

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

Simply, people's process of moving from one place to another is called migration. In general, it refers to geographical or spatial mobility between one geographical area and another. It involves the (more or less) permanent movement of individuals or groups across symbolic or political boundaries into new residential areas and communities. Sociological studies of migration are diverse and usually form part of larger problems in (for example) research into kinship, social networks (relationship links include kinship, communication, friendship, authority and sexual contact); or economic development (Marshall, 1994: 415). Similarly, the conclusion of many economic studies is that migration is one of the important ways people can improve their lives and those of their families. It is a simple notion. Perceived differences in expected income between source and destination induce migration until movement reduces the differentials and a new equilibrium is attained (Shrestha 1990: 20). In the view of Kansakar (1985), 'It has become a safety valve to maintain equilibrium between population growth and employment opportunities.'

This process (migration) came into practice from the early age of human life. People have been moving towards places where comparatively good facilities are available. Birth, death and migration are three major factors to change the population of any area but migration plays a key role. So migration is said to be a barometer of changing social, economic, political circumstances at the national and international levels.

Migration is broadly categorized as internal and international. Internal migration is change of place within a country. It may be between village, district or any

other political boundary within a country. International migration is the change of place between countries. It is further classified into immigration and emigration. Immigration is the entrance into a country of individual or groups who have left their nations to establish a new place of resident (Bhushan, 1994). And emigration refers to the departure of individuals or groups from their home country to take of resident in another country. (Thompson, 1996)

In Nepal, the migration of youth for foreign employment has speedily increased especially after the restoration of multiparty democracy (B.S. 2047) and induction of liberalization policy. In recent years remittances emerged as one of the premier sources of foreign exchange through foreign employment that will have significant bearing on the economic development of Nepal, specially in the context of poverty alleviation (Shrestha, 2004: 403).

After the "Sugauli Treaty", impressed by the martial quality of Gorkhalis, even though vanquished at the hands of the British, the British government encouraged Nepalese to join the British-Indian army. After India's independence (1945 AD), both Britain and India have made separate arrangements for continuity of Gorkha recruitment(Baral, 1990: 20).

With the enactment of Foreign Employment Act, 1985 Nepalese started to migrate beyond India particularly to the Gulf (Saudi Arabia, UAE, Qatar, Kuwait, etc.) where oil boom has created massive demand for foreign labour (Shrestha, 2004: 405). Similarly, in February 2001, the Malaysian government officially "opened" its labour market to Nepali workers. Within six months, over 12,000 labour migrants had left for Malaysia, and a year later Malaysia was hosting some 85,000 Nepali migrant workers (Seddon, 2005; 4).

Going to the foreign countries for the employment is not considered to be the good indication in long term thinking. The studies conducted in the 1970s

(Blaikie, Cameron and Seddon, 1980, Connell, 1975) also reached similar conclusions regarding the importance of 'outside earning' in maintaining livelihood in the hilly regions. But questions were raised as to its impact in the future and its sustainability. For example, Blaikie et al. (1980: 281) argued that the existence of this 'safety valve' was in the long run harmful to agrarian change. They wrote the existence of a variety of non-agricultural income sources (employment in foreign armies and the civil service, business and sources of employment in India in a variety of jobs such as watchman, coolies, labourers on public works project, etc) has tended to postpone the necessity of responding to the pressures of population by transforming the basis of farm production. They predicted "further out migration of individuals and households." On the other hand, Connell et al. (1975: 21) forecast "increased destitution in the hills of Nepal and the emergence of landless and near landless agricultural labourers wandering across the country in search of work." (quoted from Seddon et al., 2001: 122-123)

After 1930s onward, Nepal's population started to rise, and from 1952/54 onwards, the growth rate increased dramatically. Until 1911-20 the population growth rate was constant or on the decline. The growth rate was (-) 0.13 percent. In between 1920-30, the growth rate was (-) 0.07 percent. After 1930s to the recent time, Nepal is experiencing rapid population growth. Between 1930-40 the growth rate was 1.16 percent and in 1940-52/54 the rate was 2.27 percent.

Table 1.1
Population Growth Rate During, 1911-2001

Census Year	Population	Growth Rate
1911	5638749	-
1920	5573788	- 0.13
1930	5532574	- 0.07
1940	6283649	1.16
1952/54	8256625	2.27
1961	9412996	1.64
1971	11555983	2.05
1981	15022839	2.62
1991	18491097	2.08
2001	23151423	2.25

Source: CBS, Statistical Pocket Book, 2004 (Table 1.12)

In 1961, the growth rate was 1.64 percent and in 1971, the rate was 2.05 percent. In the census of 1981, the growth rate was to be 2.62 percent which is the highest growth rate ever recorded in the history of Nepalese population. But in 1991 census, the growth rate decreased to 2.08 percent only. And in 2001 census, again the growth rate increased to 2.25 percent. If the growth rate continues as such, Nepal's population will double in the next 32 years.

Table 1.1 shows that the growth rate of population of Nepal is increasing rapidly. Similarly, migrant or absentee population of Nepal is also increasing rapidly; which show the following table:

Table 1.2
Changes in Absentees Abroad by Destination

Census Year	Total Population	Absentee Population	Absentee Percent	Destination	
				India	Others
1981	15,022,839	402,977	2.7	375,196 (93.1%)	27,781 (6.9%)
1991	18,491,097	658,290	3.56	587,243 (89.2%)	71,047 (10.8%)
2001	23,151,423	762,181	3.3	589,050 (77.3%)	173,131 (22.7%)

Source: Hark Gurung, Nepal Social Demography & Expression 1998, New ERA, Table-8 and CBS, Population Census, 2001, National Report (Vol I) pp. 54.

In 1981, the census enumerated 402,977 persons or 2.7 percent of the total population being absent from the country, of which 375,196 or 93.1 percent went to India. The 1991 census recorded 658, 290 absentees abroad, an increase of 63.4 percent over 1981 absentee population. In 2001 census showed 762,181 persons or 3.3 percent of the total population being absent from the country of which 173,131 or 22.7 percent went beyond the India.

The open border between Nepal and India has been one of the main contributory factors to the increasing magnitude of the international migration. Table 1.2 also shows that the number of absentees out of India by destination is increasing day by day.

In the census of 2001, emigration data were collected for a large number of countries of the world. Emigration data is available for 17 individual Asian countries, 3 European countries and Australia, whereas some of the countries were lumped together such as Russia and other; and USA including Canada and Mexico (Table 1.3).

**Table 1.3: Population absent from Nepal and destination of foreign countries
by sex 2001.**

Countries	Total	Percent	Male	Percent	Female	Percent
Nepal	76218	100.00	67946	89.15	82712	10.85
	1		9			
India	58905	77.28	52050	88.4	68550	11.6
	0		0			
Pakistan	552	0.09	466	84.4	92	11.6
Bangladesh	952	0.12	784	82.4	168	11.6
Bhutan	610	0.10	511	83.8	99	16.2
Sri Lanka	201	0.03	176	87.6	25	12.4
Maldives	370	0.06	334	90.3	36	9.7
China	1354	0.18	1018	75.2	336	24.8
Korea	2679	0.45	2433	90.8	246	9.2
Russia and others	747	0.10	633	84.7	114	15.3
Japan	3726	0.63	3087	82.9	639	17.1
Hong Kong	12001	1.57	8143	67.9	3858	32.1
Singapore	3363	0.44	2679	79.7	684	20.3
Malaysia	6813	0.89	6742	99.0	71	1.0
Australia	2491	0.42	1991	79.9	500	20.1
Saudi Arabia	67460	8.85	66629	98.8	831	1.2
Qatar	24397	4.14	24208	99.2	189	0.8
Kuwait	3688	0.48	3044	82.5	644	17.5
United Arab Emirates	12544	2.13	12298	98.0	246	2.0
Baharain	2737	0.36	2616	95.6	121	4.4
Other Asian countries	3849	0.65	3130	81.3	719	18.7
United Kingdom	7221	0.95	5997	83.0	1274	17.0
Germany	1638	0.28	1420	86.7	218	13.3
France	250	0.03	197	78.8	53	21.2
Other European Countries	1998	0.34	1640	82.1	358	17.9
USA, Canada and Mexico	9557	1.25	7227	75.6	2330	24.4
Other Countries	1877	0.32	1566	83.4	311	16.6

Source: CBS, Population Census of Nepal 2001 (Table 14.20).

In the census of 2001, the total number of emigrant from Nepal has slightly increased from 587243 persons in 1991 to 589050 in 2001, an increase of 1807 persons or 0.3 percent only, and the Nepalese emigrants to India as percent of the total emigrants has decreased from 89.21 percent in 1991 to 77.28 percent in 2001 (See Table 1.2). This indicates the increasing trend of emigration of Nepalese beyond India to other countries. The second largest destination of the Nepalese emigrants was Saudi Arabia, which accounted for 8.85 percent of the total emigrants followed by Qatar and United Arab Emirates. The total number of Nepalese emigrants to Gulf countries including other countries like Kuwait, UAE and Bahrain accounted for 16 percent of the total. Hong Kong is the fourth largest destination of the Nepalese emigrants followed by Japan, Korea and China and the Nepalese emigrants to these East Asian countries together accounted for 2.83 percent of the total emigrants. Malaysia represents the sixth largest destination of Nepalese emigrants and the UK represents the fifth largest destination.

Until now (Fiscal year 2062/063) one hundred and five countries all over the world have been given permission by the government of Nepal for destination countries (Labour Market Bulletin, 2005/06: 8). About 693 foreign employment agencies have been registered (until May, 2007) under the Department of Labour to facilitate foreign employment.

1.2 Literature Review

a) Historical Perspective on Migration

In a stimulating historical treatment of migration, McNeil (1978) discusses the pivotal role that the geographical movement of human population has played in the process of socio-economic formation and transformation. Martin (1999) reveals that 'Migrants from the developing countries have been a source to fill up

the labour shortages in the developed nations under the guest worker policies during the post war period' (1999: 64). Labour migrates mostly from developing to developed countries as guest, seasonal or contract workers. After the oil boom in the Gulf, the destination of migration from Asian developing countries changed. The oil boom fuelled the demand for the labour in the Gulf countries, particularly from Pakistan, Yemen, Bangladesh, India, Philippines, Thailand, Turkey, Srilanka, etc. Every year, on average, 6-7 million people migrate from one country to another country particularly from developing to developed countries in search of foreign employment. (Shrestha, 2004:404)

Foreign labour migration has a long history in Nepal. It started even before the first Nepali men travelled to Lahore in the early 19th century to join the army of Sikh ruler, Ranjit Singh (earning themselves – and all those subsequently employed in foreign armies abroad – the nickname ‘Lahure’) and even before the recruitment of the first Nepalis to the British ‘Gurkhas’ in 1815/16 (Seddon et al., 2001: xx).

Since, this labour market for soldiers from Nepal and their off-springs (particularly Hong Kong and Great Britain), has remained of importance until today. The number of recruits to the British army has declined over the years, although many people still join into the Indian army. Today, the majority of Nepali migrants seek civilian employment abroad (Graner and Seddon 2004:32).

b) General Review

Ravenstein (1889), discussed migration from a behavioural perspective as an individual decision-making process. Probably, the most characteristic tenet of his “laws of migration” and analytical approach is that no migration “currents can compare in volume with that which arises from the desire inherent in most men to better themselves in material aspects” (1889: 286). Migration was

viewed as a free choice intended to maximize utility out of “scarce resources.” Sowell (1996) notes that migrants differ not only in their respective points of origin and destination and in the skills they bring, they differ also in their reason for migrating and in such demographic characteristics as age distribution and sex ratios. Further, he urges that migration tends to be selective rather than random in terms of skills and ambition as well as in origin and destinations.

K.C. (1998) studied international migration and noted that it has positive impacts in both the countries of origin and the destination, providing former with remittance and the latter with needed human resources. International migration also has the potential of facilitating transfer of skills and contributing to cultural enrichment. It enacts the loss of human resources for some countries of origin and give rise to political, economic and social tension in countries of destination. (1998:ii)

Seddon et al., (2001) in *The New Lahures*, attempted to reveal and to consider in a systematic and holistic way the main features and dimensions of foreign labour migration today and the contribution of remittances from abroad to the country of Nepal. It examines the patterns and process involved and the significance of labour migration and remittances for the development of Nepal at the national, regional and local level. While its major focus is what might be termed ‘the big picture’ (the macro), it also examines in a preliminary fashion, the dynamics and the impact of foreign labour migration and remittances at the village level. And begin to focus their attention on the crucial issues economic, social and political associated with foreign labour migration and the remittance economy of Nepal.

According to Nepal Living Standard Survey II (CBS, 2004) about 37 percent of the enumerated population aged five years and above are found to have been migrated from another VDC or municipality or from outside the country. The rate

of migration is higher for females (50%) than for males (22%) (this is mainly due to marriage migration). Most of the movements from the rural areas (81%) as against from urban areas (6%) and from other countries (12.7%). A large majority reported 'family reason' (75%) as the primary reason for their movement followed by easier for life style (12%) and looking for job (6.8%) (2004: 105).

India is one of the major destination country for foreign employees from Nepal. The great advantage of labour migration to India is that there is no need for expensive air travel, no passports or visas required and there is at least officially no restriction on access to employment.

c) Related Theoretical Literature

i) Push-Pull Model of Ravenstein

The essence of the Push-Pull Model was defined in a paper presented by Ernest George Ravenstein to the Royal Statistical Society on 17 March 1885, and a subsequent paper presented in 1889. Both were titled ambitiously '*The laws of Migration*' and represent a major attempt at providing some principles to explain the mechanisms of the migration process as he saw it in both an internal and international context. The push factor of migration are land tenure system, pressure of rural poverty, wide dispersion of poverty and income. Likewise, employment opportunities and other economic opportunities, facilities, amenities, glamour of city life, etc. are the pull factors of migration. He noted a relationship between migration and distance, distinguishing long and short distance migrants. Ravenstein said that longer the distance the lesser would be the volume of migration, and shorter the distance greater would be the volume of migration. According to his laws, migrants move from low opportunity areas to high opportunity areas. The people of countryside are more migratory rather

then those who are natives of town. It assumes a set of factors associated with area of origin and the area of destination. He also showed that although some migration was directly to large centre of attraction there was also a movement by stages. Setting in the direction of the centre of attraction. Another important factor that Ravenstein noted was the existence of counter-stream or counter-flow in any migration situation. Perhaps the most significant of his finding however lie in his assertions, first that the development of technology and commerce leads invariably to an increase in migration, and secondly that of all the motives producing currents of migration the economy was paramount: 'the desire inherent in most men to 'better' themselves in material respects.' (Jackson: 1986).

ii) Neo-Marxist Dependency Formulations of Migration

Neo-Marxist Dependency authors conceive migration as a socio-economic process rather than as an amalgamation of individual movements with specific reasons and motives (Portes, 1978; Breman, 1979). Migration is conditioned by the externally superimposed structural and material forces. To use Wallerstein's (1974) reasoning, migration is a form and mechanism of "labour control" by capital within the capitalist social formation, as such, its intensity intrinsically tied to capitalist expansion. The key to capital utilization and accumulation was labour exploitation which required "the expropriation of the mass of the people from the soil."

As noted by Marx and Engels, the colonial economy also systematically destroyed local handicraft industries, the backbone of both the local forces of production and primitive capital accumulation, to ensure its monopoly and a regular flow of labour (Amin, 1974). Similarly, Harvey (1982), carries Marx's argument one step further: "The more mobile the labourer, the more easily

capital can adopt new labour processes and take advantages of superior locations" (1982: 381).

Brinkerhoff and White (1991), claim that the end result of foreign-capital penetration is that a small local elite and the state ally themselves with foreign capital against their own people. Both the local elites and the foreigners are likely to invest their profits in American or European banks rather than indigenous industries. Thus, investment in the nation may actually decrease (1991: 620).

Thus migration is not only a product of unequal development, but also perpetuates it as it undercuts the development of local productive forces by removing the most productive segment of the population. Further, the neo-Marxist perspective shows that migration is a direct result and cause of the peripheralization of underdeveloped societies and the international division of labour orchestrated by monopoly capital.

The contemporary literature on migration is replete with both theoretical and empirical studies. Study reveals that, the shape of migration is determined due to factors associated with migrants and place of both (origin and destination). Push-Pull model of Ravenstein outlined relation to distance and volume of migration, and the flow of migrants from low opportunity area to high opportunity areas. Some neo-Marxist authors (Brennan, Wallerstein) have emphasized that migration is a socio-economic process and a mechanism of 'labour control'. A few scholars (Martin, Shrestha, etc) stress on the historical perspective. One common feature of most of these studies of migration is that they are largely focused on the process and determinants of rural to urban flows.

Based on above mentioned theoretical literature review, this study comes close to Ravenstein's 'Push-Pull' model of migration.

1.3 Statement of Research Problem

Migration is one of the most obvious events and Nepal is not an exception. Modern communication and transportation system have eased both internal and external movements reducing costs and risks. So, migration is increasing day by day.

One of Nepal's major exports is labour, and the majority of rural households now depend on at least one member's earning from employment away from home and often from abroad. The 10th plan of Nepal also remarked that the government would direct its efforts towards poverty alleviation through promotion of foreign employment. An estimated about 550,000 youths will be sent in different countries in this period (2002-07) for employment (NPC, 2002: 222).

During the last decade, foreign labour migration has become a major feature of Nepal's economy and society. About 700,000 Nepalese work 'overseas', meaning beyond India, mainly in the West and East Asia, and South Asia. About five percent (35,000) of these are women. At least another 700,000 Nepalese work in the private sector in India, and 250,000 in India's public sector (Seddon, 2005:1).

Most of the jobs in which Nepali migrants are employed fall into the general category (low paid) of the 'three Ds' (Difficult, Dirty and Dangerous). One bitter reality is that, Nepali women who are employed as commercial sex workers in the brothels of numerous Indian cities (including Mumbai, Delhi, Calcutta, Lucknow, Varanasi, Bangalore etc.) tend to work in conditions that are degrading to say the least and often involve considerable personal danger (physical violence and infection with STDs and HIV/AIDS) (Seddon et al., 2001: 55-57).

A major cause of Nepalese people going abroad for employment is the limited employment opportunities and the weak economic status of the country. The scale of foreign migration has created a shortage of skilled manpower, loneliness and helplessness. And the majority of the migrants are found generally male (table 1.3).

The Mithukaram study area is also affected by enormous scale of emigration. However, no migration records are available in the VDC. No past study has been conducted regarding emigration issues in this area. In this regard, the study mainly attempts to address the following research questions.

- a) What are the socio-economic characteristics of emigrants of the study area?
- b) What are the major causes (push and pull factors) of foreign employment?
- c) What are the socio-economic effects of foreign employment?

1.4 Objectives of Study

This study mainly have three broader objectives to address the aforementioned questions:

- a) To analyze the socio-economic characteristics of emigrants of study area.
- b) To describe the causes (push and pull factors) of foreign employment.
- c) To know the socio-economic effects at the VDC level (study area) due to the foreign employment.

1.5 Conceptual Framework

The framework shows the causes and effects of foreign employment (emigration) and how these link to each other. The push factors or the causes of emigration (unemployment, economy, politics etc.) are taken as factors associated with the area of origin, for pull factors or reason factors or reasons for emigration (easy availability of work, presence of friends etc.) are taken as the

factors associated with the area of destination. Similarly, the effects of emigration is categorized into two major area, social effect and economic effect.

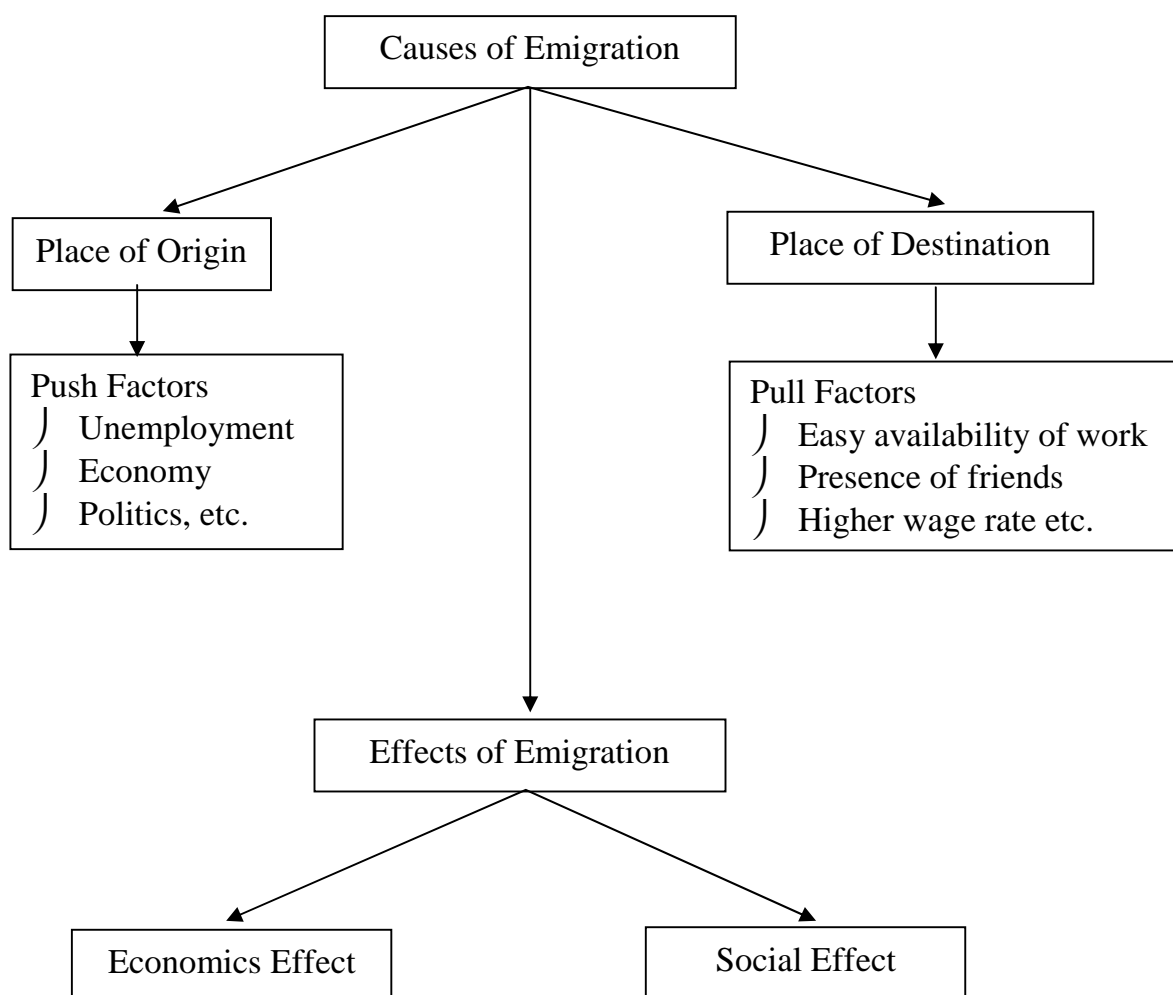


Figure 1: Conceptual Framework of the Study

1.6 Research Procedure

a) Area of the Study

In the context of Nepal, people from almost every region have been going abroad for the employment. This study has been carried out in Nawalparasi district, one of the terai district (but, the district consist of 17 mountainous VDCs) of western Nepal. Out of the 73 VDC and one municipality, Mithukaram VDC has been chosen for the study area. This VDC is far (almost 130 kms) from the

headquarters and lies along the north-west border of the district. It is a remote village besides the Kali Gandaki river.

b) Research Design

Research design in sociological project can be said to be the plan of action, the strategy and the structure. The basic purpose of research design is to provide answer to research questions and to control variance, i.e. to control the experimental, extraneous, and error variances of the particular research problem under study (Kerlinger, 2005: 300)

The present design is exploratory (to some extent, explore the new things/ideas about research problem) as well as analytical (to describe the facts related to research problem) in nature, while studying the social, economic, cultural and other aspects relating with foreign migration. It explores the income trend of sample households, uses of remittance and other characteristics of migrant workers in terms of education, age, sex, caste/ethnicity etc.

c) Universe of the Study

This study is based on Mithukaram VDC of Nawalparasi district. Those peoples who have gone for foreign employment for at least six months within last five years are taken as respondents in our study. The period of last five years has been taken not as per the national/international standard measure, but, for the case of analysis of their earnings (on foreign employment) on their living standards. Longer period has not been considered because the effect analysis of foreign employment earnings may not produce exact results due to involvement in other employment, professions within the country or completely expended foreign earning.

Initially, a *pilot survey** was conducted in all wards of Mithukaram VDC, and a list of respondents who fall under the above mentioned criteria was derived. This survey shows that there were a total of 89 migrants, out of which 42 had returned from India and rest 47 were from countries other than India. And surprisingly, not a single women did fall within our study criteria. During the study, only 7 females were found, who had returned from India, but they were only accompanied their husband for roaming. None of the female were found return from foreign other than India.

For the achievement of study objectives, all respondents listed in the pilot survey were interviewed personally in detail. Due to the rainy season (June/July), most of the villagers were busy in their farm for rice cultivation, and some respondents were out of village and did not return till the end of the field study period (i.e. June 20 - July 25, 2007). Out of 89 total respondents, 70 were, however, met and necessary information was gathered. Of the 70 respondents, 30 had returned from India and rest had returned from countries other than India, especially Gulf, and Malaysia. Information taken from about 80 percent respondents (in this case 70 respondents, out of 89) can be generalized with rest 20 percent because those left were represent not a single ward but overall wards, caste, age groups etc. Thus, it can be claimed that, our study is close to a *census survey***.

d) Nature and Sources of Data

This study is based mainly on the primary data although it depends on secondary data for general information regarding study area and problem.

* Any small-scale test of a research instrument (such as a questionnaire, experiment or interview-schedule), run in advance of the main field work, and used to test the utility of the research design.

** A complete and individual enumeration of all cases of the type specified within defined boundaries at a single point in time; a 100 percent count of some social entity or type of event.

Primary Data: In terms of the aims and objectives of the study we needed information on the movements of migrants, their occupational history, the causes of their movement and so on. Such information was not readily available in any of the secondary sources of information. As such it was necessary for us to generate such primary data directly from the field by contacting the mobile men and their family personally. Accordingly, the primary data of this study was collected by means of intensive field investigation carried out at the micro level of village of Mithukaram. Selected respondents were interviewed and required data collected.

Secondary Data: However, data on certain other aspects of our study was readily available in some secondary sources. Thus, for example, much of information needed to present a 'Profile of Mithukaram VDC: the study setting' was available in such diverse secondary sources as the census reports, Village Development Committee, District Development Committee, printed books, booklets, published articles by researcher and other scholars etc.

e) Instrument of Data Collection

For the collection of necessary primary data researcher has used mainly the following tools/instruments.

- i) **Household Survey Questionnaire:** For interview with the respondents, structured household questionnaires were used to meet the above mentioned objectives. Structured questionnaire are those which pose definite, concrete and preordained questions, that is, they are prepared in advance and not constructed on the spot during the questioning period. (Young, 1998: 190).
- ii) **Observation:** Some information were collected through observation. Non-participatory observation method was used to obtain qualitative

information in which the livelihoods of the households are included. Observation of physical and cultural environment, especially the details of the respondent's house structure, furnishing, clothes and surroundings were observed.

- iii) **Case Studies:** For a deeper understanding of returned migrants and their family, some case studies were done. Through the case studies, we can gain insight into how a migrant and his family cope with the problem caused by foreign employment and what kind of changes occurred in their lives as a consequence of foreign employment. Here, three case studies have been presented.

f) Method of Data Analysis

For the analysis of data, quantitative data has been analyzed by using different statistical tools i.e. percentage, average number, diagram, pie-charts etc. and for this purpose mostly simple tabulations are used.

g) Significance of the Study

Some of the significance of this study are as follow:

- i) The problem of foreign employment is serious in Nepal. This type of study is the first attempt ever made in Mithukaram VDC. It may be useful to some extent for the researchers, students and for those who want to have further study in detail. Similarly, this study may be fruitful to government, planners, policy makers, social workers and others.
- ii) This study may help to supplement source of information to understand foreign employment, its cause and effect in Nepal.
- iii) It is also hoped that this study may also be able to explore the socio-economic and cultural characteristics of foreign migrants.

h) Limitations

- Ñ This study is based on Mithukaram VDC of Nawalparasi district.
- Ñ This study is the result of the ideas of foreign returned migrants. There is no any participation of other members of the family.
- Ñ This study tries to know the causes of foreign employment, why people decided to migrate for employment.
- Ñ This study also tries to picture out foreign employment and its effects on development activities and household management.

1.7 Field Experiences/Difficulties

Field work provides an effective interaction between the respondents and researchers in various and activities. The attitude of the researcher determines the quality of the researcher's work. It means that the problems and experiences depend upon the attitude, habit and politeness of the researcher. It is almost impossible to obtain detailed information unless the researcher establishes good relationship with the respondents. So, they feel comfortable and safe to share their feelings of life.

Research was conducted June 20 to July 25, 2007. In spite of being a local resident, many villagers were less familiar with me. I have been staying outside the village for the last 16 years for my study. So, initially, I had to identify myself and convince my respondent that the purpose of my visit was academic and nothing else. But, time and again, politically dissatisfied group asked me several questions whether, researcher was detective or government's spy. I tried my best to convince them saying, neither researcher was detective nor government's spy, it's only for academic purpose to complete Masters degree. Later on, I showed them recommendation letter provided by college's respective department with a good introduction of myself and my work.

After getting permission to conduct study in the study area, it is found that most of the people were engaged in the farm for rice cultivation because the time was rainy season (June-July). Most of the respondents were not interested in the beginning to talk with me saying that why I needed their family background, the household economy, economic condition, working experiences in abroad. What will you give us ? By collecting poor people's information like us, about our socio-economic condition how much money/salary will you get ? Will you pay our debt ? etc. cross questions were asked me instead of giving answer of my questions citing that, such surveys or data were conducted many times, but nothing resulted. We are in same condition as before, our pain with us, no one listens to our problems, that's why please don't waste our time. Gradually, they understood me and began to give necessary information.

In the case of socio-economic context, some respondents refused to provide data at the level of income, loan and properties. Some people were very sensitive to give their information i.e. working condition, past life and experiences etc. Whereas some seemed totally different and did not want to disclose any information to other persons. Most respondents did not like to inform about their job they did abroad. In this way, facing many difficulties mentioned above, in the beginning of the research, the researcher solved the problems.

1.8 Variables and their Operationalization

Emigration

Moving from one place and settle in another, especially abroad, during a certain period of time, either temporary or permanent is called emigration. In this case emigration refers temporary movement of people from Mithukaram VDC to any part of India and other countries to seek employment.

Emigrant

Emigrant, here, is defined as a person who was absent in the household and was residing outside the country for 6 months to 5 years before the time of survey.

Household

A household is a group of persons sharing a home or living space, who aggregate and share their incomes as evidenced by the fact that they regularly take meals together – the ‘common cooking-pot’ definition. Most households consist of one person living alone, a nuclear family, an extended family, or a group of unrelated people. (Marshall, 1994: 283).

Migration

It has been defined by the population census of Nepal (CBS, 1961) “a change of residence for six months or more either within country or outside the country.” In this case migration reflects change of residence outside the country.

Migrants

In this case a migrant is a person who is absent from his home for six months or more to the outside the country within last five years.

Place of Destination

Place of destination is defined as the place where migrants stay for a short period or a long period for employment (in our case India and other countries is the place of destination).

Place of Origin

Place of origin is defined as the place of starting from where migrants move to the place of destination (in our case Mithukaram VDC is the place of origin)

CHAPTER TWO

PROFILE OF MITHUKARAM CLUSTER

2.1 District Overview

Administratively, Nepal is divided in 75 districts. The districts have been regrouped into 14 zones and 5 development regions to promote development of the country. Nawalparasi is one of the terai district (but, the district consist of 17 mountainous VDCs) of Lumbini zone of the western development regions. It is joined with Chitwan district in the east, Rupandehi and Palpa in the west, Tanahun and Palpa in the North and India in the south. The headquarter of the district is 'Parasi Bazar'. Mahendra Rajmarg (Highway) stretches from the central of the district, from east to west, dividing this district into two portion, terai and hill area. The district lies between 27°21' to 27°52' North Latitude and 83° 36' to 84° 25' East Longitude with elevation 91m to 1936 meters (CBS, 2061). Politically, there are 4 election constituency (now, to increase 6) , one Municipality called Ramgram Municipality and 73 VDCs, having area 2,162 sq. kms. The total population is 562,870 with 278,257 males and 284,613 females and with a 2.45 percent annual growth rate. Sex ratio is 0.98 percent. Total households are 98,340 with an average of 5.72 persons per household. Literacy rate (6 years & above)is 53.3 percent with 66 percent male and 40.6 percent female. The economically active population (10 years & above) of this district is 62.92 percent, with 69.99 percent male and 56.14 percent female of the total population. (CBS, 2002).

2.2 Physical Setting of the Study Area (Mithukaram VDC)

Mithukaram Village Development Committee lies in the hilly region and in the North direction of the district. This VDC is surrounded by Bhartipur and Jaubari VDC in the east, Dedhgaun VDC in the west, Naram VDC in the south and Kali

Gandaki river separates this VDC from Tanahun district in the North direction. The VDC is also surrounded by two big streams, Nirinde Khola in the east and Bungdi Khola in the west. The VDC lies between 27°48'48" to 27°51'40" North Latitude and 84°4'47" to 84°6'56" East Longitude approximately (in detail VDC map)

1) with elevation 280 to 882 meters. It has total area of approximately 10 sq. kms. The VDC consists of about 10 percent plain land on the bank of the Kaligandaki river, and the rest 90 percent land is steep and hilly one.

2.3 Demographic and Socio-Economic Setting

Agriculture is the main occupation of the village and it is largely supplemented by animal husbandry and, nowadays, by foreign service. According to the VDC office record of 2001, it has 2,670 populations, with 1,308 males and 1,362 females and 463 households. The average household size is 5.77, which is slightly higher than the district average (5.72) and the national average (5.44) . Male and female population comprises 48.99 percent and 51.01 percent, respectively of the total population. The literacy rate (6 years of age and above) of the VDC is 46.3 percent, which is lower than the national figure (53.74%) . Likewise, the economically active population (10-60 yrs) of the VDC is 62.85 percent which is almost similar with the district population (62.92%) (CBS, 2002) . The highest portion of the population by caste is Magar (37%) and Hindu (96.3%) by religion. The detail demographic and socio-economic setting of Mithukaram VDC are analyzed below.

2.3.1 Age and Sex Structure

The proportion of male and female is 48.99 percent and 51.01 percent, respectively. The age and sex structures is categorized by 5 years of age groups

and among these groups 5-9 years has the highest percentage i.e. 15.1 and 75 above has 1.46 percent.

Table 2.1: Age and Sex Composition

Age groups	Male		Female		Total	
	Population	Percentage	Population	Percentage	Population	Percentage
0-4	192	7.19	210	7.87	402	15.10
5-9	218	8.16	185	6.93	403	15.10
10-14	189	7.08	190	7.12	379	14.20
15-19	129	4.83	147	5.51	276	10.30
20-24	81	3.03	128	4.79	209	7.83
25-29	79	2.96	99	3.71	178	6.67
30-34	68	2.55	70	2.62	138	5.17
35-39	65	2.43	56	2.10	121	4.53
40-44	58	2.17	54	2.02	112	4.20
45-49	51	1.91	53	1.99	104	3.90
50-54	46	1.72	46	1.72	92	3.45
55-59	34	1.27	35	1.31	69	2.58
60-64	33	1.24	32	1.20	65	2.43
65-69	23	0.86	21	0.79	44	1.65
70-74	22	0.82	17	0.64	39	1.46
75 above	20	0.75	19	0.71	39	1.46
Total	1308	48.99	1362	51.01	2670	100.00

Source: CBS, Population Census 2001-Selected tables (Western Development Region)

* Nawalparasi is the affected district in 2001 Census.

Likewise, 0-4 and 10-14 age groups are the second and third highest proportion having 15.1 percent and 14.2 percent respectively.

Age group is an important aspect of demography which shows the potential growth and economically active population. As defined above, the population of age group 0-14 (young) and 60 and above (old) is dependent and population of

age group 15-59 (adult) is active. The ratio of dependent and independent population directly affects the economy as well as other development work. Here, the dependency population of Mithukaram VDC is compared with Nepal. Table 2.2 shows the comparison.

Table 2.2: Dependent Population of Mithukaram and Nepal

Type	Mithukaram*		Nepal**	
	Population	Percentage	Population	Percentage
Child (0-14)	1184	44.30	8948587	38.65
Old (60 and over)	187	7.00	1477379	6.38
Total Dependent Population	1371	51.30	10425966	45.03
Total population	2670	100.00	23151423	100.00

Source: *CBS, Population Census 2001-Selected tables (Western Development Region)

** CBS, Statistical Pocket Book 2004.

Table 2.2 presents the higher child dependency population (44.3%) in Mithukaram than that of Nepal (38.65%). Similarly, the old dependency population of Mithukaram is also slightly higher proportion than that of Nepal having 7 percent and 6.38 percent, respectively. Hence, in aggregate the dependency population of Mithukaram is higher (51.3%) than that of Nepal (45.03%).

2.3.2 Caste/Ethnic Composition

The VDC is inhabited by various caste and ethnic groups. Therefore, Mithukaram is characterized by multi-ethnic and multi-lingual character. Table 2.3 presents the population of the VDC on the basis of caste/ethnic composition. The table shows that Magar constituted major portion of the VDC population which is 37 percent of the total population. After Magar, Brahmin-Hill occupies second major

portion of the total population that is 18.91 percent or 505 persons of the total population.

Table 2.3: Caste/Ethnic Composition of Mithukaram VDC

Castes	Population	Percentage
Magar	988	37.00
Barhmin-Hill	505	18.91
Chhetri	307	11.50
Sharki	255	9.60
Kami	206	7.72
Newar	148	5.54
Thakuri	110	4.10
Damai	78	2.90
Unidentified Dalit	50	1.87
Gurung	9	0.34
Sanyasi	9	0.34
Others	5	0.02
Total	2670	100.00

Source: VDC Office, Mithukaram.

Likewise, Chhetri comprises 11.5 percent of the total population. After these, Sharki, Kami and Newar come, which occupies 9.6 percent, 7.72 percent and 5.54 percent of the total population, respectively. Likewise, Thakuri constitute 4.1 percent, Damai constitute 2.9 percent of the total VDC's population, respectively. Gurung and Sanyasi has the lowest proportion (0.34%) in the VDC.

2.3.3 Literacy Status

Literacy status of Mithukaram is not satisfactory in comparison with the nation. More than 52 percent of the total population (6 yrs of age and above) falls in the category who can't read and write (Table 2.4). The portion of can read and write is 46.3 percent of the total population which is less than national figure (53.74).

On the other hand, only 1.48 percent of the total population can read. Below, table 2.4 shows the literacy status of Mithuaram VDC.

Table 2.4: Literacy Status 6 Years of Age and Over

Castes	Population	Percentage
Can't read and write	1203	52.24
Can read only	34	1.48
Can read and write	1066	46.30
Total	2303	100.00

Source: CBS, Population Census 2001-selected tables (Western Development Region).

2.3.4 Marital Status

According to table 2.5 married (with single spouse) population has the highest portion in the Mithukaram, which is 52.6 percent of the total 10 years of age and over population.

Table 2.5: Marital Status: Population 10 Years of Age and Over

Status	Population	Percentage
Single	751	38.53
Married (Single spouse)	1025	52.60
Married (More than one spouse)	32	1.64
Remarried	79	4.10
Widow/Widower	51	2.62
Not stated	11	0.56
Total	1949	100.00

Source: CBS, Population Census 2001 - selected tables (Western Development Region).

Likewise, the population of unmarried or single is 38.53 percent, which is the second highest percentage regarding the marital status of population. Remarried and widow/widower populations are 4.1 percent and 2.62 percent, respectively. Married (more than one spouse) constitute 1.64 percent. Marital status is not stated by 0.56 percent of the total population.

CHAPTER THREE

SOCIO-ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS OF MIGRANTS

During the field survey questionnaires were filled from 70 respondents. According to information recorded from the 70 respondents, it has total population of 464, female accounts 51.94 percent and male 48.06 percent. Out of the total 70 respondents, all were male. The details of socio-economic characteristics of respondents are analyzed below.

3.1 Age Composition

Age is an important demographic variable* that affects the population mobility. Table 3.1 presents about 95 percent of respondents have emigrated in between 16-36 age groups, which is an economically very active population.

Table 3.1: Age Breakdown of Respondents at the Time of Their First Move

Age group	Respondents	Percentage
Below 16	4	5.71
16-21	15	21.43
21-26	30	42.86
26-31	17	24.29
31-36	4	5.71
36 and above	0	0.00
Total	70	100.00

Source: Field Survey, 2007.

Above table shows that age between 21-26 has highest proportion (42.86%) when the emigrants were in their first move for foreign employment. Study also reveals that below 16 years of age groups were also emigrated. The proportion is 5.71 percent. Specially, those who have been emigrated to India comprise this age group. No emigrants are found in 36 and above age group. Generally the

* A variable is a symbol to which numerals or values are assigned.

age of 36 and above, man's physical capacity goes on decline, but responsibilities and burdens start to increase.

3.2 Caste/Ethnic Composition

The population of Mithukaram consists of the various ethnic groups. Similarly, among the respondents various caste/ethnic groups are observed.

Table 3.2: Caste/Ethnic Composition of Respondents

Caste/Ethnic groups	Respondents	Percentage
Magar	25	35.71
Brahmin	15	21.43
Dalit	12	17.14
Chhetri	11	15.71
Newar	6	8.57
Thakuri	1	1.43
Total	70	100.00

Source: Field Survey, 2007.

Of the total 70 respondents, Magar constituted the largest group. This group comprised about 35.71 percent of the total population which is more similar to VDC's population figure (Table 2.3). Brahmin, Dalit and Chhetri rank second, third and fourth, comprising 21.43 percent, 17.14 percent and 15.71 percent of the total population, respectively. Likewise, Newar comprised 8.57 percent and Thakuri is 1.43 percent of the total population which is the lowest group of all.

3.3 Educational Status

Education is one of the most important social characteristics of population. It is a vital and key factor for foreign employment. The quality of work and wage depends upon the emigrants' skill and education. But, unfortunately, still most of the emigrants are unskilled and lowly educated in Mithukaram.

Table 3.3: Educational Attainment of Respondents

Education level	Respondents	Percentage
Illiterate	1	1.43
Literate	21	30.00
Primary	23	32.86
Secondary	24	34.29
Higher	1	1.43
Total	70	100.00

Source: Field Survey, 2007.

Table 3.3 presents, more than 98 percent of the total respondents are literate which is very high proportion than that of VDC's ratio (Table 2.4). This is because foreign goings are generally young of 16-35 years age group. Their literacy rate also remains higher comparatively to other age group of population, however the total population of VDC consists child and old aged people. Table also shows that, the respondent having higher level education (SLC and above) is very poor. Only one respondent (1.43%). Likewise, 34.29 percent of the total population has secondary level education and 32.86 percent population has primary level education. The figure proves that the school dropout situation is quite high in Mithukaram due to the foreign employment.

3.4 Marital Status

Marriage is an institution of society which can have very different implications in different clusters. Its purpose, functions and forms may differ from society to society, but it present everywhere as an institution (Rao 2005: 327). Marital status affects the migratory movement of people. It is found that married are more migratory than unmarried because they are compelled to look after their family.

Table 3.4: Marital Status of Respondents at the Time of Study

Caste/Ethnic groups	Respondents	Percentage
Married	63	90.00
Unmarried	7	10.00
Total	70	100.00

Source: Field Survey, 2007.

Table 3.4 shows that, 90 percent of the total respondents are married. The figure is very high than that of VDC's marital status (Table 2.5). Only 10 percent respondents are reported that they are unmarried.

3.5 Family Type

Families of migrants selected of Mithukaram are categorized into two distinct classes. First class is nuclear, a nuclear family is one which consists of husband, wife and their unmarried children. The second one is joint also known as 'undivided family'. It normally consists of members who at least belong to three generations: husband and wife, their married and unmarried children; and their married as well as unmarried grandchildren (Rao, 2005: 356-358). Family type of selected households is shown in table 3.5

Table 3.5: Family Types of Respondents

Family Types	Respondents	Percentage
Nuclear	32	45.71
Joint	38	54.29
Total	70	100.00

Source: Field Survey, 2007.

Table 3.5 shows that the family composition of selected respondents are dominated by Joint family. The proportion of joint and nuclear family are 54.29 percent and 45.71 percent of the total respondents, respectively. This study

found Magar Caste have more joint family comparatively to other castes (table 3.2). Out of 25 Magar respondents, 17 were found living in joint family.

3.6 Landholding Pattern

Agriculture being the main source of livelihood of the population, attachment to land has got psychological, social and economic values in Mithukaram. Mithukaram VDC includes both upper part (Iekh) and lower part (Beshi). Table 3.6 shows the land holding pattern of the respondents. The land in table is divided into three categories namely; irrigated (wet), non-irrigated (dry), and grassland (Kharbari). Firstly, more than 98 percent respondent has any dryland but not wetland and grassland. Secondly, grassland is considered unproductive land for agriculture production. And lastly, in regards to livestock population and its effects on family, specially women, it is necessary to mention about grassland separately. Every respondent has livestock population, but all of them do not have grassland. They have to manage fodder for their animals, from other means, that is jungle, for which they have to spend more time for searching and collecting grass than those who have grassland of their own. The distribution of land among respondents is so uneven that it is important to categorize the land.

Table 3.6: Distribution of Landholding Pattern (in Ropani)

Wet land			Dry land			Grass land		
Size	Respondents	Percentage	Size	Respondents	Percentage	Size	Respondents	Percentage
Landless	26	37.14	Landless	1	1.43	Landless	52	74.29
1-5	28	40.00	1-5	27	38.57	1-5	12	17.14
6-10	12	17.14	6-10	31	44.29	6-10	2	2.89
11+	4	5.71	11-15	3	4.29	11+	4	5.71
			16-20	3	4.29			
			21+	5	7.14			
Total	70	100.00	Total	70	100.00	Total	70	100.00

Source: Field Survey, 2007.

Table 3.6 presents, that about 37.14 percent of the total respondents have no irrigated (wet) land. Similarly, only 1.43 percent and a large portion 74.29 percent of the total respondents have not any dryland and grassland, respectively. Majority of the respondents have 1-10 ropani land.

From our field observation and survey it was found that one respondent belonging dalit does not have any type of land. It is also observed that families occupying irrigated land are taken as prestigious. In conclusion, it can be said that majority of the people have small size of landholding.

Table 3.6 shows that 40 percent of the total respondents have 1-5 ropani wet land, 38.57 percent have dryland and 17.14 percent of the total respondents have grassland. Likewise, 17.14 percent, 44.29 percent and 2.89 percent of the total respondents are occupying 6-10 ropani wetland, dryland and grassland, respectively. Only 5.71 percent of the total respondents have more than 11 ropani wet land and grassland. Whereas, 7.14 percent of the total respondents have more than 21 ropani dry land. Among them, one respondent belonging Newar caste has more than 35 ropani dry land.

Respondents lying at the lower part have occupied comparatively more irrigated land than in the upper part. Irrigated land is taken as the symbol of prestige in this VDC even today. But in practice about 40 percent respondents have no irrigated land. On the other hand, small size of landholding in the lower part can have more production than that of the large size in the upper part due to climatic reasons and some agricultural facilities.

Figure 2: Distribution of Land Holding Pattern (Wet Land)

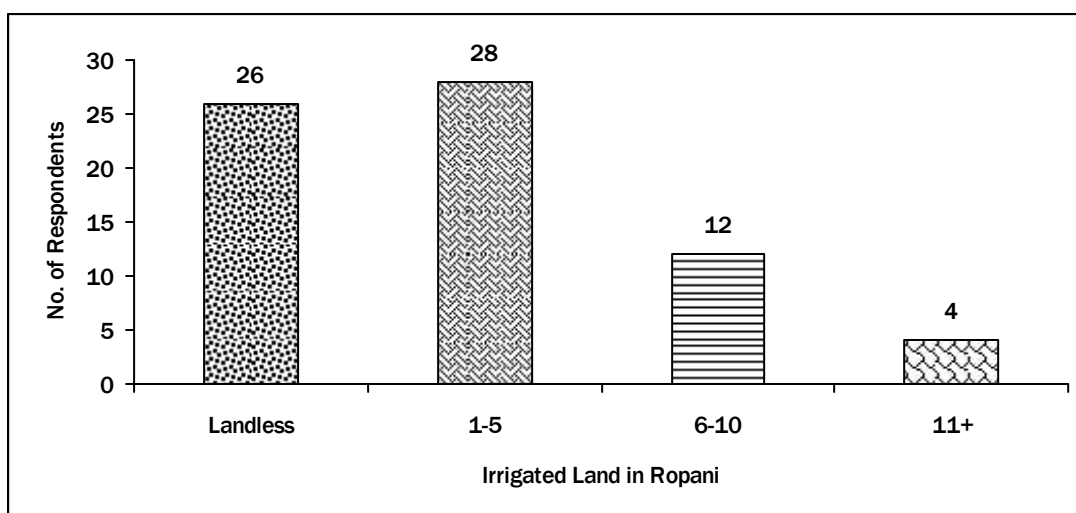


Figure 3: Distribution of Land Holding Pattern (Dry Land)

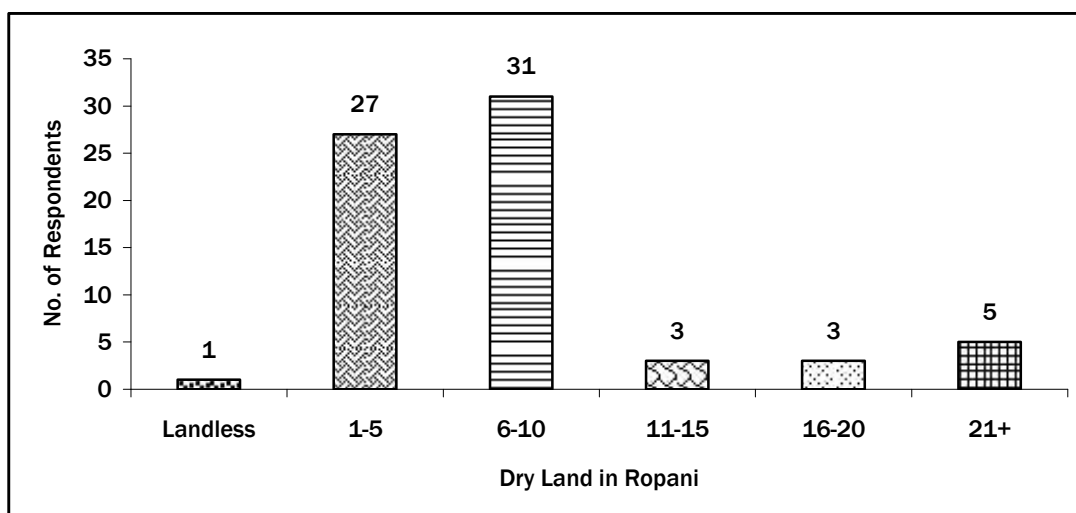
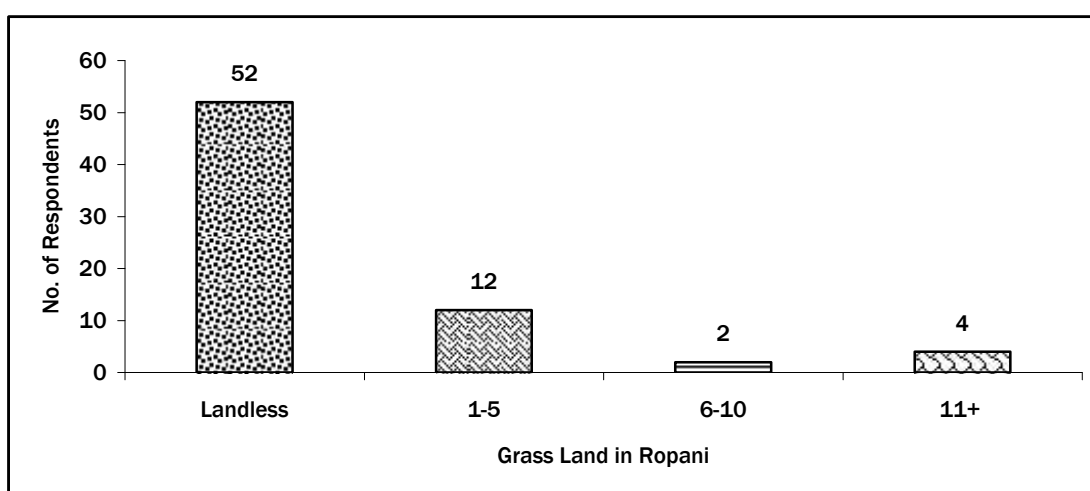


Figure 4: Distribution of Land Holding Pattern (Grass Land)



3.7 Food Sufficiency

Food grain requirement of the individual households varies according to family size as well as consumption behaviour. Likewise, food grain production of the households also varies due to various causes such as types of land, landholding pattern etc. A large proportion of the population in Mithukaram are unable to fulfill food requirement of their family by their own production. Food sufficiency of respondents in the study area is presented in table 3.7.

Table 3.7: Duration of Food Sufficiency

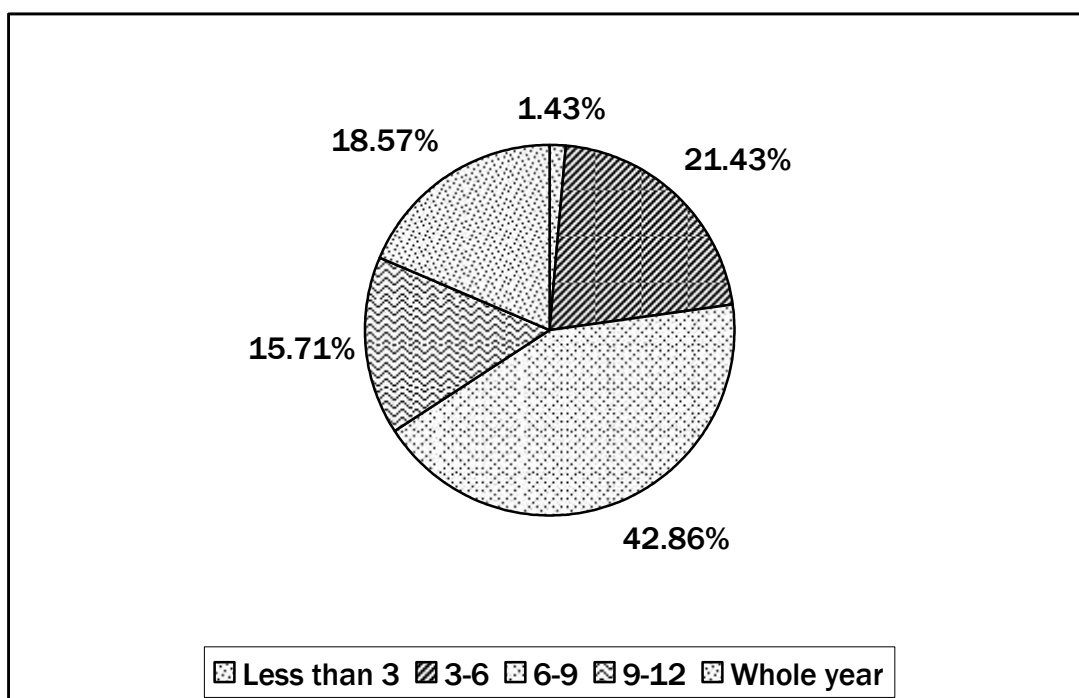
Duration (in month)	Respondents	Percentage
Less than 3	1	1.43
3-6	15	21.43
6-9	30	42.86
9-12	11	15.71
Whole year	13	18.57
Total	70	100.00

Source: Field Survey, 2007.

Of the total respondent 70, only 18.57 percent could fulfill their food requirement for the whole year. Largest portion of respondent reported that their own production is sufficient for six to nine months only. Likewise, the sufficiency period of 3-6 and below 3 months have reported 21.43 percent and 1.43 percent of the total respondent, respectively.

From above analysis, we can conclude that most of the families have to face food deficit. They buy their foods from shops or borrow from neighbours and relatives for rest of the months. Limited land ownership, low productivity and high dependency on monsoon rain are some of the prominent causes for the food deficiency in Mithukaram for migrant households.

Figure 5
Duration of Food Sufficiency



3.8 Animal Husbandry

Animal husbandry is an integral part of the agriculture of this area. Most of the households keep some animals. Cow, ox, buffalo, goat, pig and chicken/ducks are the main livestock. Majority of the households do not graze their animals in the pasture due to lack of *Charanland*. The productivity of the animals is also low due to the lack of proper care. Most of the livestock kept by households are of local breed. Basically, cow and buffalo are kept for milk while oxen for ploughing field. Similarly, goats, chicken, pigs for meat and money. Pigs are generally raised by households of lower caste group.

Table 3.8: Number of Livestock by Households

Types	Respondents	No. of livestock	Average number
Buffalo	66	148	2.24
Ox	41	78	1.90
Cow	29	46	1.60
Goat	63	315	5.00
Duck/Chicken	66	572	8.66
Pig	20	32	1.60

Source: Field Survey, 2007.

Table 3.8 presents that the majority of household have kept buffalo, goats and chicken/ducks. Likewise, cow and pig have kept only 29 and 20 households of the total 70 households, respectively and, the average number of livestock is 1.6 only. Of the total 70 households 66 household had kept buffalo with an average number 2.24. The average number of ox, goat and duck/chicken was 1.9, 5 and 8.66, respectively.

3.9 Duration of Stay Abroad

Based on our field survey, we can say that foreign employment has relatively success in Mithukaram, because, about 95 percent emigrants have more than one year duration of stay abroad. According to table 3.9, the duration of residence or stay abroad is not similar among the emigrants. The highest proportion (47.14%) is captured by 2-4 years duration. Most of the emigrants who fall in this category have gone to Gulf states and Malaysia. Within 2-4 years duration, most of them return home for vacation or for good.

Table 3.9: Duration of Stay Abroad

Duration (in year)	Respondents	Percentage
Below one year	3	4.30
1-2	9	12.86
2-4	33	47.14
4-6	13	18.57
6 and above	12	17.14
Total	70	100.00

Source: Field Survey, 2007.

Likewise, the second highest duration is 4-6 years with 18.57 percent. Duration of 6 years and above have the third highest position with 17.14 percent. Most of the emigrants from India exist in this category. Generally longer period stay in abroad was reasoned to be cleverness of their wives. They expressed that they are not worried to stay longer period in abroad due to their wives effective household management as compared to themselves. Some unsuccessful emigrants returned their home spending nearly one year's duration.

CHAPTER FOUR

CAUSES OF EMIGRATION

Access to employment abroad is determined by a variety of factors both at home and abroad. Personal network and linkages, the structure of access to employment, manpower agencies, etc. are the variety of factors which determine emigration in Nepal.

The number of Nepalese migrant workers seeking jobs in countries other than India has been growing rapidly (Table 1.2) for three main reasons. Firstly, Nepal's population has been growing at a rapid rate (Table 1.1). Secondly, the agricultural sectors providing employment to bulk of the population has not been able to grow and expand fast enough to absorb growing manpower. Thirdly, wages both in Nepal and India are too little to support a family.

International migration are primarily caused by what M. Weiner calls "Cluster variables" - Wage differential, distance and transportation cost, "affinity variables" such as religion, culture, language, and kinship networks and "access variables" that usually belong to the domain of economics (quoted from Baral, 1990: 4). Annual outflow of international labour migration has been increased about 90 percent between the years 1981 to 2001 (Table 1.2). It is believed that this increase has been associated with both an increase in demand of worker in West Asia (where oil boom has created massive demand for foreign labour) and South Korea. Lately (February, 2001), Malaysian government officially opened its labour market to Nepali workers. The increase of number of agencies together with increase of semi-skilled worker looking for work outside the country has further contributed to this increase. With rapid population growth (2.25 percent per annum in 2001), economic stagnancy, limited employment opportunities and increased insurgent activities in the rural areas together with state's

increased security operation, more and more young adults are looking for employment opportunities outside the country.

In the case of Mithukaram several causes of international labour migration have been traced out during the field survey. The causes are categorized in two groups, factors associated with the area of origin and factors associated with the area of destination. In this study, these factors has been analyzed quantitatively and qualitatively on the basis of its priority.

4.1 Factors Associated with Origin (Push Factors)

The information obtained from 70 emigrants currently present at home, was understood that push factors are quite salient for emigration from this VDC. The following reasons are identified on the basis of priority as factors associated with origin only for foreign employment in Mithukaram. During the field survey causes were asked on the basis of priorities. So, at first following causes are analyzed as main causes or on the basis of first priority. Later reasons of emigration are analyzed on the basis of second and third priorities.

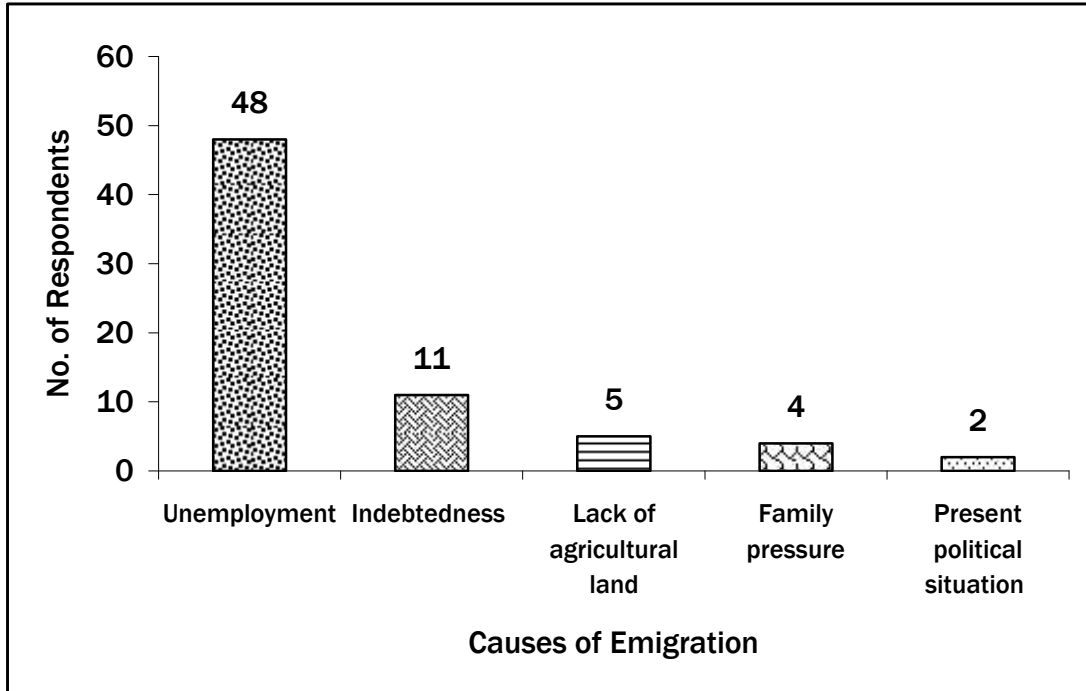
Table 4.1: Main Reason of Emigration: Factors Associated with Origin

Causes	Respondents	Percentage
Unemployment	48	68.57
Indebtedness	11	15.71
Lack of agricultural land	5	7.14
Family pressure	4	5.71
Present political situation	2	2.86
Total	70	100

Source: Field Survey, 2007.

Figure No. 6

Main Reason of Emigration: Factors Associated with Origin



4.1.1 Unemployment

In general, unemployment means the state of being unable to sell one's labour-power in the labour-market despite being willing to do so (Marshall, 1994: 679). The problem of unemployment is a serious one and it leads to a number of consequences, like social disorganization, family disorganization, personal disorganization etc. Unemployment, if not checked or controlled, may ultimately prepare the way for social disorganization. Due to unemployment, people fail to live upto the expectations of society. Some of them may even resort to anti-social activities. It tempts or provokes them to resort to begging, to indulge in criminal activities, to fall a prey to gambling, drug addiction, drunkenness, etc. Unemployment is not only a societal problem it is also an individual problem. An unemployed person losses self-respect and faces a discouraging and a disappointing outlook (Rao, 2005: 597-598).

The one and only highest cause is associated with origin for foreign employment is unemployment. The national problem also appears in this VDC as a vital issue. The nation's poverty reduction strategy under the Tenth Five Year Plan, 2002-2007 have accorded high priority to foreign employment as a source of labour absorption and poverty alleviation (Shrestha, 2004: 408). Unemployment was given first priority by 68.57 percent of the total respondents. Whereas, the national figure shows that the total estimated unemployment rate goes up to 17.4 percent by the end of the ninth-five year plan (Ministry of Finance, 2003).

More and more cash is needed for people to consume different things of daily needs. Food production is not sufficient and people have to buy it from market and other villages. Furthermore, population is increasing and the consumption of services and need of education, health and others are increasing day by day in each households. It also needs cash. The source of cash income is scarce in the village except few government services like teaching (due to these reasons, villagers are compelled to emigrate to India and other countries in search of job opportunities). Therefore, ultimately, unemployment has compelled them to seek employment abroad.

4.1.2 Indebtedness

Incurring debt itself is not a good aspect. Nobody wants to be indebted. Generally, every person wants to be financially sound. Village area (small area), where every person's financial status is transparent; who has got the debt and how much ? who holds the bank balance and how much ? and who has purchase land and house, where and how much ? etc. are known to neighbours/villagers. If somebody is indebted then his social status is undermined and society's view towards him won't be more good.

Indebtedness is the second highest cause (15.71%) of foreign employment in Mithukaram VDC reported by respondent. Even in second and third priority columns it ranked in first and third position and proportion are 51.43 percent and 22.86 percent of the total respondents, respectively (Table 4.2). Indebtedness follows after the lack of cash income. There is not easily available source of income. It is compulsory to consume certain things like education, health facilities etc., which are the basic needs. Cash is borrowed from money lenders for it. Due to lack of employment opportunities or cash/income this debt continuous to be increased. Unfortunately, they aren't success to clear debt and compelled to go abroad for employment to clear it.

4.1.3 Lack of Agricultural Land

The importance of agriculture land for a farmer is as much as labour for any company or a factory. People returned from foreign employment in Mithukaram are mostly (about 72%) farmers, thus for this area agricultural land is of immense importance. Agricultural land, specially irrigated land is taken as the symbol of social prestige.

In the first priority column lack of agricultural land has got the third highest position with 7.14 percent of the total respondents. But, the proportion is increased by 5.72 percent and 1.43 percent in the second and third priority column, respectively (Table 4.2). It reveals that most of the emigrated households haven't sufficient agricultural land (table 3.6) to support their livelihood (it originate food self insufficiency as well as unemployment situation). The VDC has unequal land distribution, most of these lands were unirrigated (Table 3.6) and highly affected by landslides in rainy season due to its sloppy nature. Agricultural land is badly affected by the regular use of pesticides and insecticides as well as other poisonous chemicals. As a result, the agricultural production decreased day by day. So, the limited agricultural land became

unsupportive for the dwellers of Mithukaram and that compelled them to search another option for their survival as foreign employment.

4.1.4 Family Pressure

Family is the simplest and the most elementary form of a society. It plays the important role in society formation and operation. Every family wants to be respectful and financially capable in a society. As usual, any parents for their child, or any spouse to their partner wants to see respected in the society. Thus, to unkeep the social prestige and respect, some persons are compelled to decide for foreign employment against their own willingness.

According to the field survey, in the first priority column 5.71 percent of the total respondents have reported that they have gone abroad due to their family pressure (unwillingly). But, the third priority column reveals that, it is a dominant cause to push the youths from village. It takes second position and increased by 18.58 percent. Some youths aren't interested in foreign employment but, their family member pushed them to go abroad for work. Specially, some parents who have seen the good income of their neighbours from foreign employment compelled their sons to go abroad.

4.1.5 Present Political Situation

In the recent years (about 2 years ago), the country was highly affected by Maoist insurgent activities and the situation of peace and security were highly deteriorated (though the Maoist has come now in peace process. And, until now this process has not been completed). However, Mithukaram has not been badly affected by these activities. Despite this situation, few respondent (2.86 percent) reported that the present political situation as a main factor for foreign employment from Mithukaram. But, in the second and third priority column the

proportions are highly increased (11.43 and 34.28 percent, respectively). It reveals that to some extent people are affected by the present political situation.

Table 4.2: Reasons of Emigration in Second and Third Priority: Factor Associated with Origin

Causes	Second priority		Third priority	
	Respondents	Percentage	Respondents	Percentage
Unemployment	11	15.71	5	7.14
Indebtedness	36	51.43	16	22.86
Lack of agriculture land	9	12.86	6	8.57
Family pressure	4	5.71	17	24.29
Present political situation	10	14.29	26	37.14
Total	70	100	70	100.00

Source: Field Survey, 2007.

Table 4.2 presents, the proportion of factors associated with origin in second and third priority. Unemployment and Indebtedness are the first and second main reasons of emigration in Mithukaram. In second and third priority, unemployment ranks in second and fifth position, respectively. Likewise, in second and third priority columns Indebtedness ranks, in first and third position, respectively. Similarly, present political situation in third priority column ranks in first position. Lack of agricultural land, family pressure are also main reasons of emigration associated with push factors.

4.2 Factors Associated with Destination (Pull Factors)

It has already being mentioned about the push factors. The pull factors are also responsible for emigration of Nepalese people. The majority of the people have chosen India as their destination as well as some to other countries. As we have seen that among 42.86 percent of the total populations were returned from India alone and remaining others (57.14%) from other than India.

The trend of emigration to India supports the 'Ravenstein's law', which states that migrants try to minimize distance. Ravenstein said that longer the distance lesser would be the volume of emigration and shorter the distance greater would be the volume of migration. Out migration from Mithukaram area reflects this situation. Returned migrants reported several reasons for choosing destination country. These reasons are as follows:

- ♦ Less costly (low investment).
- ♦ No need of special skills and higher education.
- ♦ Higher wage rate.
- ♦ Rules of easy entry and exit.
- ♦ Demonstration effect, etc.

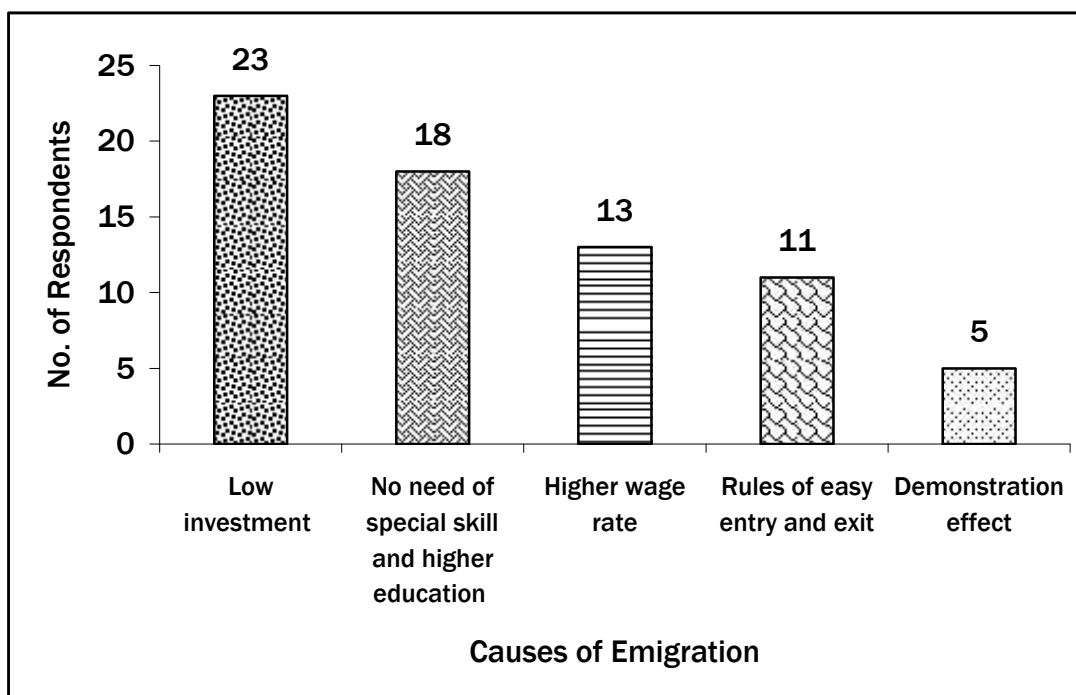
Table 4.3: Main Reasons of Emigration: Factors Associated with Destination

Causes	Respondents	Percentage
Low investment	23	32.86
No need of special skill and higher education	18	25.71
Higher wage rate	13	18.57
Rules of easy entry and exit	11	15.71
Demonstration effect	5	7.14
Total	70	100.00

Source: Field Survey, 2007.

Figure No. 7

Main Reasons of Emigration: Factors Associated with Destination



4.2.1 Low Investment

One of the main criterion for the emigration is necessity of investment. The sum needed to get to a certain country, these cost include travel cost (bus or aeroplane ticket), visa cost and also the commission of the recruiting agency or the broker.

These costs differ a lot for the distinct countries of destination. So, according to the investment view point obviously India has very low investment with compare to other countries. Migrants has to pay only bus ticket, which cost around 500 to 2000 Nepalese currency. Therefore, most of the respondents fall in this category. But, as we have seen that India is not the favourite country for labour migration and it has decreasing trend (table 1.2). In our study, 32.86 percent of the total population have assured that the low investment is a cause of pull factors for foreign migration.

4.2.2 No Need of Special Skill and Higher Education

As we have mentioned in previous chapter that most of the Nepalese who have gone abroad for work from Mithukaram are employed in low paying, tedious and even dangerous and degrading work (much cited by migrants themselves). Most emigrants are unskilled and have low educational status (Table 3.3). According to this study 34.29 percent and 1.43 percent of the total respondents have only secondary and higher level of education, respectively. This figure presents that youths, who have gone abroad are not skillful and have low educational status (more than 64% respondents are below primary level) . During the field survey 25.71 percent of the total respondents reported that, 'no need of special skill and higher education' as factor associated with destination for their migration (Table 4.3).

4.2.3 Higher Wage Rate

Migrants see their jobs only as a means to earn money. The local jobs enable them to increase their social status and prestige at home. Those jobs, which are attainable to people of Mithukaram, are mostly manual labour in construction of local houses, roads, agricultural labour etc. These jobs are poorly paid. Therefore, to seek the '*Dherai Paisa Kamaune*', which is enough to feed their family, is possible through foreign employment for the youth of Mithukaram. 18.57 percent of the total respondents are reported that the higher wage rate abroad was their main factor associated with the area of destination.

4.2.4 Rules of Easy Entry and Exit

Currently, flow of foreign employment in Mithukaram is towards Gulf states and Malaysia. Visa and work permit are compulsory in these countries but manpower company works as a mediator between migrants and destination. In the case of

India they don't need visa and work permit. So, for India people don't consider 'rules of entry and exit' as a cause associated with destination.

Since, Nepal and India share a common open border. Nepalese neither need a passport or visa nor a work permit to enter India, settle and work there. The geographical proximity allows migrants to reach India cheaply, by bus or train. Moreover, most people of Mithukaram are familiar with Indian culture and understand Hindi language. There is long tradition of Nepalese seeking work in India, but the trend is decreasing especially when the emigration towards Gulf states and Malaysia emerged (Table 1.2). As a result, despite easy entry and exit, the emigration towards India is decreasing. In this study only 15.71 percent of the total respondent reported that "rules of easy entry and exit" as a reason associated with destination.

4.2.5 Demonstration Effect

It is not surprising that foreign employment is a subject of '*niyamiit gaph*' (regular talking) in Mithukaram, both among men and women. Most of the returned migrants have a tendency to hide bad experiences and hence do not warn prospective migrants against risks, for example women whose husband have got a low status jobs abroad, do not speak about this with other women.

In opposite case, when migrant became successful he will be pride as a model for prospective migrants for the village. Everybody respects him and asks about the foreign life and work, entertainment and relaxation that he had done abroad. His new dresses and shoes as well as other household's assets such as TV; VCD; cassette player etc. really attracts the youngsters of village. So, they always dream about foreign employment and demonstration effect is inspiring them every day for foreign employment. More than 7 percent of the total respondents

ranked in this cause associated with destination. A best example of demonstration effect is describe below.

CASE NO. 1

Ram Chandra (fictitious name), now 29, father of two children, had gone to Malaysia in 2004. His agency had promised him a job with 16 thousands Nepalese currency per month in Malaysia. But, unfortunately, his entire dream swept away when he got a job of 7 thousands after 15 days of his departure from Kathmandu. It seems surprising that he had earned 7 seven thousand only but his expenditure was eight thousands per month. He further informed me that to manage his expenditure, he had to work overtime which paid an additional two thousands rupees per month. In this way, he worked for 18 months and saved 20 thousands for his returning ticket.

Somehow, he arrived his house just empty handed and a couple of his old dresses. He lost his 80 thousands that he had managed by selling his land. When I asked him, do you want to go abroad again ? He smiled and answered yes, why not ? The one and only cause is the 'demonstration effect'. He further explained me that, he had bad luck at that time, but in his next attempt he will earn more money. Just a single failure is nothing. His several friends have earned money in second attempt.

Hence, we conclude that unemployment, Indebtedness and present political situation are three major reasons of emigration associated with origin. Likewise, low investment, no need of special skill and higher education, higher wage rate and rules of easy entry and exit are major reasons of emigration associated with destination.

CHAPTER FIVE

EFFECTS OF EMIGRATION

In this part, we concentrate on the most important effects we observed in emigration area, that is in Mithukaram. It was beyond our capacity, due to the lack of time and economy to study in detail the effects in the emigration area. Several factors affect the analysis of benefits and costs involved when people move from one place to another. In the first phase, we can not say that movements are always beneficial. Secondly, the advantages and disadvantages of moving along are not similar. Because of all these things, the study tries its best to analyze the true 'social and economic effects' of the movements of emigrants.

To answer some questions like, whether the emigration has demographic effects ? How emigration is affecting social values ? Whether emigration has favourable or unfavourable effect in the village life ? Whether emigration has economically advantages or not ?

5.1 Economic Effect

Emigration of the people from Mithukaram certainly have some positive as well as negative effects on the economy of the households. Though, the VDC has economic deficiency cultivation is not neglected till now. It is the major occupation of villagers. The farmers of the VDC face the problem of irrigation and nature of land (sloppy type). Getting employment opportunities in the foreign countries youngsters male are ignoring agriculture these days. But, emigration to India and other countries for employment is not a permanent solution. These people definitely have to come back to manage their lands and agricultural production. Let us analyze in detail some of the economic variables.

5.1.1 Structure of House: Before and After

House is one of the basic need. However, socially it not only symbolize the dwelling place, but also the social status. Attractive and facilitated house signifies a person's economic capability. In the case of Mithukaram the situation is relatively satisfactory than before, that means physical structure of migrant's houses are comparatively good than non-migrant's.

It is observed that most of the returned migrants were busy in constructing their house. Likewise, most of the prospective emigrants (youths) are also dreaming for a modern house. Some of them also reported that they would go abroad to earn sufficient money just to make a good house.

Table 5.1 presents clear changes regarding the physical structure of house before and after. Stone and mud houses having thatch/straw roof have reduced highly by 40 percent. The proportion was 87.14 percent before and the proportion is just 47.14 percent now.

Table 5.1: Changes in Physical Structure of Dwelling of Migrants

Types of house	Before		After	
	Respondents	Percentage	Respondents	Percentage
Bamboo	1	1.42	0	0.00
Stone and mud with straw roof	61	87.14	33	47.14
Stone and mud having zinc roof	8	11.42	35	50.00
Concrete	0	0.00	2	2.86
Total	70	100	70	100

Source: Field Survey, 2007.

Likewise, increased number of stone and mud houses having zinc roof are seen clearly. Number has been increased from 11.42 percent to 50 percent of the total population. Similarly, number of concrete house have been increased by 2.86 percent. Number has been increased from 0 percent to 2.86 percent. The

above analysis suggests that foreign employment has raised the life standard of emigrant households in Mithukaram. During the last 5-7 years, structure of houses have changed rapidly with increase in foreign employment.

5.1.2 Household Assets: Before and After

A 'good house' is incomplete without modern household assets. Because of this, emigrants have collected some assets in Mithukaram. Parents and wives of migrants wear golden ornaments made in foreign countries. Their dresses are from abroad.

Table 5.2: Household Assets

Types of Assets	Before		After	
	Respondents	Percentage	Respondents	Percentage
Radio/cassette	49	70	67	95.71
Television	0	0	7	10.00
Solar	1	1.42	21	30.00
Motorbike	0	0	3	4.28
Jeep	0	0	3	4.28
Toilet	3	4.28	16	22.85
Telephone	0	0	5	7.14
Biogas	1	1.42	2	2.85

Source: Field Survey, 2007.

Table 5.2 shows, that the clear changes are seen in the ownership of some household's assets. More than 95 percent of the total respondents have at least a radio/cassette. An outstanding change is observed in number of the ownership of solar energy between past and present. The proportion has increased by 28.58 percent, which was simply 1.42 percent of the total population before. At present 22.85 percent of the total population have modern toilet facility which was only 4.28 percent in past. Similarly, telephone, motorbike, and jeep were found in 7.14 percent, 4.28 percent and also 4.28 percent of the total

population, respectively. These were non in the past. It has been a symbol of foreign employment and obviously earns prestige in the society.

5.1.3 Income and Expenditure

Foreign employment is considered as the second major way of earning livelihood after agriculture in Mithikaram. In case of Gulf states and Malaysia, 28 respondent said that, they have relatively low paying (average 12,000 - 15,000 NRs.) jobs and had gone abroad by taking loan. So, obviously, they give the first priority to pay debt. Large portion of the remittance is used for meeting daily expenses such as food, clothing, festivals, entertainment, education etc.

Table 5.3: Area of Expenditure (In Rupees)

Particulars	Average expenditure (Annual)	Percent
Food	25,000	37.88
Cloths	7,000	10.61
Festivals	6,000	9.10
Medical treatment	6,000	9.10
Education	12,000	18.20
Entertainment (others)	10,000	15.20
Total expenditure	66,000	100.00

Source: Field Survey, 2007.

Table 5.3 presents that about 38 percent (37.88) amount of the total expenditure is used only for food. Likewise, education ranked in the second highest position with 18.2 percent amount of the total expenditure. It is a good symbol for long term prospective for the VDC. Entertainment (travelling, smoking, playing cards etc.) comprised 15.2 percent amount of the total remittances. Likewise, festivals and medical treatment both have 9.1 percent proportion amount, which is in rupees 6,000 per year.

5.2 Social Effect

We can say that foreign employment has brought some changes on social setting of Mithukaram. It is difficult to draw up a measuring scale for analyzing the changes in the social background of the VDC. Still some data obtained from interview, observation, case study shows that the social effects of emigration on the society has been both positive and negative.

5.2.1 Positive Effect

People have definitely responded towards good education. In the field interview more than 50 percent respondents have reported that they had faced many problems abroad due to their illiteracy and low level of skill and 'ignorance'. They also explained that due to this, they are promoting their child to read and write. They have invested large amount (18.2%) of their remittance in education (see Table 5.3). Study also reveals that about 47.73 percent respondents have reported that their children getting better education due to their emigration.

Emigration seems to change the beliefs of the people. This is evident from interview and observation that only 11.42 percent respondents have faith in exorcism or magical practices. Study also found out that only 12.8 percent respondents have faith towards the system of 'untouchability'.

In the field interview, about 67.14 percent respondents reported that, they have no plan for leaving their residence in future permanently. They proudly say; we must do new things/works and implement our skills which we learned from abroad in our own birth place.

During field visit most of the returned migrants have reported that they have got an opportunity to know the real value and importance of hard labour. Their attitudes have changed regarding hard labour and now, they are ready for any

types of work. Hesitation and shyness towards the work are changed. Similarly, as said by the some respondents, their hooligan and hoodlum sons who had gone abroad have also changed their habit and have come to the right track. Some have also reported that, they want to work hard after their return. But at the same time, they also expressed their anxiety with the present unemployment situation of the nation. Here I would like to reveal some of the good experiences at some stages in my field visit.

CASE NO. 2

Hem Bahadur (fictitious name), now 26, is a recently married carpenter. He had gone to Qatar four years ago as a wage worker. Fortunately, there he got job in a furniture factory and gradually learnt skill of carpentry. He came home after three years and did not return again. Hem Bahadur started his career as a carpenter in his village and now, owns a small furniture factory there. He has given employment to three boys of his neighbourhood. He earns good enough money for his livelihood.

5.2.2 Negative Effect

Though there has been some improvements, yet negative aspects can be seen. One common scenario is that many people pick up the habit of drinking alcohol and playing card. This is common not only in our area under study but in most places. The migrants coming from foreign countries as well as other local places are habituated to drinking and gambling. It is only a source of relaxation for them.

Some youngsters of non-migrant families have adopted the prodigal and wasteful behaviour. Their parents have limited source of income. Therefore, they are unable to fulfill the demand of their sons that brings the dispute between parent and sons. So, they adapt the several bad activities such as pick pocketing

and burglary. Sometimes, they even steal the household assets. During the field visit, some such cases were noted down.

Cases of illegal (In Nepalese society and culture which is not accepted until now) sexual relationship with other men in the absence of husband were also found. It creates family conflict, disintegration and social problems also.

5.2.3 Changing Social Role of Women at Home

Foreign employment has brought several changes inside or outside home regarding the role of women. They have to play the role of the head of the house during the absence of their husband. All the responsibility goes to the women. The absence of emigrants for a long period creates social problem and sometimes also psychological anxiety (loneliness, sexual harassment etc.) to women/wives at home.

The responsibility begins from the very first day of emigration on the shoulder of women. They have to look after their parents, children and prepare their children for school. Periodically, they have to go to the school to receive their children's progress report and to pay school's fees. Nowadays, women are even seen in the market and banks. During our field survey, some elderly (60+) men reported that, whenever they get ill their daughter-in-law would take them to the hospital. Hence, women are playing a role of son/head of household in the absence of their husband.

Some women also reported that they have got several opportunities to go outside (another village, DHQ and capital) from home as the head of household. The opportunities have made them quite open, dynamic and bold. They become aware of the society beyond the home. Now, they have to be more practical with the society and family in the absence of their husband. One case of women's

situation in family is mentioned below. Though, this case is not directly concerned to our objectives (since, women are not our respondents).

CASE NO. 3

Mrs. Bimala Magar, now 33, is a housewife and a woman social worker. Her husband had gone to India 8 years ago. Currently, she is living with her three children and there are only four members in her family in addition to her husband. She has to deal with all responsibilities of the house. At the time of her husband's departure to India, she had been nervous and helpless. But, now she has become bold. Her husband sends remittance at regular interval. He also comes home frequently. "I feel myself more active and a more dynamic woman among the other women in my community", she now says. Recently, she has been selected as a member of *Gramin Mahila Samuha* (Rural Women Group) and *School Sanchalak Samiti* (School Handling Committee). She further says that she is very happy of her husband's foreign employment and her increasing responsibilities.

CHAPTER SIX

LINKAGE WITH THEORY TO OUR STUDY

Generally, a research is based on some conceptual principles. Similarly, conclusions produced out of such study and research also can be helpful for the formulation of a new theory. Thus, theory and research have a complimentary relationship. Conclusions of our study is closer to the analysis of "The laws of migration" (push-pull model) of E.G. Ravenstein and "neo-Marxist-Dependency Formulations" of E. Wallerstein, Samir Amin etc. Here in this chapter, the conclusion of those above approaches has been attempted to interlink with the conclusion of our study.

Push-Pull Model

1) Migration and Distance

Ravenstein has defined interrelationship between migration and distance, and differentiated short and long distant migrants clearly. He has said that longer the distance, the lesser would be the volume of migration and shorter the distance, the greater would be the volume of migration. Generally, long-distance migration is attracted towards industrial and trading hubs. Some portion of our findings of this study tallies with Ravenstein's principle. Out of 70 respondents on our study, 30 were returned from India, whereas, 40 were from Malaysia, Qatar, United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia, etc. This statistics proves India as short distanced than other countries above all attracts larger volume of migrants.

2) Push-pull Factors

Ravenstein has taken push-pull factor as the determinant factor of migration. Not only origin is responsible for a man's migration but destination also plays vital role. Everett S. Lee has also classified four factors of migration such as

factors associated with origin, factors associated with destination, intervening factors (distance) and personal factors (age, sex, intelligence, awareness, etc.). Similarly, Myron Weiner has classified international migration as primarily caused by 'cluster variables' (Wage differentials, distance, and transportation cost), 'affinity variables' (religion, culture, language and kinship network), and 'access variables' (domain of economics) (quoted from Baral, 1990; 4). During our study too, respondents have enumerated various pushing (Table 4.1) and pulling (Table 4.3) factors as their reasons for migration.

3) Pre-dominance of Females among Short Distance Migrants

Conclusion of Ravenstein consists of high migration rate of females in short distance. His conclusion completely reconciles with finding of our study. Our study has been conducted with total 70 male respondents. During the study, only 7 females were found who had returned from India, but they were only accompanied their husband for roaming. Similarly, according to 2001 census statistics, out of the total population outside the country only 10.85 percent (82,712) were female (Table 1.3). Thus, this statistics also clearly demonstrates that migration of females is generally internal or short-distanced. This is mainly due to 'marriage migration'.

4) Dominance of the Economic Motives

Bad or oppressive laws, heavy taxation, an unattractive climate, uncongenial social surroundings and even compulsion (slave trade, transportation), all have produced and are still producing currents of migration, but none of the currents can compare in volume with that which arises from the desire inherent in most men to "better" themselves in material respects (quoted from Cherunilam, 1987: 13).

Thus, similar to Ravenstein's conclusion, our study has also located respondent's primary motive of migration that are improvement in economy (buying house, land etc.) and living 'better' life. About 25.71 percent respondents involved in our study had used the remittance on purchasing new lands which they had brought. Similarly, about 39 percent respondents have had zinc roof which was previously of straw (Table 5.1). Among the total expenditure of respondents 38 percent share consists of food, and 15.2 percent share consists of entertainment. They said that debt and unemployment are primary reasons for heading foreign employment which hold 84.28 percent of total reason (table 4.1). Their prime motive was just to improve economic condition.

5) Technology and Migration

Development in transportation and different means of communication have eased and made fast in transportation and tour and have bridged the gap with the world. This level of invention in technology have contributed in the growth of migration rate which is relevant in Nepalese context. Since some decades, Nepal has experienced high growth of migrants to other countries than India (Table 1.2) with increasing development on technology as well. Our study area is also affected with such scenario.

6) Migration by Stages

Migration is the process of population distribution. This movement sometimes directly flows towards industrial and trade centre areas. But generally, the movement process consists of different stages. This conclusion of Ravenstein is similar with the migration process of respondents of our study. Most of the respondents have visited district head quarter, capital and other cities before heading abroad. Similarly, some 24 respondents returned from countries other than India shared that at least for once they had visited India before they headed

towards other countries. Since, India is connected with the district of our study, geographically, visiting India is not difficult. Similarly, agent, manpower company, government process etc. are essential to go to foreign countries except India. Thus, analyzing the facts discussed above, it can be concluded that migration consists of different stages to complete.

Neo-Marxist - Dependency Approach

Some points concerning to migration and employment are as follows:

1) Migration is the product of unequal development and vicious cycle between migration and underdevelopment

Peoples by nature want to be economically sound, live improved living standard than existing. For the purpose, they want or plan to migrate towards developed or facilitated places. This kind of willingness among people can be said to be arise due to differentiated development in different areas. Or, it can be said migration is directed from a low opportunity area to a high opportunity area. Similarly, the migration rate of people of countryside is of higher than that of those in the urban side. In our study, the migration pattern follows the conclusion of Samir Amin (Shrestha 1990: 52). Mithukaram VDC (our study area) is backward and underdeveloped from every aspects such as geography, economy, education, etc.

2) Migration as socio-economic process rather than as an individual reasons and motives

Neo-Marxist authors (ports 1978, Breman 1979 etc.) have defined migration as a socio-economic process rather than only of individual willingness and reasons (Shrestha, 1990: 49). Conclusion of our study can also be bridged with aforesaid conclusion. During our study, about 82 percent respondent's family could not

manage food for whole year by their own production and sources (Table 3.7), about 37 percent respondents have not owned even a piece of wet land (Table 3.6) etc., such economic problems are visible in our study area. Similarly, most of youth are unemployed (Table 4.3), political environment is also unsuitable to begin new work in village (Table 4.2) etc. social problems exists in our study area. Thus, these types of socio-economic problems in this VDC have also compelled the youths to migrate for foreign employment.

3) Consequences of foreign-capital penetration

Dependency Approach's Assumption on Foreign Capital Penetration shows following consequences:

Local elites and the state ally themselves with foreign capital against their own people. Both the local elites and the foreigners are likely to invest their profits in American or European banks rather than in indigenous industries. Thus, investment in the nation and local level may actually decrease (Brinkerhoff and White, 1991: 620). The nature of some foreign returned people of Mithukaram fits with this concept. Some people who earned comparably good money in foreign employment gradually shifted out from village. Most of them targeted the terai (specially Kawasoti and Nawalpur area) as their destination and some towards Pokhara and even Kathmandu. A few peoples were also noticed whose motive was not to leave the village but only to migrate towards a more developed area, i.e. plain area of same VDC (specially ward no. 1).

4) Migration is mechanism of "labour control" by capital

E. Wallerstein has taken migration as a form and Mechanism of "labour control" by capital whose internal desire is to widen the scope of capitalism (Shrestha 1990: 49). Capitalism is a single economic system in world at present scenario. Countries including Nepal who have been supplying cheap labour force are even

ready to bow down on the illusory attractive remuneration offered by capitalist (employee) countries. That means that the large labour force of Nepal (or other third world countries) has been controlled by limited international capitalists. Capitalists countries can use us as their desire. The case of 'Korean employment' is the blistering example of this kind, which is currently undergoing in Nepal. Attractive remuneration offered by Koreans' (in comparison to Nepal) has lured even Bachelor's and Master's degree holders of Nepal to work as trainee workers. They are ready to invest 'lakhs' of amounts, whose sole reason is the display of capital lured by Koreans. Mithukaram area's foreign migrated youths cannot be exception to whole country's above mentioned situation.

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APPENDIX

Questionnaire for Migrant

(In case of the Migrant return back the home country)

A. Preliminary Background

Employed Country:

Return Date:

Ward No.:

1. Respondent's Name:

2. Age:

3. Sex:

4. Caste/Ethnicity:

5. Martial Status:

6. Education Level (I.L.P.S.H.):

7. Occupation :

8. Family Size:

9. Type of Family : N. J.

B. Economic Condition

1. Do you have land ? (a) Yes (b) No []

2. If yes, landholding pattern (in Ropani)

Type	Own	Others'	Given to others
Wet land			
Dry land			
Others			

3. The production from land is enough to feed your family for a whole year ?

(a) Yes (b) No []

4. If not, then how much it last ? _____ months.

5. Livestock

Type	Own	Others'	Given to others
Buffalo			
Ox			
Cow			
Goat			
Others			

6. Other source of income ? []
- (a) Service (b) Business (c) Agriculture
- (d) Livestock (e) Wage labour (f) Others

C. About Respondent's Migrate Period

1. Particulars of the respondent at the time of Migration.
- (a) Age _____ (b) M.S. _____
- (c) Education _____ (d) Occupation _____
2. What were the causes that motivates you to go abroad ? Priority: 1st 2nd 3rd
- (a) Unemployment (b) Landlessness (c) Indebtedness
- (d) Family conflict (e) Business (f) Present Pol. Situation
3. Why do you select that place (country) ? []
- (a) Easy availability of unskilled work (b) Less costly
- (c) Easy entry and exit (d) High wage rate
- (e) Gossip of return people (f) Others
4. What type of work did you found there ? []
- (a) Factory worker (b) Driver (c) Doorman
- (d) Hotel boy (e) Others
5. Did you get job immediately when you reached there ? []
- (a) Yes (b) No
6. If not, how long did you wait. For _____ months.
7. How long did you work there ? Month _____ year _____
8. How much was your salary amount per month ? in Rs. _____
- (a) (b) (c) d)
9. How much was you saved of your salary per month ? []
- (a) Less than 50% (b) 50-75% (c) More than 75%

D. Respondent's Attitudes/Conditions after return back

1. Do you have any plan to go again ? (a) Yes (b) No []
2. If yes, in which country ? (a) Same (b) Other []

3. If no, why []
 (a) I have run my own business (b) I should look after my family
 (c) Other
4. Have you made any investment from your saving ?
 (a) Yes (b) No []
5. If yes, in which sector ? []
 (a) Bought Built new house (b) Bought new lands
 (c) Run new business (d) Others
6. Do you have any plan for leaving this residence in
 future permanently ?
 (a) Yes (b) No []
7. If yes, why ? []
 (a) Remote and underdeveloped area (b) It lacked security
 (c) No relatives (d) Others.....
8. What type of activities have you engaging now in your leisure-time ? []
 (a) Social working (b) Playing Card
 (c) Entertainment with family (d) Others.....
9. What is the effects regarding children due to your migration ? []
 (a) Getting better education (b) Getting bad habits
 (c) Do more labour at home (d) No effect (e) No child
10. Do you have any change towards the system of untouchability ?
 (a) Yes (b) No []
11. If yes, in which level ?
 (a) Normal (b) Slightly (c) Sever
12. Do you have any change towards the exorcism/magician practices ?
 (a) Yes (b) No []
13. If yes, in which level ? []
 (a) Normal (b) Slightly (c) Sever

14. House type before and after :

Types of House	Before	After
a. Bamboo House		
b. Stone and mud with straw roof		
c. Stone and mud with zink roof		
d. Concrete house		

15. Living Standard and other facilities:

Particulars	Before	After
a. Radio/Cassette		
b. TV/CD		
c. Solar		
d. Vehicles (name)		
e. Toilet		
f. Others		

16. Major areas of expenditure before and after the migration (annual in rupees):

Areas	Before	After
a. Food		
b. Cloths		
c. Festivals		
d. Medical treatment		
e. Education		
f. Others		

17. Do you learn something new from abroad ? (a) Yes (b) No []

18. If yes, specify _____

19. What do you think about foreign employment ? []

(a) Good (b) Not so good (c) Bad (d) Neutral

20. Should other people be encouraged to migrate ? Give you opinion.

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