

CHAPTER - I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 General background

1.1.1 Nepal at a Glance

Nepal is a small and beautiful country with snow-cold torrents and green vistas. It is situated in southeastern part of Asia between two huge nations India and China. It is a country of numerous and diverse villages having three different ecological regions running from south to north namely Terai, Hill and Mountain. It is located between latitude of $26^{\circ}22''\text{N}$ and $30^{\circ}27''\text{N}$ and longitude between $80^{\circ}4''\text{E}$ and $88^{\circ}12''\text{E}$. It has a wide an areas 1, 47,181 Square Kilometer with 885 KM east west and average of 193 KM north to south. (CBS, 2001), Its population is 2,31,51,423 (CBS, 2001). 85.8 percent of total population is living in rural areas and 38 percent people are under poverty line. The per capita income of Nepalese people is \$ 240 per annum (MoF, 2002). The gap between haves not is still increasing. Despite the natural beauty, the social-economic scenario indicates that it very challenging to develop the nation.

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

Nepal is a mountainous country is considered as nature's paradise. It is a paradise for ornithologist, nature lovers, hikers, trekkers and researchers of various disciplines. The country is recognized for its unique and pristine natural and cultural diversity.

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

1.1.2. Concept of Tourism

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

The seventh five-year plan of Nepal brought a new approach in tourism. This included furnishing information to the mountaineers with a good communication system, daily weather reports of the mountains and emphasized on increasing public awareness on the mountain tourism and environmental sustainability. The implementation of the seventh five-year plan put emphasis on the native style accommodation services to the tourists and new sites were opened for tourism, one of them was popular Annapurna Century. The resort area development program, under the 7th five-year plan, also included Hille of Dhankuta and Srinagar of Palpa at tourism sites. At the same time some basic survey programs had also been launched in Rara Lake, Tikapur, Chisapani of Kailali, ShreeAntu Danda of Ilam, Dhorpatan of Baglung and Kulekhani of Makawanpur etc. Then, many tourists know about Nepal as natural beauty.

1.1.3 Eco-tourism

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

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

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

1.1.4 Nagarkot

The study area, Nagarkot, occupies the Bhaktapur and Kavrepalanchok districts. Nagarkot is popular hill station in Nepal and is situated as about 32 kilometers east of

Kathmandu. It is situated as an altitude of 2099m from sea level. The study area lies between the latitude 27⁰41" N and 27⁰44"N and Longitudes 85⁰29" E to 85⁰32"E. The hilltop is visited for viewing beautiful sunrises and sunsets and visitors take delight in the layout of the Kathmandu valley below. On a clear day, Manaslu, Ganesh Himal, Gauri Shanker and Mount Everest can be seen from here. Lodges and Resorts are open throughout the year and visitors can extend their sojourn to explore the countryside.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

Tourism is main source of national economy in Nepal. But it still depends on traditional agriculture system because it's not provide full of employment so far. On the other hand, tourism is the fastest growth industry, which is so many possibilities in Nepal, and it can provide the best employment for the various people as tour guide operator and hotel owners, etc which is directly and indirectly benefited. It helps to income generation and increase to per capita income.

Many eco-tourist destinations of the country are located in wilderness areas where indigenous and marginalized people are residing so it is newest opportunity to people involved in higher travel trade industry to local entrepreneurship. It is one of the most feasible sources of alternative income generation from natural resources.

Nagarkot is the highest potentiality of eco-tourism where people can enjoy with various types of flora and fauna, wild animal birds, friendly people and their socio-cultural diversity etc.

1.3 Objective of the Study

The general objective of the study is to know the status and potentiality of the tourism development in Nagarkot Area; however, the following are the specific objectives:

1. To explore the socio-cultural aspects of tourism.
2. To assess the condition of natural resources.
3. To analyze the sustainability aspect of ecotourism in the study area.

1.4 Significance of the study

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

Ecotourism can play an important role in the ecological and economic development of a nation. It is necessary to explore the way, which can help to integrate ecotourism with poverty reduction and natural resources management.

Nepal is well placed for tourism development. In Kathmandu valley alone, there are places like Nagarkot, Kakani, Dhulikhel, Daman, Shivapuri, Fulchoki, Dachhinkali, and so on. The present study is intended to cover one of these places of Kathmandu valley, namely Nagarkot.

Nagarkot is the tourist area nearby Kathmandu valley and is famous for its natural beauty, view of rising and setting of sun and also for the spectacular view of Himalayas and Indrawati River valley. So, most of the tourists visiting Kathmandu are said to visit Nagarkot. The study also helps to those people and organizations that are in need of the facts and figures of Nagarkot generally in tourism and eco-tourism in particular. Thus the scope of ecotourism is optimistic there. Implementation of ecotourism program in Nagarkot would be beneficial for the nature conservation and community development as well. In this context present study dealing with the impact of tourism as well as natural resources of the area and potentiality for ecotourism development would be of greater significance. This study will also be helpful for planners, policy makers to set out necessary program for preventing further degradation of existing natural and cultural resources, their upliftment and sustainable utilization with ecotourism implementation. It may also contribute to future researchers working in this area.

1.5 Limitation of the Study

Through, there are various prospects of tourism in Nagarkot. Thus study focus mainly upon the possibility of the eco-tourism into the study area. The study was very

specific like case study in an around Nagarkot. So the conclusions drawn from this study was more indicative rather than conclusive. The conclusions might not be generalized for the whole. But, the inferences might be valid to some extent to those areas, which have similar geographic and environmental settings.

1.6 Organization of the study

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

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

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

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

Chapter Five Presentation and analysis of data of tabulate and interpret all the data collected from the study area with the help of questionnaire, interviews, field visit and observation.

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

CHAPTER - II

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

2.1 Introduction

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

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

2.2 Development of Tourism

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

Before the development of transport, travel was limited to certain people and to certain places. Mechanized transport has made it possible significantly for more number of people to travel to the different places. Transport is the necessary precondition of tourism. But the precondition of travel is movement and movement asks for transport. Tourist and tourism is so much connected with transport system that many historical study of tourism will be concerned with the development of modern transport.

For the purpose of studying development of tourism it can be divided into three phases:

1) *The First Phase: (up to 1840)*

Before the industrial Revolution, travel was primarily related to trade, commerce and pilgrimage. The travelers' during that time were, therefore, traders and merchants looking for merchandise. At that time travel was possible only for the aristocratic class of people. They were small in Number, the vast majority of the population hardly traveled beyond their village and the nearest market town. For this majority, the idea of leisure and holiday did not exist. Life was not divided into work and leisure. The traveler requires accommodation at his destination and for his journey. When a journey cannot be concluded in a single day it requires overnight accommodation, only wealthy people equipped with all the lodging and fooding equipment. In this stage, most of the people travel commercial interest, religious purpose and seeking knowledge etc.

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

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

growth of travel, e.g. the first rail link between Liverpool and Manchester was started in the this century.

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

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

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

After the Second World War the standard of living of the working and middle class, rose in the industrial countries. Tourism began to appear in the countries where it had been practically unknown a few years earlier. The war also changed the concept of people especially in Europe. It broke down the international barriers and peaceful internationalism developed. This is the most favorable climate in which tourism flourished.

Enormous expansion of tourism has taken place primarily in the advanced industrialized countries, where travel has become a part of the life style. Thus the twentieth century and onward can be called "*the century of Mass Tourism*".

In the past, tourism was limited-to-limited countries and destinations. Now every country is directly or indirectly involved in tourism. All countries compete with each other to attract tourists.

2.3 History of Tourism in Nepal

Traveling is very ancient phenomenon. Travel has existed since the beginning of time when primitive man set out. Often traveling great distances in search of game provided the food and clothing necessary for his survival. Throughout the course of history, people have traveled for purposes of trade, religious conviction, economic gain, war, migration and other equally compelling motivation. Thus, in ancient time, great motivations for travel were political or commercial interest, curiosity to know the custom and the habits of other people and finally religious sentiments.

Systematic tourism in Nepal started from 1966 with the establishment of a few hotels. The industry was further strengthened and established after the formation of tourism master plan in 1972. The master plan gave emphasis of tourism market development, sight seeing, trekking, eco-tourism, recreational and adventure tourism (Baral 1998). Following this different support services such as accommodation facilities and resort centers in different important tourist sites were also established.

A famous Austrian political economist Herman Von Schullard "Tourism is the sum total of operators meaning of an economic nature which directly related to the entry, stay and movement of foreigners inside and out side a certain country, city or region".

Swiss Professors W. Hunziker and Krapf "Tourism is the totality of the relationship and phenomenon arising from their travel and stay of strangers provided the stay does not employ the establishment of a permanent residence and is not consulted with are moderated actively".

Burkart and Medlik "Tourism denotes the temporary and short term movements of the people to destination outside the place where they normally live and work and their activities at those destination".

Cohen, "Voluntary, temporary travelers, traveling at the expectation of pleasure for the novelty and change experience on a relatively long and non-recurrent round trip".

McIntosh "The some of the phenomena and relationships arising from interaction of tourist business suppliers, host government and host communities in the process of attracting and hosting tourist and other visitors."

Thus, it is clear that temporary movement of people to destination outside their residence and working places is known as tourism. Their activities during the stay would be different from the activities of the residents and spending money that is earned elsewhere. The main motive of participation in tourism is not to seek permanent residence at destination that distinguishes it from migration. The journey and stay of tourists give rise to various demands such as transport, accommodation, safety, medical services, entertainment and other specific services. The destination should be in a position to supply. Therefore the place visited or destination is considered as the supplying sector of tourism services and the visitors denoted the demand sector is tourism.

Natural beauty, local life of indigenous people and the tradition culture have become the most valuable wealth. An American geographer JR has noted that for meeting one's basic requirements trading of cultural importance becomes necessary and here is no alternative to tourism. In fact this can surely be a thing of benefit as long as the mountains don't become smaller of tourists will keep on growing, judging from the stand point of tourism, the Himalayan region can ensure more advantage. The experts in planning and people have to improve management as well as preserve the opulence of the Himalayas. In many places especially in the delicate environment of the Himalayan region the unrestricted entrance of tourists has become a threat. The mountain treks where nearly about five thousand on foot tourists move become hateful with the useless articles, plastic bags, cans and other waste materials. In

Khumbu of the mid mountain region of Nepal, due to trekking on foot the adjoining dense forests have been badly damaged (Baral, 1998:9).

Growth of travel and tourism sector generates larger income and employment for those who are directly involved. It is also expected that same secondary activities like retailing and small trading activities would spring up in the growth process. The tourism industry acts, as a big breast to the primary producers, craftsmen, factory the tourists consume workers and landscape architects, who's good during their stay, in country. Tourists generally involve with hotels, carriers, restaurants and travel agencies still a substantial number of poor people, particularly in the developing countries like serving tourists also benefits porters, hawkers, rickshaws pullers etc. Indirect benefices are also generated for the local poor like waterman, vegetable vendors and unskilled workers. The multiplier effects of tourist spending create secondary sound of economic activities and sizeable amount of income and employment is generated in the region of country. Most of the benefits through trickle down effects in a number of ways or the prosperity created by the spending of visitors are filtered down through the local economy (Kamal, 2002).

J.K. Pallack has made study over cultural in Nepal. He has maintained in the study that the historical movements and cultures of Nepal are important attraction to many tourists and better use of tourism in Nepal. The study deals with the need for improving tourist resorts in Nepal. The major aims of developing tourist resort are to see that how much the tourists are able to spend as much as possible depends on the extent of opportunities provided to them.

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

The influence of external culture or limitation of their values is perhaps the consequences, which cannot be checked and brought about by inviting the tourists. The Himalayan region has been bearing the impact of this adverse influence for years. Only a few will say that the open door policy for foreign visitors is completely wrong. Some others also say that it is necessary to take the Himalayan society in the modernity of the twenty first century such as the almost extinct handicrafts and art of Bhaktapur have been revived by tourism. But in the long run some people think that a bad culture will drive away good things. They think that owing to excessive number of tourists, Kathmandu has not remained a dear place as in the past.

It conducted a study about the economic benefit of tourism and its role in further promote of local arts and crafts of Bhaktapur. The study suggested increasing sight seeing excursionists so as to make them stay longer by offering restaurant facilities and cultural attractions (Nepal, 2003).

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

Curiosity about unheard, unseen and unknown is a basic human nature. This type of behaviour leads human being to new places and people. Since through long time immemorial people have traveled along way from their home to explore new places and people. Later on, these types of activities were termed as tourism. Basically, tourism is a leisure activity of temporary nature, and does not involve earning related activities (Adhikari, 2005).

Any style and type of tourism that has the potential to bring benefits to the local economy while contributing to natural and cultural resource conservation.

Tourism has emerged as the fastest growing industry in the world and it is said to be the third largest industry after oil and automobile. Direct employment through tourism industry in the world is believed to be maximum. Many people in the world are engaged in tourism and travel industry for livelihood (Sharma, 2000).

There is no alternative of especially saving Nepal from tourism and big shots of westernization. We have to lose something to gain something. In order to digest external culture rather more contact policy is to be taken up since the country can't move ahead without income derived from tourism. By talking about replacement of culture and present context (Baral, 1998).

Nepal Tourism Development Program has incorporated various aspects of tourism and Nepalese economy product development programs, marketing strategy, environmental impact, importance of education and training, institutional framework for the development of tourism, incentives to be given to tourism industry has been dealt with the report. The study has observed that the basic economic strategy of the tourism industry should be to earn net foreign exchange for the country other aims such as employment generation, income generation region distribution are subsidiary aims but where conflicts arise these subsidiary aims much not detract from the main aim. At the same time, the tourism industry must active proper returns on the capital invested so that it can be mobilized for future investments.

2.4 History and Concept of Ecotourism

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

tourists'. During the Seventies, the Germans appeared as 'ugly tourists' followed by Japanese in Nineties. The 'ugly tourist' phenomenon does not come from actual personality traits. It is the feeling and experience brought about by the cultural and social invasion by visitors who are different from the host community. More recently, the 'ugly tourism' phenomenon continues with uncontrolled tourism development, and variation in cultural and social in the destination areas where tourism thrives.

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

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

The term 'eco-tourism' is defined as traveling to relatively undisturbed natural areas with such objects as studying, admiring and enjoying the scenery with its flora and

fauna, as well as the people who live near by, their needs, their culture and relationship to the land (Pardhan, 2006).

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Eco-tourism is a small elite band of dedicates a nature lover. Ecotourism is really an amalgam intersts arising out of environmental, economic and social concerns. Take conservation, for example: the heady days when the superintendent of Yosemite Gloated. In recent years the dangers to natural areas of too many visitors have been a great concern. Conservation is devoting a good deal of thought to making tourism work for nature preservation.

In it are laid out some of the large challenges with serious of prescriptions for how to tackle them. These include the tools for looking at demands, use and impact, income distribution, resources inventory, policy formulation, planning, management, training and local participation.

Eco-tourism cannot hope to meet challenges a head unless it develops into a professional discipline covering the many interests and skills associated with nature and culture tourism. This is the purpose behind the ecotourism society and its latest publication of various means.

Eco-tourism is a complex and multidisciplinary phenomenon. There are many facts that must be addressed if it is to be successful for those involved: consumers, managers, native people and suppliers, detailed and systematic inventories of the ecotouristic attractions (both natural and cultural) of a country, a region or aside should be elaborated, bearing in mind that these inventories are different features listed.

Ecotourism must be predicated upon a system perspective that includes sustainability and involvement - participations of local, rural people in those areas where the greatest potential for ecotourism development can be found. Ecotourism must be seen as a collaborative effort between local people and concerned, informed visitors to preserve wild lands and their biological and cultural asserts through support of local community development. By community development, we mean the empowerment of existing local groups in ways that only sustain the resources but also meet the social, cultural and economic needs of the group.

2.5 Eco-tourism in Nepal

Having adopted the eco-tourism model in its program for mountain trekking jungle wildlife viewing and village culture, Nepal has tried to fit it into the country's unique physical and cultural geography (Chauhan, 2004). There is evidence of a growing market for more specifically organized village tourism experiences, particulars from culture-seeking European segments and comfort-needing North American and Asian non- trekking visitors and ecotourists to visit new area and spend liberally to new destinations (Pandey, 2003).

A relatively new style of ecotourism is village tourism. The network of home stays, teahouses and small lodges that have emerged in village along Nepal's popular trek routes are among the most successful examples of village tourism in Asia (NTB, 2001).

Nepal is a country of amazing extreme is the home of the world's highest mountains, verities of resources and cultural diversity as Nepal, though a small in size, has

immense cultural and natural diversity and is one of the most beautiful countries in the world.

Eco-tourism, mass tourism, village tourism, rural tourism and sustainable tourism are divided various. Although eco-tourism is not a new concept in Nepal, people for the sustainable use of natural resources and cultural assets are being emphasized in order to canalize benefits to the affected communities (Bhandari, 1997: 1). In ecotourism not only the activities of the tourists are involved but also elements such as the conservation of ecosystems and sustainable development (Kunwar, 1997:65).

Eco-tourism is being developed and promoted by the government without destroying the natural resources of the surrounding environment the role and importance of hoteliers and other facilities developed for tourism promotion on environment conservation is quite enthusiastic. Its principle generates income without destroying the environment and local people must be partners in this process.

As far as the development of the ecotourism activities is concerned the growth of ecotourism started during 1990s. In these regards, ACAP is first to start country, then after SPCC was initiated in Sagarmatha region. In 1992, another ecotourism project (KEEP) was initiated in Kathmandu. Since then various other ecotourism projects initiated in other regions, in 2000, ADB ecotourism projected etc. More recently, a new project has been introduced to reduce poverty and promote ecotourism phenomenon in the country; it is Tourism for Rural Poverty Alleviation Programs (TRPAP) more ecotourism programs may be expected to come in future (Bhatt, 2001).

Eco-tourism is a form of culturally and environmentally sensitive travel which fosters and environmental ethic among travelers and also contributes to the conservation and management of natural areas for long term, sustainable economic development. Eco-tourism is particularly advantageous to developing countries. It attracts persons who are tolerant even interested in running small scale locally erected accommodations built by local people with local materials. Eco-tourism emphasizes the employment of local people as guides, interpreters and custodians of protected

areas because of their experience and knowledge accumulated and handed down over centuries.

2.6 Ecotourism of Nagarkot

The prospect of tourism development in Nagarkot is determined by different physical and cultural factors. The physical factors are location, landform, climate and natural sceneries etc. the cultural factors are cultural landscape, customs and traditions of different community groups, accessibility, accommodation and hospitality etc. Nagarkot has its own scope for tourism development. The fundamental attractions of tourism in Nagarkot are natural sceneries, pleasing weather, short trekking, colorful different communities such as Tamang, Hill Brahman, Hill Chhetri, and Rural Newar, their customs and way of life, terraced landscape, and curio village, peaceful environment and so on. Nagarkot is a great natural catchments area with outstanding scenic beauty and graceful charm. The top of Nagarkot offers exhilarating views in all directions. The hills, mountains, and Himalayans ranges, rivers, sunrise-sunset, forests, view of compact valley settlements etc are strong forces attracting tourists. Nagarkot is a vast natural amphitheatre. Natural beauty exerts as strong fascination for the tourists; Nagarkot offers the panoramic view of Himalayas stretching over 300 KM (Gyawali, 2003).

2.7 Benefits of Eco-tourism.

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

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

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

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

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

- f) Additional skilled employment opportunities utilizing local knowledge and facilities and
- g) Local infrastructure development.

In addition to these direct benefits, there are a number of non-tangible economic benefits associated with the conservation of an area that is compatible with its use for ecotourism and also include protection of watershed values, control erosion and protection of Bio-diversity and evolutionary processes; conservation as well as maintaining and option to develop the area for ecotourism in the future (Baral, 1998).

2.8 Principle of Eco-tourism

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

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

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

- a) It should not negative impact the resources that helps to develop ecotourism in any destination. Rather it should be developed in an environmentally friendly manner.
- b) It should provide benefits to all parties-local natural resources, people and the tourism industry-with a stake in ecotourism.
- c) It should extend first-hand information to visitors.
- d) It should provide educational opportunities for all parties-local communities, government, NGOs, Industry and tourists.
- e) It should encourage all-party recognition of the intrinsic values of the resources.
- f) It should involve acceptance of the resources on its own terms and in recognition of its own limits.
- g) It should promote understanding and partnerships between many players, which could involve government, NGOs, industriy, scientists, and locals.
- h) It should promote moral and ethical responsibilities and behavior towards the natural and cultural environment by all players.

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

2.9 Scope of Eco-tourism

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

- a) Development of greater understanding and appreciation of the environment.
- b) Motivation of tourists and local people to become more responsible of the environment.
- c) Increase public environmental awareness.
- d) Provision of funding for scientific research.
- e) The application of environmentally friendly skills and care during the tour to facts of every day living and
- f) It is primarily nature base tours thus it is eco-friendly.

2.10 Methods of Eco-tourism

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

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

2.11 Other Forms of Tourism

Mass tourism remained dominant in the world tourism market for a long time. But with changes in times tourism too has taken various forms, some of which are described here under.

2.11.1 Alternative Tourism

It can be defined as 'forms of tourism that set out to be consistent with natural, social and community values and which allow both hosts and guests to enjoy positive and worthwhile interaction and shared experiences'. Therefore ecotourism can be assumed to be form of alternative tourism (Zurick, 1992).

2.11.2 Sustainable Tourism

Although tourism has the potential to become an agent of development and change, due to the way it uses resources, it should not be considered an environmentally harmless industry as such. Therefore, only with careful planning it has the potential to operate and contributes in a sustainable manner (Butler, cited in State of the Environment, 2004)

According to WTO "sustainable tourism development meets the needs of present generation tourists and host regions while protecting and enhancing opportunities for the future". It is expected to lead to management of all resources in such a way that economic, social and aesthetic needs are fulfilled while maintaining cultural integrity, essential ecological processes, biological diversity and life support systems (www.world.tourism.org).

2.11.3 Community Based Tourism

More recently, community based tourism has been recognized as another form of tourism. "Community based tourism occurs when decisions about tourism activity and development are driven by the host community. It usually involves some form of cultural exchange where tourists meet with local communities and witness aspects of their lifestyle. Many such remote ethnic communities may be vulnerable to outside influences and decisions about the way tourists are hosted must be owned by the community for successful and sustainable tourism" (SNV, 2003).

Community based tourism can generate a sense of pride in the local population and make funds available for maintaining or upgrading cultural assets e.g. archeological ruins, historic sites, traditional, crafts production.

2.11.4 Cultural tourism

Cultural tourism is regarded as a "force for cultural preservation". It is also defined as "the absorption by tourists of features resembling the vanishing lifestyle of past societies observed through such phenomena as house styles, crafts, farming equipment, dress, utensils and other instruments and equipment that reflects the lifestyle of any particular community during a particular time". Further, Zins identified handicrafts, language, traditions, art and music, paintings and sculpture, history, work and technology, architecture, religion, educational, system, dress and leisure activities as elements of cultural tourism (Kunwar, 1997). In short cultural tourism involves visit to ancient, monuments, places of historical or religious importance. It enriches knowledge about different people and their culture.

As cultural tourism also involves education for visitors and promotes sensitivity towards cultural environment, provides direct benefits to host communities and helps in preservation of culture, it is closely linked with ecotourism.

2.11.5 Religious or Pilgrimage Tourism

Pilgrimage is the significant form of tourism for the holy places can have very positive effects on communities nationally and internationally. Pilgrimage is an institutionalized Journey to the holy places. At that site usually marched by a temple or other structure, they pray and perform rituals, praying and worshipping to the god walking around the shrine or mounting a flight of stairs on their Knees' (Blamey 2000).

In Buddhism, lard Buddha advices for pilgrimage without which there is no release from grief and unless world's end to be reached. So, let a man be a world knower wise, world-ender. Let him led the holly life will, knowing world's end, as one who is quenched, he length not for this world or another. The grove of Lumbini is so great that the Buddha himself advised his followers to make pilgrimage. Lord Buddha explained the significance of Lumbini in the words: Lumbini should be (visited) seen by person of devotion, and which would cause awareness and apprehension of the nature of impermanence.

2.11.6 Village Tourism

It denotes tourist visiting villages and staying in or near villages. Successful cases have shown that the village should have special features to attract visitors. This is also associated with tourist behavior in that they stay in a village and explore the surroundings (McIntyre, 1993). The special feature of this kind of tourism is that the visitors become part of the village for the period of their stay. Such visitors normally do not expect the kind of accommodation and food that they are accustomed too. In other words, they really rely on locally available accommodation and food.

Evidence from Sirubari shows that this form of tourism has high potential for bringing resources to the village which eventually becomes an important tool for poverty alleviation. However, since cultures are subject to influence by visitors, there is the possibility that village tourism destinations are affected by the influence of visitors. Therefore, special care is needed to minimize the social and cultural impact of tourism.

Those all forms are directly related to concept of ecotourism which helps to conserve the ecology, environment etc. Therefore it must be known about these forms in ecotourism concept.

CHAPTER - III

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1 Research design

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

3.2 Rationale for the Selection of the Study Site

Though the tourism activities are continuous in and around the Nagarkot, but the concept of eco-tourism is not implemented well or operationalized in this area. Not only the tourism activities are very important but also the environment of particular area. The main concern of today is to make any industry sustainable and beneficial for the people. So, this study tried to explore minutely the environmental aspects consistence with degradation. Moreover, this study tried to find out the causes and hidden facts of the degradation of natural environment. Therefore, this study contained the great significance in social science to minimize the problems related to the environment of this study area.

3.3 Sampling Procedure

Both types of sampling were used for the selection of sampling. Under non-probability sampling, the stratified sampling was used to select the samples from local people, hotel owners and tourist. Under the probability sampling simple random sampling was used to select the intended number of samples from local people 35, hotel owners 20 and tourists 25 persons.

3.4 Natures and Source of Data

3.4.1 Primary Data

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

3.4.2 Secondary data

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

3.5 Tools and Technique of Data Collection

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

3.5.1 Questionnaire Survey

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

3.5.2 Key Informant on Interview

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

3.5.3 Observation

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

awareness of people, roads, income from tourism, economic status of the local people condition of tourism, socio-cultural impact of tourism etc.

3.5.4 Focus Group Discussion

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

3.6 Data Analysis

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

CHAPTER - IV

SETTING OF THE STUDY AREA

4.1 General Introduction of the Study Area

The study area, Nagarkot, occupies the Bhaktapur and Kavrepalanchok districts. Nagarkot is popular Hill station in Nepal and is situated as about 32 kilometers east of Kathmandu. It is situated as an altitude of 2099m from sea level. The study area lies between the latitude $27^{\circ}1' N$ and $27^{\circ}44' N$ and Longitudes $85^{\circ}29' E$ to $85^{\circ}32' E$. The hilltop is visited for viewing beautiful sunrises and sunsets and visitors take delight in the layout of the Kathmandu valley below.

Nagarkot offers the best view of the Himalayan panorama. Many excursions are made from Nagarkot, to Changu Narayan, Gokarna and other places. Nagarkot is a better location than any other viewpoints for an unsurpassed view of Mt. Everest and the surrounding peaks and unobstructed panorama of the snow Mountains. Nagarkot, a round the year holiday resort, offers a view of peaks of the Himalayan stretching from the Dhaulagiri in the west to Kanchanjunga in the east. It is a popular point to watch the breathtaking sunrise over the gorgeous Himalayas and equally glorious sunset behind the beautiful valley of Kathmandu. It also offers an excellent view of the Indrawati River valley to the east and Kathmandu valley to the west. Not only from the point of tourism but also from the point of view of religion this place is very important. The following temples and historical buildings are important from religious and tourism point of view: Mahadev Pokhari, Mahakal, Kalidevi Temple, Lhodim Khasyor Chhyorden Remborche Gumba, Panchakanya Temple and Jalpadevi Temple. Overall, this hill resort is equally popular among the tourism, dignitaries, diplomatic and Nepalese as well.

4.1.1 Geographical Setting of the Study Area

The Himalayan chain to the north, mountains to the East and South, the compact valley settlements to the west, bond Nagarkot. Scattered hills of different heights are located under these barriers. The soil of Nagarkot is rocky and porous, little suited for

cultivation. Geographically this area falls within the middle hills region. The map of the study area is shown Annex:

4.1.2 Climate

Generally, Nagarkot has sub-tropical to warm-temperate climate for four seasons. The spring or pre-monsoon (mid February to May) is windy, dry but pleasant with little or no precipitation. Summer or monsoon starts from June and ends around mid of the September. It is humid and hot with heavy rainfall. The autumn or post-monsoon starts from mid-September and ends the November. It is dry but sunny. The winter, November to mid-February is cool and foggy with short but sometimes precipitation. Sometimes the temperature drops below Zero degree centigrade and high peak. Nagarkot is covered with snow for short period. The mean annual temperature is 18⁰c. Normally, the temperature of this area ranges from 2.6⁰c to 12⁰c in winter and 15.4⁰c to 23.3⁰c in summer (CBS, 2002).

4.1.3 Infrastructure Setting

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

4.1.4 Natural Resources

"Natural Resources Management for sustainable development". Environment Resources Limited (1989). Study of feasible policies institutions and investment activities in Nepal with special emphasis on the hills, only the section that concerns tourism has been summarized. It deals with managing the impacts of tourism and infrastructure developments are considered. The chief sources impacting the hill resources base, natural resources tourism, which is growing annually in Nepal, imparts the resources base and the demand creates upon fuel wood, environmental pollution and conflict with resources needs of the local people economically and it also created incentives for local resources management. It steps are taken to

management has occur to manage the impacts of tourism the study suggests management and monitoring of natural areas regulatory mechanisms; user charges and pricing; local incentives and diversification currently management and monitoring activities are under founded. Except in the case of kerosene use, regulating mechanism is not prevalent user charge and pricing mechanisms are not being used as tools to manage the environment. Incentives for local people have been provided in the parks in terms of energy management, infrastructure and conservation education, but even so, the process of involving local people in policy making, project planning and implementation has not been effective enough in any Conservation Areas of Nepal.

4.2 Bio-diversity of Nagarkot

There are different types of vegetation found in this place. The evergreen forest is found in the area, which never turns into yellow or becomes leafless. The basic forest types are covered with pines. Some of the important plants are Utis (alnus Nepalensis), Chailune (Schima wallichii), Katus (Castanopsos indica), Okhar (Juglans regia), Bakaino, Chestnut, Rhododendron, Sall (pinus roxburghi), Deodar (Cedrus deodara), Dhupi Sallo (Cryptomeria japonica) etc are cultivated for decoration. The forest in this area belongs to the community forest users' group and Nepal Army. The trees useful plants like Lokta, bamboos are also abundant.

4.2.1 Major Vegetation Species

Followings are the major vegetation species identified in the study area.

General plants

Sallo, Utis, Sal, Dale Katus, Musure Katus, Chilaune, Chanmp, Simal, Siris, Chhatiwan, Nim, Kadam, Chuletro, Bhmsenpati, Tejpat, Dhupi, Phaledo, Nimaro, Amala, Amara, Anar, Bar, Peepal, Swami, Dumri, Lankuri, Khamari, Kapas, Laligurans, Lalupate, Sunkhari, Jumuna, Kyamuno, Setpate, Ratpate, Panchpate, Asarephool, Nigalo, Bans, Buddhairo, Ipil Lip, Kutmiro, Anger, Angeri, Damaura, Bilaune, Anp, Kimbu, Amba, Aru, Arubakhada, Painyu, Naspati, Bhakiamilo, Ritha, Harro, Barro, Ankhataruwa, Tooni, Lapsi, Kaphal, Rukh Katahar, Badar, Berulo, Khaniyo, Kauro, Pakhuri, Dudhilo, Bakaino, Baldyangro, Ginderi, Mauwa, Sindure, Asuro, Thotne, Hodchur, Simali, Dhuseli, Jhyaino, Arkhalo, Jhyamir, Kagati,

Sunkoili, Gaya, Khanda, Khirro, Rangsing, Kim Khaphal, Ghokro, Dabdabe, Ketuki, Pandel, Chaichuya, Archal, Bhakyamlo, Siplingan, Bankane, Dakyamali, Masigedi, Samjimohan, Alainchi, Kaphi, Dhobini, Daru, Dar, Timur, Siltimur, Bet, Tanki, Khasro, Khari, Phirphire, Buletro, Kursimal, Mithiphal, Chiuri, Maltato, Phalant, Tusare, Rato Kainyo etc.

Medicinal plants

Thulibuti, Ban Kapas Tite, Shikhari Laharo, Ajambari, Gaikhure, Garjo, Thirjo, Bhhiringe Raj, Jogilaharo, Areli, Sahasra Buti, Dhobini, Pinas Jhar, Hade Lasun, Khamari, Ban Dhaniya, Panchaunie, Laligunras, Dakyamli, Gothale Sag, Dhukur ko Makai, Dangre ko Makai, Tapre, Ghodtapre, Dubo, Dhudhe, Lajwanti, Gandhe, Lunde, Hodchur, Bojho, Neem, Ainselu, Siudi, Tulsipata, Amala, Amamra, Harro, Barro, Kalisinki, Til, Kaphal, Babari Phool, Kamalgoti, Kokre, Simal kande, Bhainsi Kande, Layte, Bhang, Chamsur, Avijalo, Kush, Manmara, Siru, Paniamala, Sishnu, Datiun, Chutro, Banbeli, Akashbeli, Nagbeli, Dhaturu, Anp, Chhatiwan, Bhedekuro, Kurilo, Bhemsenpati, Khamuno, Jamun, Bankaino, Gittha, Bhakur, Mauwa, Phaledo, Haledo, Angeri, Kalo Niguro, Asuro, Tihare Phool, Titepati, Chillo Batulpate, Simi ko Pat, Khole Biralo, Pakhan Bed, Ankhle Jhar, Timur, Siltimur, Golaincha Ko Bokra, Kandel Ko Bokra, Belauti Ko Munta, Chichindo Ko Bokra, Tindhare Ghans, Setpate, Rudhilo, Pangro, Balyangro, Chalne Sishnu, Banmara, Patana, Bhukiphool, Panisara, Ban Tarul, Ritho, Kancho Pat, Kalchaude, etc.

4.2.2 Birds

Birds like Kalij (*Lophura leucomelana*), Dove, Koili, Nyauli, Luiche, Suga, Pani Dhukura, Jureli, Giddha, Kag, Chibe, Chil, Bangera, Phisto, Chamera, Latkosero, Gaunthali, Dhobini, Kokole, Kuthurke, Lanche, Koteru, Jureli, Baj, Koiralo, Matikore etc are founded.

4.2.3 Wild Animals

The local residents report different types of wild animals. The common wild animals are barking deer, Rabbit, leopard, Jackal, boar, Dumsi (*Hystrix indica*), Squirrel etc.

4.3 Impact of Eco-tourism in Nagarkot

Tourism has the potential of bringing about changes in people's ideas, behavioral patterns, lifestyles, social system, values and norms, expectations, and other manifestation of material and non-material culture (ICIMOD, 1997).

The impact of tourism on local cultural traditional and values is difficult to assess. Not only tourists but also other factors such as local people traveling for education, trade, and other purposes may bring in new ideas and attitudes those in turn may result changes in local cultural practices. Changes in people's behavior, dress, lifestyle, family and social structure, values and expectations, decline in local support for local traditions and institutions, people's preference for tourist-related jobs over education, pollution of sacred places, changes in traditional architecture, and so on are generally argued to be the negative impacts of eco- tourism on culture. Economic impact are also important are caused by tourism, by economic factors, or by other factors.

It has brought several impacts upon different fields of the economy. It has its impact on economic, social and cultural environment of the country. It is a fact that eco-tourism in Nagarkot is characterized with multiplier effects:

4.3.1 Social-Cultural Impact

The development of tourism industries in these remote areas brought a number change on the lives of the local people, people got many jobs to do land become expensive, modification occurred in tradition and life style, people got wider horizon and so on. The villagers have opportunity to learn many things from the tourists, they learn well as well as harmful things. The villagers learn quickly the life style of tourists, some languages, something about electric and mechanical goods the tourists generally carry with them such as Cameras, Transistors, Binocular, etc.

When tourists arrive in Nagarkot most of the time, the villagers watch tourist's activities. The communications between tourists and villagers is always a problem unless some one (guide or hotel crew) helps them. Another activity of the villagers is to cooperate tourists by providing them firewood and other necessary items.

Sometimes, the villagers sing and dance for the amusement of the tourists. The villagers are therefore cooperative towards tourists visiting Nagarkot. They do not have tendency to discourage tourists.

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

4.3.2 Environmental Impact

It is difficult to deny the fact that tourism spoils natural environment. Natural hazards happen due to deforestation, over grazing of animals, agricultural practices in unfavorable hill slopes and so on.

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

4.3.3 Negative Impact

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

The main impacts people reported are that the young people copy tourist behavior, food and fashion. The older people are concerned with the young peoples' response towards tourists. They reported that growing long hair and having an ear-ring among local boys, and also wearing foreign cloths, smoking, drinking beer and over-familiarity between local boys and girls are the most common imitations.

The main reason for such 'demonstration effects' is that people, particularly youngsters, value Western culture. They think that Westerners are civilized and that what they do is right. Therefore, rather than feeling negative impacts, young people take these as social improvement.

In addition, local values in some extent have been found to be changed; people are becoming increasingly oriented to earn money. Traditional folk dances are gradually disappearing and have been replaced by modern songs. The value of money has also led to the disruption of traditional kinship and community bonds. Money is now more important than kinship. However, tourism was not found solely responsible for these social changes. Other driving forces responsible for such changes are found to be: Radio, T.V, people going overseas and the closeness of towns.

In the heart of Nagarkot, increasing garbage is creating a problem of sanitation, there has been a lack of efforts to maintain cleanliness. People coming for trekking, picnic, sightseeing, etc just do not care for leaving behind dumps of tin, cans, plastic items, toilet papers, etc, in the spot, major interests in Nagarkot. The absence of public toilets is also helping ecological health hazards. It may not be a problem at present but in due course of time. It will become serious one.

4.4 Demographic Structure Study of the Study Area

The study area covers Baluwapati Deupur VDC and Nagarkot VDC. The population of Baluwapati Dewpur VDC is 6365. Among them 3262 are males and 3103 are females. While the population of Nagarkot VDC is 4247 and among them 2125 are males and 2122 are females. Out of the whole population of Nagarkot VDC and Baluwapati Deupur VDC 55.61% is Tamang, 22.08% are Bramans, 6.19% are Chhetries, 5.57% are Newars and the remaining 10.5% are other castes (CBS, 2001). All those people have good friendship and have developed a concept of brotherhood in the area. As most of the people of this place are Tamang, the numbers of inhabitants this area, it has various cultures. Agriculture is the main economic activity of those peoples. Most of the people are economically poor and illiterate but increasing slowly.

4.5 Socio-Cultural Condition

4.5.1 Castes/Ethnicity Composition of Nagarkot

The population of Nagarkot VDC is 4247 with 799 households (CBS 2001). There are 10 ethnic groups within the confine of this VDC. Tamang is the dominant ethnic group followed by Chhetri, Bramin, Newar, Kami, scheduled castes and others out of the total population. The level of literacy is lowest between the Tamang, and socio-economic backward groups. The following table clearly shows the population status by cast/ethnic group for VDC:

Table 4.1: Caste/Ethnic Groups

S.N.	Caste/Ethnic Groups	Population in Number
1	Tamang	2549
2	Chhetri	130
3	Brahman-Hill	773
4	Magar	48
5	Gurung	15
6	Kami	107
7	Damai/Dholi	80
8	Newar	401
9	Rai	7
10	Unidentified Caste	19
11	Others	4
12	Total	4247

Source: CBS, 2001

4.5.2 Mother Tongue and Language

There is diversity in caste/ethnic groups; there is diversity in their mother tongue. Though, Nepali language is a common language for communication and official work.

Table 4.2 populations by mother tongue for VDC

S.N.	Mother Tongue/Language	No. of Population	Percentage
1	Nepali	1585	37
2	Tamang	2462	58
3	Newar	132	3
4	Others	68	2
5	Total	4247	100

Source: CBS, 2001

4.5.3 Culture and Religion

As different caste/ethnic groups live in the village they believe in different religion and follow distinct cultural behavior. Most of the population believes in Buddhism. Then, a considerable number of people regard Hinduism as their major religion, though they have great influence of Hinduism. Then a small number of people especially Christian, believe in Christian religion. Though different people devoted with their own religion, still there is a religious tolerance. Though they have their own society, culture and lifestyle but they respect each other. This sort of respectable behavior can be important factor for eco-tourism development in Nagarkot.

Tamang and Bramin settlements seem unique and attractive in the village. Most of the population considers Dashain and Tihar as their major festivals. On the other had, Hinduism regards various songs, folklore, dance, worship and vivid festivals are major aspect of their culture. Dashain, Dipawali, Teej, Janai Purnima, Kulpuja, Lhoshar, Buddha jayanti, Christmas, etc are the major festivals of this area. Naumati Baja is another attraction of the area. The major religions are as follows:

Table 4.3 Populations by religion for VDC

S.N.	Religion	No. of population	Percentages
1	Hindu	1677	39
2	Buddha	2511	59
3	Christian	59	2
4	Not stated	0	0
5	Others	0	0
6	Total	4247	100

Source: CBS, 2001

4.5.4 Households having Agricultural Land, Livestock and Poultry

In this area, most of the villager people have land livestock, which are 235. So they have several of livestock and have either peace or enough land. The flowing table shows clearly:

Table: 4.4 Agricultural land, livestock and poultry

S.N.	Household having	Number
1	Agricultural land only	64
2	Livestock only	5
3	Poultry only	2
4	Land and livestock	235
5	Land and poultry	13
6	Land livestock and poultry	6
7	None of all	439
8	Total	799

Source: CBS, 2001

4.5.5 Population by Place of Birth

There total population is 4247 out of that 3756 are from same district and rest of population are from other district of VDC and Municipality. They are migrating as business purpose and any other purposes. The following table is:

Table 4.5 Population by place of birth

S.N.	Place of Birth	Number
1	Same district	3756
2	Other district in VDC	427
3	Other district in Municipality	19
4	Foreign birth	0
5	Total	4247

Source: CBS, 2001

4.5.6 Household operating Small scale Non-agricultural Economic Activity

In this study area most of the villager people are involved in services (107). Because they're so many Tourism activities and their duties might be in municipality. Rests of people are involving in Manufacturing, Business, Transportation and any other various activities. But most of the people are not involve in any economic activities. The major economic activities are as follows and know not involved in economic activities as well:

Table: 4.6 Involvement in economic activities

S.N.	Type of Activity	No. of Households
1	Manufacturing	22
2	Trade/ Business	60
3	Transport	10
4	Services	107
5	Others	52
6	Not having any economic activities	548
7	Total	799

Source: CBS, 2001

4.5.7 Population by 5 years of Age groups and Sex

There are almost equally populations by age and sex group. The below table shows that there are most of children and old people are in the village. Moreover, the young men are less than women in the village due to lack of job opportunities and not good securities for few years.

Table: 4.7 Age and sex by 5 years group

S.N.	Age	Male	Female	Both
1	0-4	251	208	459
2	5-9	272	245	517
3	10-14	280	288	568
4	15-19	268	241	509
5	20-24	194	205	399
6	25-29	136	164	300
7	30-34	126	131	257
8	35-39	120	124	244
9	40-44	114	126	240
10	45-49	83	82	165
11	50-54	65	73	138
12	55-59	46	46	92
13	60-64	55	67	122
14	65-69	42	52	94
15	70-74	41	26	67
16	75+	32	44	76
17	Total	2125	2122	4247

Source: CBS, 2001

4.5.8 Population 6 years of Age and over by status of school Attendance

Nagarkot is like urban area with various facilities. Therefore, there are similar school attendances between male and female. Table 4.8 shows clearly

Table: 4.8 Population 6 years of age and over status of school attendance

Currently Attending			Currently not Attending			Total
Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	All Total
697	587	1285	218	218	436	1811

Source: CBS, 2001

4.6 Tourist Arrival in Nepal

4.6.1 Pattern of tourist arrival in Nepal

As already been mentioned the tourist started visiting Nepal freely soon after the event of democracy in 1950. But rapid progress of tourist arrivals in Nepal seems after the

restoration of democracy 1990. Table 4.9 presents trends of tourist arrivals from 1995 to 2007.

Table: 4.9 Arrivals of Tourists in Nepal

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

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

The number of tourist visiting Nepal has increased each year except in the year 2000, 2001, 2002 and 2005 respectively. In 2000, 2001, 2002, 2005 the trend of tourist arrival had decreased by 5.7%, 22.1%, 23.7%, and 2.6% respectively due to the conflict situation in the country. The number of tourist visiting in Nepal increased by 11.3 percent in 1995, 8.3 Percent in 1996, 7.2 percent in 1997, 9.9 percent in 1998, 6.0 percent in 1999, 22.7 percent in 2003, 13.9 percent in 2004, 2.3 percent in 2006 and 37.2 percent in 2007.

4.6.2 Tourist Arrivals by Purpose of Visit in (2006/07)

Tourist travel with various purposes in Nepal. Nepal is destination of nature and culture for tourist. Tourist visited for pleasure accounted to 27.7 percentages in 2006,

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

Table 4.10 the tourist Arrivals by purpose of visit 2006 and 2007

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

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

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

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

Table 4.11 Tourist arrivals by sex and age groups

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

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

4.6.4 Tourist Arrivals by Major Nationalities (2006/07)

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

Table: 4.12 Tourist Arrivals by Major Nationalities (2006/07)

Nationality	2006	Percentage	2007	Percentage
North America	24,566	6.4	37182	7.1
South and Central America	4,764	1.2	6486	1.2
Western Europe	97,278	25.3	140630	26.7
Eastern Europe	10,613	2.8	16634	3.2
Asia	231,812	60.4	304225	57.8
Australia and pacific	9,763	2.5	14506	2.8
Africa	1,125	0.3	1350	0.3
Others	0	0.0	2177	0.4
Not specified	4,005	1.0	3515	0.7
Total	383926	100	526705	100

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

4.6.5 Tourist Arrivals in Nepal by Month (2006/07)

Seasonality plays the vital role for tourism. Tourists visit different parts of the world in their favorable time and month. March, October and November are the favorable months because the weather of Nepal is pleasant during these months. Most of the visitors visit Nepal to spend their vacation. June and July are not favorable for tourist for third world tourist. But for Indians, June is the favorable month because the weather of Nepal is cool as compared to India. Moreover, February, March and April also favorable months for the tourists. Table 4.13 shows the tourist arrivals in by month wise in the period of 2006 and 2007.

Table 4.13 Tourist Arrivals in Nepal by Month (2006/2007)

Month	Arrivals					
	Third country		Indian		Total	
	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007
January	21126	25857	7643	7335	28769	33192
February	21320	33133	4408	6801	25728	39934
March	30169	48022	6704	6700	36873	54722
April	18435	32794	3548	8148	21983	40942
May	13517	23296	9353	12558	22870	35854
June	11841	18937	14369	12379	26210	31316
July	15066	26160	10117	9277	25183	35437
August	24966	37658	8184	7025	33150	44683
September	26327	38813	7035	6739	33362	45552
October	43026	65745	6644	4899	49670	70644
November	37402	46822	6717	5451	44119	52273
December	27009	33458	9000	8698	36009	42156
Total	290204	430695	93722	96010	383926	526705

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

4.6.6 Contribution of Tourism Sector

The contribution of tourism sector, as the share of GDP, as percentage of total foreign exchange earning is presented in table 4.14. The share of tourism in GDP of the

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

Table 4.14 Foreign Exchange Earning from Tourism (199/96-2006/07)

Year	Total Foreign Exchange Earning from Tourism (Rs.in million)	As % of Total Foreign Exchange Earning	As % Of GDP
1995/96	9521.2	21.4	3.8
1996/97	8523.0	17.6	3.0
1997/98	9881.6	15.2	3.3
1998/99	12167.8	15.9	3.6
1999/00	12073.9	8.8	3.2
2000/01	11717.0	7.4	2.9
2001/02	8654.3	6.1	2.1
2002/03	11747.7	8.2	2.6
2003/04	18147.4	11.4	3.7
2004/05	10464.0	6.1	1.8
2005/06	9556.0	4.6	1.5
2006/07	6176.0	4.4	0.9

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

CHAPTER - V

PRESENTATION AND ANALYSIS OF DATA

5.1 Structure of the Respondents

5.1.1 Age Structure

Respondents' age covered all age group. Above 40 years age group represented less (only 18 %) compared to a middle age group between 21-40 years (44%) and the age group below 20 years (38%). This can be related to the selection of respondents. However, in some cases, younger household member were selected as respondents if the head asked them (as they were seen more educated and knowledgeable), or the household head was not available.

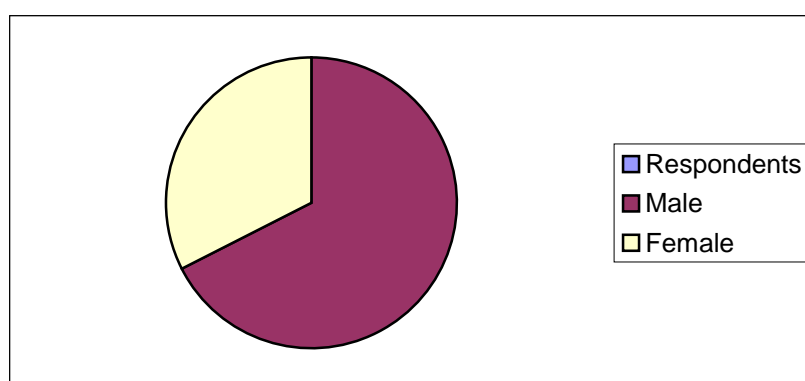
Table 5.1 Age compositions of respondents

Age group	No. of Respondents	Percentage
Up to 20	30	38
21-40	35	44
>40	15	18
Total	80	100

Source: Field Survey, 2008

5.1.2 Gender

Figure 5.1 Gender compositions of the Respondents:



Source: Field Survey, 2008

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

5.1.3 Education Level of Local People and Hotel Owners

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

Table: 5.2 Education Levels of the Respondents (Local people & hotel owners)

Education Attainment	Respondents	
	Numbers	Percentage
Illiterates	5	9
Primary level	20	36
Secondary Level	13	24
Intermediate Level	10	18
Bachelors level	5	9
Masters Degree	2	4
Above Masters Degree	0	
Total	55	100

Source: Field Survey, 2008

The literacy level of the respondent was found to be 91%. The above table shows that maximum population (91%) had the education literacy followed by Primary level (24%), Secondary Level (24%), Intermediate Level (18%), Bachelors (9%) and Masters (4%). Therefore, the findings are the literacy rate is good of this area of people.

5.1.4 Occupation

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

Table 5.3: Occupational distributions of the respondents

S.N.	Primary Occupation	Respondents	
		Number	Percentage
1	Agriculture	20	25
2	Teaching	8	10
3	Small Business	5	6
4	Hotel/Teashops	18	22
5	Labor	7	9
6	Civil Services	8	10
7	Social worker	6	8
8	Others	8	10
9	Total	80	100

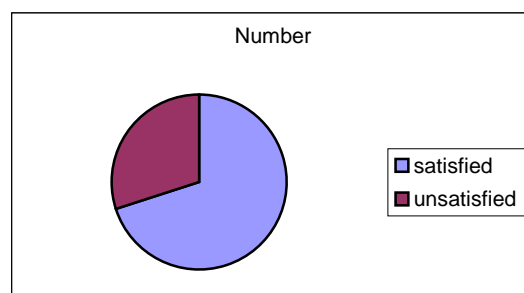
Source: Field Survey, 2008

The table indicates that most of the respondents 25% had agriculture as their occupation. Rest of the respondents (75%) had other occupations as the sources of income. They were Teachers 10%, Business 6%, Hotel/Teashops 22%, Labor 9%, Civil Services 12%, Social worker 8% and others 10%. Moreover, jobs directly related to tourism are mostly hotel/lodge business, guide and souvenir shops. Partially tourism related job include other shops and few agricultural activities. The major findings from this, there are some jobs available in Nagarkot due to tourism development.

5.1.5 Occupational Satisfaction of the Hotel Owners

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

Figure 5.2 Satisfaction with current occupation of hotel owners (Field Survey)



Among those unsatisfied 14 (70%) respondents were not happy. It might be due to conflict for few years of the country situation. But, they are hoping to increase tourist from this season. Rests of (30%) the respondents were satisfied of their current business. The Major findings, the person who are visiting in Nagarkot, They have to be contact basis and directly booked Hotels. There, unsatisfied respondents were not able to deal like that situation from Kathamandu or any other places directly.

5.1.6 Livestock Population of the Local People

Local respondents have their livestock population in household as follows:

Table 5.4 Livestock population of local people

Cattle	Respondents	
	Number	Percentage
None	5	14
1-4	16	46
4-7	11	31
7 and above	3	9
Total	35	100

Source: Field Survey, 2008

The table shows that most of the sample households (46%) have 1-4 cattle. Likewise 31% households have 4-7 cattle, 14% household have no cattle and 9% households have 7 or above cattle. Therefore local people just have few cattle in there home and interested to work any other tourism related job. So its major findings, they are decreasing of environment encroachment and deforestation of the study area.

5.2 Respondent's Views to Develop the Study Area (Local people and Hotel owners only)

The respondents were asked about how could be developed of that area. 29% respondents gave emphasis on tourism development and modernization in agriculture, 18% respondents gave emphasis on tourism development and environmental conservation and same as of respondents on tourism development and transportation, 13% respondents' emphasis on tourism development and education, similarly, rest of

the respondents' emphasis on modernization in agriculture, environmental conservation, education, environment and health as well. The following table shows:

Table 5.5 Respondents'(local people & hotel owners) view to develop the study area:

S.N.	Emphasis on	Respondents	
		Number	Percentage
1	Tourism development & Modernization in Agriculture	16	29
2	Tourism development & environmental conservation	10	18
3	Tourism development & employment	10	18
4	Tourism development & education	7	13
5	Tourism development & transportation	2	4
6	Modernization in agricultural & education	3	5
7	Environmental conservation & education	2	4
8	Environmental conservation & employment	4	7
9	Employment & health	1	2
10	Total	55	100

Source: Field Survey, 2008

Thus, 82% respondents gave emphasis on tourist. Likewise, a considerable number of respondents gave emphasis on environmental, education and employment, which are directly related with eco-tourism. Such response indicates the high potentiality of ecotourism of Nagarkot.

5.3 Prospect of Tourism in Nagarkot

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

Table 5.6 Prospect of tourism in Nagarkot

Prospect	Number	Percentage
Highly sound	25	31
Moderately sound	40	50
Not so good	15	19
Total	80	100

Source: Field Survey, 2008

It indicates that 31% of the visitors are favour of the bright prospect of tourism in Nagarkot taking it as moderately sound 50% took it as highly sound, while very few visitors it, hence it can be concluded that majority of the respondents are in the view that Nagarkot possesses high potentiality of tourism. In general, it has been always praised by visitors for its natural beauty, for safety reasons and for its landscape. In this context, further initiations in the development and exploration of new tourism attraction could bring a growth in tourist inflow in the destination.

5.4 Major Sources of Tourists Attractions

The study area is an appropriate site for eco-tourism. The sources of tourist attractions like scenic attraction 35%, natural resources 15% and cultural diversity are abundant there. With the view of obtaining the attraction sources of ecotourism, people were and field visit was done. This gave following detail result based on the survey:

Table 5.7 Sources of tourist attractions

Tourist Attractions	Respondents	
	Number	Percentage
Scenic Attraction	28	35
Natural Resources	12	15
Cultural diversity	8	10
Pleasure Environment & Natural Resources	9	11
Pleasure Environment & People Sanitation	6	8
Pleasure Environment & Cultural Diversity	10	12
Above All	7	9
Total	80	100

Source: Field Survey, 2008

5.5 Nagarkot as a Tourists Site

5.5.1 Beginning of the Tourist Flow

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

Table 5.8 People's ideas on history of tourist flow in Nagarkot (local people and hotel owners' only respondents)

Beginning of Tourists Flow	Respondents	
	Number	Percentages
From 10 years ago	13	24
From 20 years ago	22	40
From 30 years ago	12	22
From 40 years ago	8	14
Total	55	100

Source: Field Survey, 2008

5.5.2 Readiness of Respondents to Increase Tourists' Flow of Local People and Hotel owners

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

Table 5.9 People's General Interest in Eco-tourism

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

Source: Field Survey, 2008

5.5.3 People Participation to Enhance Eco-tourism

While being asked which are the major areas that need to be emphasized in order to promote eco-tourism in the study area, respondent's (**Local people and Hotel owners**) answer were as follows: -

Table 5.10 Emphasis highlighted for promoting eco-tourism:

Emphasis on	Respondents	
	Number	Percents
Equitable distribution of tourism income	11	20
Local people's participation in policy-maker	26	47
Market expansion for local production	18	33
Total	55	100

Source: Field Survey, 2008

The above table makes clear that most of the respondents (47%) gave emphasis on the local people's participation in policy-making. The data shows that 33% people gave emphasis to expand market for locality for locally produce goods. Likewise, 20% respondent's emphasis on equitable distribution to tourism income. In this regarding of the observation, most of the respondents were interested to involve in tourism business but they were not satisfied with the policy maker.

5.5.4 Culture of the Locality

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

Moreover, Tamang, Hill Brahman, Hill Chhetri and Rural Newar are the main dwellers of Nagarkot. Dashain, Tihar, Lhosar, Maghe Sakranti, Basanta Pnachami,

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

Nagarkot could also be a common destination for the pilgrim tourists especially for the followers of Hinduism and Buddhism. There are many religious places in Nagarkot. These are:

- a) Mahadev Pokhari
- b) Mahakal
- c) Kalidevi Temple
- d) Panchakanya Temple
- e) Jalapadevi Temple and
- f) Lhodim Khasyor Chhyorden Remborche Gumba.

Besides, there are also two historical caves in Nagarkot- Chamero Gupha and Raksi Gupha. The Chamero Gupha is located in Gairi Gaoun. It is said that this cave has a long passage and if fire is lit, the smoke comes out near Mahadev Pokhari. Raksi Gupha is located in ward number four of Nagarkot. If these caves are conserved and well managed, they could be very important from the point of view of tourism.

Thus, the future of ecotourism in Nagarkot relies heavily on who is responsible for marketing, setting the planning, initiating the entry fee, involving the locals and establishing the infrastructures needed for ecotourism development.

5.5.5 Purpose of Visit of Foreign and domestic Tourist

The study of purpose of visit to any place is quite significant as it guidelines the directions of improvement to be made and emphasis to be imposed to enhance tourism activities of destination. Altogether 50 visitors were interviewed and observed

about the purpose of visiting Nagarkot. Among them 25 are foreigners and 25 are Nepali visitors. The Table 5.11 below shows the purpose of visiting Nagarkot.

Table 5.11 Purpose of visit of the respondents' tourists

Purpose	No. of Respondents		
	Foreigner	Nepali	Total
Sight seeing	14	2	16
Sun set/ Rise	8	1	9
Convention	2	5	7
Refreshment	1	10	11
Picnic	0	7	7
Total	25	25	50

Source: Field Survey, 2008

The Table 5.11 shows the different purpose of visiting Nagarkot. The major purpose is picnic for Nepalese and sightseeing and sun rise/set for the foreigners is observed. On the other hand 2 visitors were followed for the purpose of convention. From this it can be concluded that if policies are made, tourists can be taken to Nagarkot with the mutual co-ordination between the official sectors and hotel in Nagarkot. Similarly, if the purpose of picnic is excluded as the major purpose of sightseeing, sunrise/set and refreshment are complementary to each other rather than competitive, number of visitors can be increased to Nagarkot by proper advertisement and proper policies formation.

5.6 Potentiality of Ecotourism in Nagarkot

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

Nagarkot has its own scope for tourism development. The fundamental attractions of Ecotourism in Nagarkot are natural sceneries, pleasing weather, short trekking, colorful different communities such as Tamang, Hill Brahman, Hill Chhetri, and rural Newar, their customs and way of life, terraced landscape, and curio village,

peaceful environment and so on. Detail explanations of the some of these tourist attractions or ecotourism resources of Nagarkot are given below:

5.6.1 Scenic Attractions

Nagarkot is a great natural catchments area with outstanding scenic beauty and graceful charm. The top of Nagarkot offers exhilarating views in all directions. The hills, mountains, and Himalayans ranges, rivers, sunrise-sunset, forests, view of compact valley settlements etc are strong forces attracting tourists. Nagarkot is a vast natural amphitheatre. Natural beauty exerts as strong fascination for the tourists; Nagarkot offers the panoramic view of Himalayas stretching over 300 km. Breathtaking aerial view of the Himalayan peaks like Manaslu (8463m.), Ganesh (7111m.), Langtang (7246m.), Sisa- Pangma (8013 m.), Mt. Everest (8848 m.) are seen very close at sight from Nagarkot has its own wonders. There is also a view tower to observe the surrounding sceneries.

The natural beauty of Nagarkot varies from time to time. In the early morning sunrise from the eastern mountain is the main attraction. The sun spreads orange color over the sky; and getting its light, the northern Himalayan peaks become startled. In the winter morning, Nagarkot hill is fogless while Kathmandu Valley covered by dense fog looks like sea. At noon, the land becomes warm with daylight. In the evening, the view of sunset becomes another attraction. The village of Nagarkot is beautifully situated between the sunrise and sunset. The dense Kthmandu Valley settlement can also be seen clearly. At dark night, the burning masses of electrical bulbs look like diamond sheet from Nagarkot.

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

5.6.2 Pleasant Climate

Climate is a basic primary element for the development of tourism in any tourist destination. Nagarkot has very pleasant and healthier climate throughout the year due to altitude. The pleasant climate is ideal for holiday. In Nagarkot, particularly is late December or early January, frost-free night and fogless morning and misty evening.

In mid-summer, Nagarkot is less hot than Kathmandu valley due to its height. Travelers coming to Nagarkot were more satisfied with the feeling of pleasant, fresh, and cool hilly climate. Most of the months in a year have bright sunshine and cloudless sky, which attract tourist. Tourists want fine weather and warm sunshine. A good weather is important because it plays an important role making holiday a pleasant. If surrounding sceneries are not clearly visible then it will minimize the sightseeing tourists. The best season for a good view of snow covered Himalayas is October till March.

5.7 Trekking Route and Ecotourism in Nagarkot

Nagarkot offers some of the most unusual and delightful trekking. Tourists who come to Nagarkot make their tour more exciting and pleasant through such trekking. For this, there are some of the major trekking routes through which can enjoy. Most of the famous routs are as follows:

Nagarkot to Changunarayan:

Nepal's the oldest temple; Changunarayan is one of the most historical temples known in the world as cultural heritage. Changunarayan temple, which was built by King Mandev, is famous not only historically but also from the point of view of place of tourist visit. It lies in the west of Nagerkot. This place can easily reach Changunarayan through the Tamang settlements in the middle of Nagarkot and across the Jungle of Telkot. It can be covered in about three hours of walks passing through Bhatte Danda, Lamatol, Pipalbot, Telkot. Many strange sights can observe while reaching Changunarayan.

Nagarkot to Bhaktapur Durbar Square:

Bhaktapur is well known all over the world in one of the cultural heritage site. In this place there are temples, places, and things of historical importance. Apart from this, it can be know as custom, tradition and culture of Newari people. The tourist can reach this historic place by walking for about three hours from Nagarkot.

Nagarkot to Indrawati:

Indrawati is one of the sacred rivers of Nepal, which flows through Nagarkot. It can be reach to this place enjoying the wonderful scenes created by nature, after walking about four hours. It can be reach to Dolalghat by rafting for about half an hours enjoying the delights of the place.

Nagarkot to Sankhu Bajrayogini:

Sankhu is picturesque Newari town having a different historical identity and a famous Bajrayogini temple. This place can be visited by crossing Kartike Bhanjyang or Telkot Bhanjyang. It takes about three hours to reach this place on foot.

Nagarkot to Banepa Dhulikhel:

The trek in this routs starts from the tower at the southern part of the ridge. There is a steep descent to the valley in the east from Nagarkot through Nala to Banepa. It can be reach to this place enjoying the sight of scenery of pine forest, and through Ghimire Gaun on foot in about three and half hours walk.

Visit of Nagarkot village:

Nagarkot is the very famous place to visit in the world heritage site. There are various scenery like the natural beauties of evergreen forest, snow capped mountains, streams arising from the hills etc. People find the life style of people, their culture, and customs while going across the flat plain and zigzag beltline path in this area. Because of the interesting sights, the journey is seems to be very short. When one descends crossing Bhatte Danda of Nagarkot, other comes across Bakhri Gaun, Gairi Gaun, Bensitol and reach again to Jalapadevi temple, which has historical importance. After visiting this temple it can return visiting the place like Dandatol, Piplabot, Lama Gaun, Bange Rukh, Naya Gaun, and again to Nagarkot. This trekking will give completeness in the incomplete treks of the tourists.

Those trekking route are directly related to preserve the ecotourism in this area. Without this, there is not any recognition of this place. So, local people, tourists have to be aware about ecotourism on these trekking routes.

5.8 Present Situation of Eco-tourism Site in Nagarkot

Nagarkot is very famous place and near site to visit from Kathmandu. Many people are visiting their as domestic, SAARC country and others international tourists. Tourist can see various types of birds, forests, local people culture and natural resources and various biodiversity etc.

**Table 5.12 Respondents present situation of this area
(Local people & hotel owners only)**

Present situation of Nagarkot	Respondents	
	Number	Percentage
Clean than before	26	47
Polluted than before	29	53
Total	55	100
Natural resources use Increase than before	21	38
Natural Resources use decrease than before	34	62
Total	55	100

Source: Field Survey, 2008

According to the local people and hotel owners wanted to manage all the rubbish and garbage in proper places, which can do by local people and hotel owners but nobody were really interested and started to do so. On the other hand, people were becoming lazier, so, they were not using local natural resources instead of buying from market.

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

5.9 Issues of Sustainability

5.9.1 Using Pattern of Fuels for Cooking Food

The below data shows (22%) respondents used to use firewood only as fuel to cook their food. Others (54%) respondents also firewood as their primary fuel although they also use biogas, kerosene as gas as their alternative fuel. 24% respondents were using only Gas. This trend indicates there is a heavy pressure on forest. There is need of change in the using trend of fuel. The use of alternative sources like biogas, solar, improved cook stoves etc. can contribute to preserve forest and sustainable use of energy sources. The following table can show clearly:

Table 5.13 Using patterns of fuels for cooking food (local people & hotel owners)

Pattern of fuels	Respondents	
	Number	Percentage
Firewood	12	22
Gas	13	24
Firewood and biogas	5	9
Firewood and kerosene	10	18
Firewood, kerosene and gas	15	27
Total	55	100

Source: Field Survey, 2008

5.9.2 Issues on Forest

All local people's livelihood is basically depended on forest. All respondents' express that used to use all sorts of forest products. Generally they use firewood, fodder, timber and medicinal plants. They also use forest for litter, Duna, Tapari, Linga (for religious and marriage purpose) etc.

When eco-tourism flourishes in the study area, therefore, it is seen that dependency in the forest is likely to increase. It doesn't mean that the eco-tourism will lead to negative impacts on the forest; it means that we need to search for safer alternatives.

Community forest has been playing an important role in local economy and environmental management. Community forest can play a role for eco-tourism

development as it seeks to preserve the local forest. In the study area people not only use forest products they also preserve it according to their own system.

5.10 Some of Constraints for Tourism Development in Nagarkot

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

5.10.1 Transportation and Communication

Transportation is considered to be the backbone of the tourism industry. It has vital role in tourism business. It is a primary services needed for the tourism in order to reach their destination. In any area tourist products or potentialities would be little importance if the location were inaccessible. The destination should be accessibility by mean of conductive transport system.

Although the road facility is available to Nagarkot from Kthmandu, the transportation services to Nagerkot from Bhaktapur are unreliable and inadequate. There are no direct bus services to Nagarkot from Katmandu although Kathmandu is the main tourist supplier to Nagarkot. No doubt, travel agencies conduct direct tour from Katmandu to Nagarkot, but the charge is so high that only the high budget tourists can afford it and is not regular also. The local bus from Bhaktapur is usually very crowded, congested, slow and inconvenient. It is inconvenient because the bus services are used not only for passengers but also for transporting verities of goods along with passengers. So the local bus services are very uncomfortable. Moreover, the road from Bhaktapur to Nagarkot is very narrow and turnings are very risky especially in rainy season. There is also no identified bus park in Nagarkot.

As the tourists are away from their home, they want to communicate their family, friends and relatives by easy means of communication. Though English is an

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

5.10.2 Water Supply

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

5.10.3 Recreational Facilities

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

5.10.4 Information Center and Publicity

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

village etc. effective advertisement and pamphlet about Nagarkot should be done through travel agencies and hotels in Kathmandu.

5.10.5 Sanitation and Solid Waste Problems

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

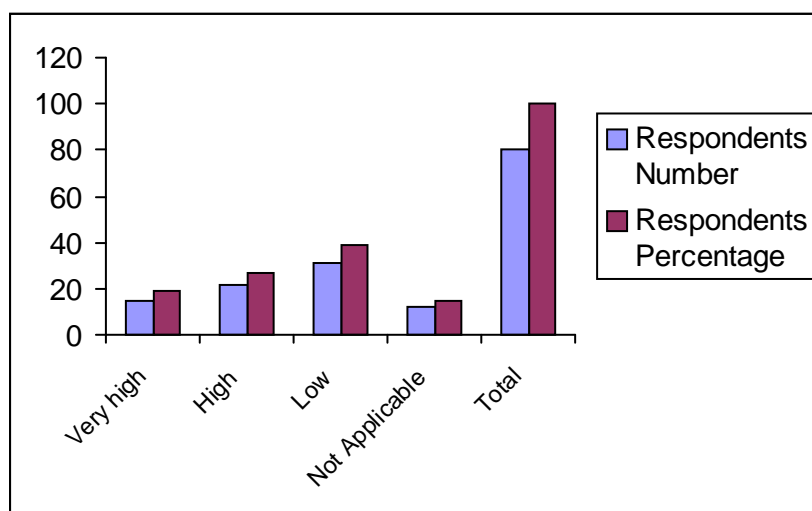
Table 5.14 Respondents about the cleanness of the place:

Perception	Respondents	
	Number	Percentages
Very High	15	19
High	22	27
Low	31	39
Not Applicable	12	15
Total	80	100

Source: Field Survey, 2008

The data computed in above table clearer of following figure:

Figure 5.3 Respondents about the cleanness of the place:



Source: Field Survey, 2008

Sanitation is found to be a remarkable problem in the area. Garbage, cans, plastic pieces, and other wastes are found to be scattered in the picnic areas, streets and

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

5.10.6. Deforestation

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

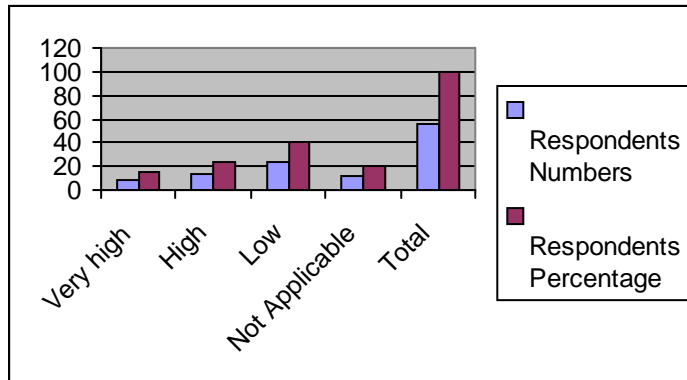
**Table: 5.15 Respondents of Local People and Hotel Owners
Regarding deforestation**

Perception of the respondents	Respondents	
	Number	Percentage
Very high	8	15
High	13	24
Low	23	41
Not Applicable	11	20
Total	55	100

Source: Field Survey, 2008

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

Figure: 5.4 Respondents of Local People and Hotel Owners Regarding deforestation



Source: Field Survey, 2008

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

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

5.10.7 Trained Manpower

Besides natural beauty, cultural heritage and hospitality of the people, skilled manpower is another aspect of tourism industry. Being services oriented and labor-intensive industry, tourism needs skilled and professional manpower for quality services. Skilled manpower such as tourist guides and their hospitable is a precondition for quality tourism. (Sigdel, 2004)

During the study it was found that there is a lack of trained guides who can explain in detail about Nagarkot to tourists. The available guide facility is not satisfactory. Majority of local peoples are illiterate, backward and poor. The increasing number of beggars by whom harsh the travelers is being also a problem. The training on how to deal with guests should be given to those who come into contact with tourists.

5.10.8 Air Pollution/ Noise Pollution

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

Table 5.16 Perception of Respondents about Air/Noise Pollution

Perception	Respondents	
	Number	Percentage
Very High	11	14
High	24	30
Low	29	36
Not Applicable	16	20
Total	80	100

Source: Field Survey, 2008

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

5.11 Strengths and Opportunities

The major strengths of the study area as identified for the field visit include:

- a) Harmonious people,
- b) Mutual help concept,
- c) Friendly nature of the people,
- d) Honesty,
- e) Reliability,
- f) Hard working People and
- g) Culturally rich people etc.

The major opportunities that have been documented are as follows:

- a) Creates employment,
- b) Creates market for agricultural products,
- c) Creates market for skill development activities,
- d) Preservation of culture,
- e) Improve the economic condition and
- f) Exposure with external environment etc

5.12 General guidelines to conserve the potentiality

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

Environmental conservation

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

preservation and behavior. Non-biodegradable rubbish such as mineral water bottles, chocolate, biscuits wrappers should be controlled to clean the environment.

For environmental conservation, we have to encourage using the alternative sources of energy e.g. solar, biogas, etc. Government should take attention to control garbage at the initial stage of tourism development and to harmonize tourism and environment.

There is prime need of ecological should trekking practices. Attempts should be made to conserve of their biodiversity, culture and forests, garbage management should be done through packed foods, use of recyclable garbage, etc. Proper management of human waste (especially at picnic sites) is also crucial aspect to be considered.

Cultural preservation

Individual tourists/ researchers should be encouraged to go to this area with the help of local guides so that interaction between them and the local people could be beneficial and cultural exchange could take place. Priority should be given to local tourist guides so that local people could directly help to boost up the local culture. There is no information center it should be established to give cultural information with information booklet, detail cultural practices, the brochure and documentary etc. All need to respect local people, culture and resources and increase local clubs' motivation to conduct cultural programs in village, which could be helpful to exchange local culture between visitors. Moreover it is also beneficial to preserve cultural wealth (like songs, dances) to earn foreign currency.

Those all suggestions are connected with methods of eco-tourism development. Besides these there are several problems faced by the tourists, hotel owners and local people. Hence, a strict policy measure seems to be appropriate to solve them. Eco-tourism is sure to succeed if it follows suitable path and takes into account the recommendations offered here all the policy maker and related agencies.

CHAPTER - VI

SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

6.1 Summary

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

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

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

These above mentioned ecotourism activities could have significant impact on employment, education, and culture, agriculture and income level of local people. It increases living standard of those people as a whole. Accessibility, pleasant climate, richness of natural beauty, suitable place for view point, high stock of biodiversity and native culture of simple and friendly people make Nagerkot unique eco-tourism destination.

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

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

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

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

It is seen that Nagarkot is inhababited mostly by Tamangs along with other various caste and ethic groups. The place is characterized with endemic as well as common culture. The topography of the study area is undulating; the people are still suffering from lack of drinking water, not regular electricity and eco-tourist orientation activities. Most of the respondents preferred ecotourism related occupations and they were willing and interested in participation in ecotourism development. So,

respondents provided a pretty good indication of the eco-tourism potentiality, for future development of the Nagarkot. Therefore, potentiality of eco-tourism development in Nagarkot is quite immense.

6.2 Conclusion

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

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

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

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

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

6.3 Recommendations

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

- 1) Tourist information center should be opened in Nagarkot to provide the information of this region to the tourist visitors.
- 2) The condition of the road to Nagarkot is to be improved. It is without proper repair and maintains. Moreover, the alternative access to Nagarkot form Kavre is to be developed soon.
- 3) Efforts should be made to develop trained and skilled manpower at local level in order to provide efficient services up to the satisfaction of tourists.
- 4) Registrations of tourists visited in Nagakot should be conducted at check post both domestic and foreign. Record must be maintained by VDC.
- 5) Proper record of tourist's expenditure should be maintained by Hotels and Resorts.
- 6) Education level of local people should be enhanced so that they can get high level jobs in hotels and other tourism related services.
- 7) Basic physical infrastructures such as streetlights, sanitation and health post should be initiated.
- 8) Effective solid waste management system need to be initiated and hygienic conditions should be maintained in the sightseeing and trekking areas as well.
- 9) It is highly recommended to formulate a comprehensive tourism plan of Nagakot, so that Nagakot would be one of the attractive and accessible outskirts tourist destination of Kathmandu valley.

- 10)** Existing clubs in Nagarkot should conduct cultural program to entertain tourists, which also helps to generate funds for local development.
- 11)** The personnel employed in hotels should have suitable temperament. They should be hospitable and courteous. The interpreters and guides should be thoroughly trained and educated. They should have the good knowledge of the history, archeology, ethnology; culture and economic system of the area in which the tour is being conducted. They should have the knowledge of the various foreign languages.
- 12)** Some entry fee should be charged for the tourists visiting Nagarkot. The fund thus generated should be utilized properly for the natural, cultural and infrastructure development of the area.
- 13)** Lastly, this research has not covered the wide range of economic impact, natural resources, and socio- cultural impact to the local who are involved in handicraft business, shops and short trekking in villages. Similarly, research can be done in the field of tourism promotional activities use of natural resources and conserve the ecotourism as well. Hence, the future researchers can make their studies in these areas, etc.

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ANNEX-1
Eco-tourism in Nepal
A case study of Nagarkot
Questionnaires for the local people
Department of rural Development
Tribhuvan University

Dear sir/madam

Namaste

You have chosen as information for this study. Therefore, I humbly request you to provide necessary information for this propose. I assure you that the information given by you will be treated confidential and will used only for academic purpose.

Amrit Bahadur Khirshina
Thibhuvan Iniversity
Kirtipur, Kathmandu

- 1. Name of the respondent:-**
- 2. Age:- 15-20 (.....),21-30(.....),31-40(.....), 41-50(.....),
51 and above (....)**
- 3. Sex: male (.....), Female (.....)**
- 4. Native place (.....) Native urban (.....) Migrant (.....)**
- 5. If migrant, migrated from? District country.....**
- 6. What things do you think, to attract for the tourism?**
- 7. (.....)View, (.....) forest,(.....) wildlife, (.....) local
culture(.....)Peaceful environment (.....) All things. whole**
- 7. What types of environment have created in this area for this
tourism?**

8. What sorts the role does the environment play for the development of tourism in your opinion? (.....)Good, (.....) Bad (.....) has not played any role, (.....) don't know?

8. What can we do for the development of the tourism profession in future?

(.....) save their culture, (.....) preservation of forest (.....) preservation of wild animal, (.....) preservation of infrastructures.

9. What importance do you think about environment for the importance? (.....) Has great importance, (.....) doesn't have any importance. It is importance, how?

10. Do you have any expectation from tourism?

.....
...

11. If your opinion can eco-tourism contribute to the ecology and future economy of the place? How?

12. What do you feel about the number of tourism visiting this area? Sufficient (.....), insufficient (.....) don't know (.....)

13. Have you done anything for tourism profession?

a) Handmade goods (...)

b) To protect the environment (...)

c) To preserve the local culture (.....)

d). Establishment of any institution on tourism development (...)

14. Have you noted any adve4se impact or negative impact of tourism to the local residents?

15. Have you reported any complains from tourists after visiting this place?

.....

16. How do you evaluate the following facilities in Nagarkot?

S.N.	Factors	Excellent	Good	bad	Very bad	Don't know
1	Cleanness of the place					
2	Road condition					
3	Sanitation					
4	Security					
5	Communication facilities					
6	Water supply					
7	Electricity					

17. in your opinion, what is the status of following factors in Nagarkot?

S.N.	Factors	Not applicable	Low	High	Very high	Don't know
1	Solid waste problem					
2	Deforestation					
3	Air pollution					
4	Noise pollution					
5	Price rising					
6	Job opportunity					
7	Economic benefit					
8	Flood					
9	Violence of wild animal					

Annex-2
Questionnaires for the tourists

Name: **age:** **gender: male/female**

Nationality: **date:**

1. What is your occupation?

business(...) service (.....) student (.....) others.....

2. Is this your first visit to Nagarkot? Yes(...) No (how many)

3. How many days do you think you will stay here? (...)

4. What is the purpose of your visit?

a. Sightseeing (.....) b. entertainment (...)

c. Study (.....) d. business (...)

5. How much on an average, you are spending per day in

Nagarkot?

a. Us\$< (.....) b. US\$10-20 (...) c. US \$20-30....) d. US\$40+ (.....)

**6. Based on you7r expenses, what is your opinion about cheapness
in Nagarkot?**

a. Expenseive (.....) b. Moderat (.....) c. Cheap (.....)

7. What do you think about the standard of lodging and fooding ?

a. Excellent (.....) b. good (.....) c. moderate (.....) d. bad (.....)

8. In your opinion, the people of Nagarkot are.....

a. Very friendly (.....) b. friendly (.....)

c. not friendly (.....) d. don't know (...)

**9. What do yu think about the future prospect to eco-tourism in
Nagarkot?**

a. very favorable (.....) b. favorable (.....) c. don't know (.....)

d. Unfavorable (.....) e. very unfavorable (.....)

10. How do you evaluate the following facilities in Nagarkot?

S.N.	Factors	Excellent	Good	Bad	Very bad	Don't know
1	cleanliness of the place					
2	Road condition					
3	Transportation facilities					
4	Behaviour of local people					
5	Sanitation					
6	Security					
7	Tourist information					
8	Tourist guides					
9	Hotel facilities					
10	Communication facilities					
11	Jungle safari					

11. in your opinion, what is the status of following factors in Nagarkot?

S.N.	Factors	Excellent	Good	Bad	Very bad	Don't know
1	Environment pollution					
2	Air pollution					
3	Solid waste problem					
4	Deforestation					
5	Flood					
6	Noise					

	pollution					
7	Infrastructure or tourism development					

12. do you have any comments regarding the eco-tourism in this place?.....
.....
.....

Annex-3

Questionnaires for Hotel owners:

Date:

Name of the Hotel:

- 1. When was the hotel established? (20 / /)**
- 2. How many hotels were there when you established your hotel?**
.....
- 3. What are the peak months and off- season period of tourist visit? peak months..... toand off-seasonto.....**
- 4. What is the average number of tourists visiting your hotel? Normally..... Per-day, peak season..... Per-day and off-season Per-day.....**
- 5. How many tourists are visited in this area? domestic(.....) SAARC (...) others (.....)**
- 6. Generally, how long do the tourists stay in your hotels? A. few hours (...) b. one night (....) c. Two nights (.....) d. Three nights (.....) e. more than nights (.....)**
- 7. How much a tourist normally spends per-night (except room charge)?**
- 8. Are you satisfied with your income from the hotel? Yes (.....) No (.....)**
- 9. Is your business in profit at present? Yes (.....) no (.....)**
- 10.How many employees are there in your hotel? (.....)**
- 11.How much do you charge for the room? Rs..... For single bedroom and Rs..... for double bedroom.**
- 12.Where From do you buy your daily necessities such as groceries?**
- 13.A. Kathmandu (.....) b. Bhaktapur (....) c. Others (.....)**

- 14. Do you think that the inflow of tourists had made tourist center dirty? Yes (.....) no (.....)**
- 15. if yes which place has gone to dirty?**
- 16. What is your opinion about the satisfaction of tourists after visiting this place? a. fully satisfaction (.....) b. satisfaction (.....) c. dissatisfaction (.....) d. don't know (.....)**
- 16. How do you evaluate the following facilities in Nagarkot?**

Thank You!

Annex- 4

Photographs of Nagarkot Area and Hotel/lodges

