows that most of the migrants children are from periphery of Butwal and minority group of street children are come from different part of the peripheral district. children of the street category are because of maltreatment of their parents and influenced by their friends. Most of the children have both parents alive. This suggests that the parents have not carried out their responsibilities of taking good care of their children. Most of the children reported that their parents were adopted agricultural occupation. Children form sufficient family income and children from insufficient family income both are leading on the street. Thus, poverty is not only the reason for them to come to the street rather maltreatment and other factors are the causes to push them into the street.

Most of the children of the street category don't save whereas most of the children on the street category do save some money from their earnings. though most of the children are harassed and neglected by people form different walk of life, there are also some people who support them in their daily life like junkyard owners who provided different support to rag pickers as food, shelter and loan also. Like owner of the hotels where most of the children regularly bought their meals provided food on credit as well as collect some saving money of the street children, like many citizens who have also different kind of sympathy towards them. This indicates that they have maintained some social relation as they are also a social being.

This research found that majority of the street children are involved at least one or more bad habit including smoking or alcohol or glue sniffing. Street children sniff glue because it takes away the children's

hunger, Cold and despair and also gives them the courage to steal and engage in picks pocketing.

From the observation of their daily life including sleeping arrangements as well as health and hygienic condition, nature of work, food and clothing, a question arises as to whether they have the conditions of basic human dignity and human rights such as proper shelter, minimum level of nutritious food, and access to health facilities etc. Most of the children for bathing, washing clothes and hand washing is concern there surveyed children are more conscious regarding the habit of personal cleaners. Regarding the planning for the future of the street children, majority of these wants to be a driver. A part this some children wants to join police and army force and even some wants to be doctor, teacher, good person, government officer by under taking higher studies if they have a change to get education. This indicates that some children's have a keen interest toward education.

5.3 Recommendations

Based on findings of this research, following recommendations are made the policy makers, concerned social organization and different agencies toward the present condition of the street children.

- The basic issue of the street children are to protect them from abuse in the city through preventive and protective measures. The preventive measure required mass awareness of society. Parents as well as social organization where as the protective measures include provision of survival strategies, security of them, psychological support, educational as well as vocational skills in the cities to these children.

- Unless the economic crisis of our country should be eradicated, the problems of street children as well as child labour will be still in the society. Because every family's economic condition is correlated with nation's economy and family's economic condition has been a push factor for many children's to land on the street. Alternative income sources should be identified and provided to those who have been depends upon their children's income.
- Most of the street children are either illiterate or dropped out by their parents from primary level of school, which is also one of the factors pushing them on the street. So national policy on education should be encourage them by providing different facilities. The parents who are not interested to educate their children should be made aware about the importance of education.
- Vocational skill development programmes should be provided for the older street children who have never had school education. So that they are able to survive themselves through secure income-generating occupation.
- Most of the children come to the street because of maltreatment of their parents so those parents should be punished in front of their own society. For this purpose, authority should be given to the society in corporation with local administration.
- The government of Nepal in conclusion with civil society and NGOs must formulate a national plan of action in co-operating details of programmed for achieving specific target goals and objectives regarding street children.

- Social mobilization is an important device for bringing awareness so unless, society as a whole is mobilized in this sector, and it can not be possible to solve the problem of street children.
- Health problems of street children are preventable. So, free health clinic should be provided to them for their present and future well-being. Education regarding personal cleanliness should be given to them in order to change their habit and hygienic practice.
- New programmes should be designed for rehabilitation center especially for those street children who have no home to return as well as parents to take care of them.
- Neither our government nor social organization including NGOs and INGOs are able to solve the problem of street children. Thus, there is a need for holistic change, involving all concerned in the field of street children.

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**Socio-Economic Status Survey Format for Street Children in Butwal
Municipality City-2007.**

Interviewer:

Date:

Place

a. Personal profile

1. Name:
2. Age:
3. Sex: Male () Female ()
4. Ethnicity/Caste:
5. working are
6. Permanent address (Birth Place)

B. Educational Status

7. Have you ever been at school?

- a. Yes b. No.

8. Causes for not joining school?

- a. Poverty b. Not interested c. Further distorted
d. Negligence of parents e. No school around
f. Death of parents

9. Have you dropped out from school

- a. Yes b. No.

If yes, why? (Specify)

10. Do you want to rejoin school? a. Yes b. No.

11. Educational level: a. Literate b. Illiterate

- If literate, a. Primary b. Lower secondary c. Secondary

C. Working condition

12. What types of work are you doing?

- a. Rag picking
- b. Hotel restaurant
- c. Begging
- d. Vehicles cleaners
- e. Domestic work
- f. Newspaper hawker
- g. In factory/Garmern
- h. Other specify

13. How many hours do you work per day?

- a. 3-4
- b. 5-8
- c. 9-12

14. How much money do you earn daily?

- a. Below 20
- b. 20-40
- c. 40-80
- d. 90-100
- e. Above 100

15. Why did you leave home?

- a. Maltreatment/abuse by household member
- b. Influenced by others
- c. Expectation of better life
- d. Poverty
- e. Conflict
- f. Death of parents
- g. Other (specify)

16. Do you save money

- a. Yes
- b. No

If yes, how much? per day/month/year, if not, why?

- a. Loss
- b. No idea
- c. Inadequate
- d. Fear of local boys 'dada'
- e. Fear of police
- f. Robbed by other
- g. Other (specify)

17. Where do you use your income?

- a. Food
- b. smoking
- c. Clothes
- d. Entertainment
- e. Alcohol
- f. Medical treatment
- g. Lost
- h. Other (Specify)

18. Where did you work before joining the current job? In which field (Specify)

19. What are the reasons for leaving the previous job?

- a. Hard work
- b. Low pay
- c. Not getting salary
- d. Risky
- e. Others (Specify)

20. Have you faced any kind of problems on the street.

- a. Yes
- b. No.

If yes, what kind of problem?

21. Who give you problems the most?

- a. Police
- b. General people
- c. Business man
- d. Others (Specify)

D. Situation at Home

22. Are your parents alive?

Father: alive/dead/don't know Name Optional:

Mother: alive/dead/don't know Name Optional:

23. Educational Status of Parents

Education	Father	Mother
Illiterate		
Literate		
Primary education		
Secondary		
Don't know		

24. What is your parent's occupation?

Occupation	Further	Mother
Agriculture		
Porter/worker/driver		
Domestic Servant		

Service		
Business		
Others		

25. Do your parents earn sufficient income for the household?

- a. Sufficient b. Insufficient
- c. Just sufficient d. Don't know

26. How is the relation between your parents?

- a. Good b. Not so good

E. Health and Nutrition

27. How many meals per day do you have?

- a. One meal b. Two meal c. Three meal
- d. Four meal d. More than four

28. Is your daily earning sufficient for you to buy meals and fruits?

- a. Yes b. No

29. Have you ever been sick?

- a. Yes b. No c. Don't know

If yes, how long? day/week/month

30. Do you know about harassment?

- a. Yes b. No.

31. Have you faced any harassment ?

- a. Yes b. No.
- a. Senior street boys b. Local boys
- c. Police d. Tourist e. Don't know
- f. Others (specify)

32. Does the police harass you?

- a. Yes b. No

If yes, how do they harass?

F. Attitude toward job

33. What do you feel about your work?

.....

34. What sort of work do you like?

.....

35. What is your future aim?

.....

36. What do you need to fulfill that aim?

.....

37. Do you have any suggestion for the betterment of your life?

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