

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 General Background

Nepal is a landlocked country, dotted with small villages and shanty-towns, where the majority of the population has no access to basic infrastructure such as clean drinking water, roads, health posts, schools, electricity and telecommunication. Its economy is based on agriculture with 66 percent of the population depending on agriculture according to the 2001 census. Ranked among the poorest nations in the world, the country is undergoing internal political strife and is struggling with economic changes brought about by the globalization (ILO: 1998). Because of lack of proper bears of survival and income.

Poverty is the main cause of child labour around developing countries. When a family is poor every one has to work, even extra contribution help. But many children work because of the lack of their opportunities. School might be unavailable, independent, or just too expensive (UNDP 1993).

Children are the important parts of the society, therefore all issues concerning children are social issues. Constitution of Nepal has defined that child should not involve in any work. But in practical it is not applicable in behaviour. School going most important time is spending in hazardous work.

Concern surveys shows 71,500 restaurant child labourers, 32,000 child labourers in stone quarries and 19,00 short distance child porters earning a living daily. Similarly, 50,000 – 60,000 child labourers working in the brick kiln industry (Concern, 2004) and thousands involved in mechanical works risk proper physical and mental development every day. Child labourers experience

all forms of physical, mental, psychological, economic and sexual abuses, harassment and exploitation by employers, local communities, customers and colleagues. 6.5 percent of children of both sexes in brick kilns, restaurants/tea shops and stone quarries report sexual abuses, harassment and violence (Concern, 2004).

Child labour is not a new phenomenon in an agriculturally dominant country like Nepal. It is part and parcels of a feudal economy, children have played a significant role in the family subsistence. Fetching water, collecting firewood, grazing cattle, caring after children and supporting parents in the fields are the most common works that children in the rural areas perform. In addition, mainly a family bread earner working as domestic servants in the homes of village, merchants. The migration of children to urban areas has been tremendously increasing these days and this has led to the increase of child labour in the urban areas. Industries like carpet, garments, confectioneries, Brick kilns and stone quarries are employing many children as they are meek and uncomplaining and a cheap source of labour. The ratio of household and domestic child labour in Kathmandu is street children: mainly beggars, rag-pickers, street vendors and workers in Sweet shop restaurants and bars are also very squatter areas has also very common in the cities. The rising number of slums and squatter areas has also contributed to the of the child labour population (Pradhan, 1995: 40).

Actually child labour is a severe violation of child rights because they deprive of their fundamental rights to protection, participation and development. Furthermore, child labour jeopardizes child's health safety, and education as well as physical, mental spiritual and social development. But children, in Nepal, are forced to work in difficult and hazardous condition to sustain their own lives and that of their families without schooling. According to a

nationally representative sample survey, conducted by CDPS (1996), about 39 percent working children are out of school.

The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (1989) states that children have right to be protected from economic exploitation and from performing any work that is likely to be hazardous or to interfere with the child education, or to be harmful to the child's health or physical, mental, spiritual, moral or social development. In fact, economic exploitation and worst forms of child labour not only endanger the life of children but also perpetuate the poverty and underdevelopment.

The Government of Nepal (GON) is committed to eliminate the worst forms of child labour. It has ratified ILO worst forms of child labour convention (No. 182) in September, 2001. Similarly, it has already ratified the UN Convention on the CRC 1989 in 1990 making a commitment to protect children from economic exploitation and to work for their rights to physical, mental, spiritual, moral and social development.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

Children are the important parts of the society. Therefore, all issues concerning children are social issues. Today's children are the pillars of tomorrow. Child development is vital for the development of human resources of the country. They should be given a good care about their health, education, with proper rearing. But the case becomes just reverse in the case of Nepal a poor and under developed country. Majority of child population is deprived of basic necessities like nutrition, shelter, clothing, education and health care. Most of the people even unable to feed their children. The problem of child labour as faced by the developing economics today, has indeed taken a serious dimension. The exploitative socio-economic structures resulting in the marginalization of

the poor have left them with no option but to adopt child labour as a survival strategy.

Child labour is not accidental market demand for child labour determines children employment in various enterprises and industries. Children are employed because they are docile, obedient, hired at cheaper rates than adults and dispensed off easing if labour demands should fluctuate (UNICEF (EAPRO, 1994). Migration of children to urban areas from both rural and small urban areas is considerable in Nepal. Rural poverty has led to more exploitation of child labourer in recent years and trend of child migration from rural to urban has been increasing alarmingly (ILO, 1995).

The caste system of Nepal is fundamentally hierarchical and hence, exclusionary. Historically, upper caste (Brahmin and Chhetri) dominates not only in relation to ritual domain but also in political power and economic privilege (Gurung, 1998). Despite the legal abolition of discrimination against caste and ethnicity in 1962 caste and ethnicity continue to function as universal and salient social and cultural norms. This historical, discrimination has reflected exclusions of 'untouchables' and ethnic minority groups in the several spheres of life. The 'untouchables' lack overall education and hence fundamentally excluded from the outlook of the world. Their overall literacy rate is almost two and half times lower as compared to higher caste (Brahmin) literacy rate and their human development appears to be almost half of the high caste Brahmin. Similarly, mean years of schooling is four times lower for lower caste, two and half times for Tharu, and two times for hill ethnic groups as compared to high caste. These findings suggest that ethnic groups and the 'untouchables' families are typically very poor and dependent on their children's labour for survival, and can not afford to sending them to school and tends to be reserved for upper caste or upper class children (Subedi, 1999: 85) So, children belonging to these groups have little access to education health and other basic

services. Ultimately, they may be forced to engage in child labour due to their vulnerability, in fact, an analysis of child workers in some of the child labour intensive industries shows that children come to work mostly from lower classes, Indigenous, underprivileged castes or religious minorities. Beside this there seems variation in child labour by gender and ecological zones.

One of the major problems related to child labour is hazardous environment Health and safety hazards in the working places are related to the nature of the work, such as hazardous process, (ILO, 1996). Chemical, Physical, Biological and Psychological hazards are often found in the work. Physiological development, resulting in permanent disabilities with serious consequences for their adult lives (ILO, 1998 World Bank, 2000:2) There are numerous children in Nepal working industries which are simply dangerous and hazardous.

Brick kiln industry is considered as the most hazardous work place especially for children. It is also the most labour intensive industries which absorbs the great amount of child labour in Nepal. Children engaged in these industries have to face various hazards like injuries due to falls and falling objects, exposure to harmful dust and noise, extreme weather condition and carrying heavy weight and load.

1.3 Objectives of the Study

The general objective of this study is to analyze the socio-economic and working condition of the child labourers in brick kiln industries of Kanchanpur District. The specific objectives of this study are:

- To find out the demographic and socio-economic characteristics of children working in brick kiln industries of Kanchanpur District.
- To examine the working condition, environment and factors responsible for their migration process.

- To access the nature and causes of exploitation and hazards faced by child workers in brick kiln industries of Kanchanpur District.

1.4 Significance of the Study

Child labour is a social problem in Nepal. There seems complexity to eliminate all forms of child labour due to its Indivisibility with Nepalese society. Because child labour problem is entangled with the socio-economic status of the community. A comprehensive study is required in each and every sector of child labour to cope with the real situation. There has been little studies about child labour of brick kiln in Nepal. Child labour suffer physical, mental, and sexual abuse, many work for little or no pay. They endure isolation from their families and are frequently deprived of opportunities to play with peers and attend school.

Child labour in brick kiln is relatively isolated from the view of development activists whereas street children and domestic child labour have specially been focused at present. Working in brick kiln is hazardous to children. It is one of the worst form of child labour. In fact, children including adult workers come from outside of the Kanchanpur to work in brick kilns. It is necessary to trace their place of origin to get information in their family background, socio-economic status, cultural setting, social environment and individual situation in order to identifying causes of migration. It is crucial to understand the complexity of the phenomenon for designing policy, plans and programmes. Children of the most vulnerable groups in society are engaged in this form of child labour. They are mostly deprived of schooling. They have to face various hazards in the worksite.

1.5 Operational Definition of Child Labour

In this study the term child labour refers the children below the age of eighteen years. The ILO convention 182 defined the child on article 2 as the term "Child" shall apply to all persons under the age of 18 (ILO, 1999). In this way in Nepal according to the "1990s Constitution" person after completing the age of 18 years are known as adults and they have the voting rights. It means people under the age of 18 years are known as children. Specially, there are two dichotomous terms. Child work and child labour. Child work and child labour are now the subjects of discussions in children's rights debates as well as within the traditional sphere of child welfare. Yet the distinction between work and labour is made in different ways by different agencies and includes some vague terms such as 'hazardous' 'worst' and 'intolerable: child work has been existed throughout history. It is considered a potential learning experience and normal process of socialization of the child but child labour is defined by differentiating it from child work as being exploitative by nature and determinants to child's growing process, depriving the rights of the child labour for survival, protection development and participation. For this study child labour has been viewed as work done by children in the brick kiln industries of Kanchanpur District.

1.6 Scope and Limitation of the Study

The study focuses to children who are under 18 years of age working in brick kiln factory of Kanchanpur District, factories of survey selected purposively.

This study is based on the primary and secondary data collected in Kanchanpur District. So its results may not representative for the whole country.

This study is based on the child labourers under 18 years of age in brick kiln industries of Kanchanpur District using purposive sampling.

This study presents only the child labourers employed in some brick kiln industries. So, it does not cover many brick kiln industries.

1.7 Organization of the Study

This study is organized into seven chapters. Chapter one has presented the introduction to the study, dealing with statement of the problem, objectives, significance, scope and limitation of the study and operational definition of child labour. Chapter two presents the review of literature on child labour and its cause and consequences. Chapter three deals with the methodology used in this study. Chapter four examines general profile of children and their family containing demographic and socio-economic characteristics. Chapter five reveals the migration and seasonality of work focusing place of origin and migration pattern of child labour. Chapter six analyses working condition and environments in brick kilns for children, their exploitation and perceptions towards their earning and work. Finally, the seventh chapter provides main findings summarizing the study as well as conclusion and recommendation. Some case studies are also illustrated in the appendix for comprehensive information about child labour in brick kilns.

CHAPTER II

LITERATURE REVIEW

Child labour is a serious problem and challenging issue for the future. Children are universally recognized as the most important asset of any nation. The endeavour of any society should be to offer them opportunities for their education, growth and development. Ideally children in their formative stage should not be exposed to any physical and mental rigours that retard their natural growth. The reality however, is different, particularly, in developing countries like Nepal.

Since the beginning of the 1990's. The problem of child labour has received increased attention. Child labour is a complex problem that requires comprehensive multifaceted solutions.

The issue of child labour has been a neglected issue for a long time. International approach to children has now changed dramatically, issues pertaining to the rights of the child have received more attention than ever before from both the government and non-governmental sectors following the restoration of multiparty democracy.

The phenomenon of child labour which is a consequence of the exploitative systems operating at the national and international levels not only closes the future of millions of children in the third world countries, but also drastically restricts the development prospects of these countries. The existence of child labour is a threat to overall world development and to the solidarity and peace in the world. Eradication of child labour from the world is therefore a goal, which must be achieved at the earliest. the problem of child labour cannot be viewed in isolation because it is a symptom of the disease, which is spread at various levels (Hirway et al. 1991: 9).

Millions of child labourers in the world are exploited by greedy employers. These children are deprived of their childhood. Though national governments have taken action in different areas to help them, the question is: will these policies help the children (Mehta 1991).

2.1 Child, Child Work and Child Labour

Child labour is not the problem of an individual or a family but it is the general problem of society. Child labour may be regarded broadly as any work of children under recreation which children require. It is the working of children at unfit ages for unreasonable hours or under unhealthy conditions (Patterson: 1943: 229).

The understanding is that the perspective of the child must be considered at all stages of research, policy making and programming in this issue is becoming increasingly recognized.

Generally, there is not universal definition of child, childhood. It may depend on culture and different from place to place even in the same culture. Jo Boyden (1990: 30) indicates that official versions of childhood are based on the ideology that childhood is demarcated by a series of biological and psychological attributes and not social characteristics. Institute for labour studies, Philippines (1994: 4) states: "the notion of 'childhood' is not a unidirectional concept. Rather it is a socio-historical construct which can be linked to the economic life of a culture or society.

The conditions under which 'child work' can be viewed as a process of learning, skills development and as educative in nature, and 'child labors' as hazardous, exploitative and intolerable. Children are defined as the fraction of population who are between 5-14 years of age from either sex, though the perception of childhood may vary from one culture to another or from one

ethnic group to another in Nepal (Subedi, 1998: 7). The minimum age convention No. 138 (1973) also set working definition of 'child' as a person below the general limit of 15 years. The Nepal labour act, 1992 defines a child as a person below the age of 14 years whereas the children's act, 1992. Child labour (regulation and prohibition) act, 2000 broached the age limit up to 16 years to define children.

Similarly, there are two terms: 'child work' and 'child labour' which may be very difficult to differentiate with each other. Even the Encyclopedia of social sciences (1979 cited in CW/CCD, 1997) has no clear demarcation between child work and child labour. It states:

"When the business of wage earning or of participation in self or family supports conflicts directly or indirectly with the business of growth and education, the result is child labour. The function of work in childhood is primarily developmental and not economic. Children's work then as a social good and it is the direct antithesis of child labour as a social evil."

Child labour is considered as those who go outside the household and are under any type of contact with the employer (Johnson et al, 1995: 44) for wage in terms of cash or kind or food and clothes only (Gurung, 2000: 137). The ILO/IPEC (1995: 1) also distinguishes 'child labour' from 'child work' in similar fashion. It refers to 'child work' as "a potential learning experience or apprenticeship for the child and therefore not harmful" and 'child labour' as "exploitative by nature and detrimental to the child's growing process, depriving the child of the rights to survival, development, protection and participation". RWG.CL (2001: 32-33) has distinguished child labour from child work a little bit clearly. It indicates that child work is good. It develops skills; children will need when they grow up. On the other hand child labour damages children's

physical growth and education. Child work becomes child labour when it is exploitative. Features of child labour distinguishing than that of child work are:

- Children are too young; the hours of work are too long.
- Children have too much responsibility.
- Children are too small, the pay is too little, the work is too hard, the work is too dull and repetitive, the working environment is too dangerous, children have no choice they cannot leave work; they are not free.

Specifically, child labour is hard to define and many distinct definitions have been used by different researcher/organization. (Table 1) In this context CWA/Save the children UK (1997: 7) has illustrated clear distinction between child work and child labour broadly.

Table 1: Difference between Child Work and Child Labour

Child work	Child labour
If work is appropriate to child's age and physical and mental capabilities	Work burdens the child, too heavy for child's age and capabilities

Child's physical, emotional and mental well being nourished even in work environment	Child is subjected to psychological, verbal or physical sexual
Work place is kept safe and child friendly, does not pose hazards to health and life of the child	Work place poses hazards to child's health and life
Limited hours, does not hinders the child from going to school, playing or resting	Very long hours of work, child has limited or no time for school, play or rest
Supervised by responsible and caring adults	Child works unsupervised or supervised by abusive adults
Child's work is regulated by law or governed by family/community norms and values	Child's work is excluded from legislation, social security and benefits
Child is justly compensated materially and psychologically	Limited or no positive reward for the child
Child work as vehicle for social advancement and improvement in child's quality of life	Binds the child to poverty and misery
Child works voluntarily to participate in the family responsibility of maintaining the household, developing the family enterprise augment family income, or even as main family income earner	Child is forced by circumstances or by coercive individuals to work
Child's work is utilized for purposes that are human and legal	Child's work is utilized for exploitative, subversive or clandestine operations or disguised illegal activities

Source: CWAI save the Children UK 1997.

2.2 The Types of Child Labour

Sattaur (1993) enlisted that types of work undertaken by the working children of Nepal under 10 main headings: agriculture, cottage industries, manufacture, Plantation, domestics, catering, selling, manual labor, sexual

exploitation and street children. It is recognized that no labour market is completely free from child labour exploitation in Nepal. The major portion of child labour in Nepal is involved in the agricultural sector: (Suwal, et.al. 1997;) Identifies the following major jobs that children do in Nepal.

Agriculture:	Livestock tending, planting, harvesting, ploughing, fishing
Cottage industries:	Poultry, carpet and cloth weaving, candle making, thanka painting and poultry farming
Selling:	Street hawking, petrol pump attendant, shop assistant, shoe shining, newspaper vending and delivery
Catering:	Hotels, tea shops, restaurants and bars
Domestic:	Caring for parents, being servants
Manufacture:	Printing, bricks, bread, garments, matches, cigarettes and soap
Plantation:	Tea, sugarcane, and tobacco
Manual labour:	Rock breaking, mechanic, sweeper, road and building site worker carpenter
Tourist and travel industries	Pottering, circus performer, rafting and trekking guide, bus conductor, rickshaw puller
Other ways children:	Rag-picking, prostitution, begging money

There are different forms of child labour in different sectors and in different countries. There are family workers who assist in family enterprises and work in a protected environment. Sometimes, however, they work very hard (farms) for long hours (weaving, animal grazing) and in unhealthy working conditions (leather work, color work). Some children who work as wage earners are comparatively more exploited, and some times they are used as cheap

factors of production rather than human beings, the extreme case being child labour, according to Hirway (1991: 39), the other sectors where child labour is employed are:

Sector that employs child labour in Nepal are:

- Domestic services
- Non-domestic service or non-monetary services (like fuel and water collection and hunting)
- Shops, restaurants hotels etc.
- Small scale industries and handicrafts.
- Other informal sectors enterprises.
- Illegal activities, prostitution etc.

Rodgers and Standing (1981) classify child labour into the following types:

- Domestic work
- Non-domestic, non-monetary work
- Tied or bonded labour
- Wage labour
- Marginal semi-economic activities and others.

While child labour in general is confined within the agriculture sector in the form of bonded labour, it is also found in service sector, manufacturing and sex industries (Acharya, 1998).

2.3 Education and Child Labour

Children from the poorest areas and poorest families tend to work data very early age, and typically have the lowest level of education and suffer other social disadvantages (Flakes, 1996). In such cases, children are forced to do work with their parents or engage in earning for their youngsters and many

other domestic works in their own houses, which become the chief obstacles to their studies. Another factor is the lack of affordability of their parents to put them in a school.

The study conducted by Suwal et al., 1997 revealed that, for Nepal, about 68 percent children aged 5-14 is literate, 75 percent males and 60 percent females. About 81 percent of total children are reported to have completed 0-5 grade of education and only 17.2 percent completed 6-9 grade of education. A very small proportion (0.5percent) of children is reported to have completed 10 and above grade of education.

Education is the cornerstone of social and economic developed of a country. Primary education serves as a foundation of the whole process of development. School education is accepted to bring about changes in the attitude of people and they become more responsive, to new changes, development programmes, and rational though education (Khaniya, 1995).

In most developing countries the root of child labour has been attributed to overwhelming poverty, ignorance and illiteracy. It is obvious that lack of access to educational facilities and schooling is often connected with the incidence of child labour. In Nepal, a substantial number of child population is out of school or in the labour market mainly because of the following reasons.

- Poverty, parents' inability to afford the educational cost of children,
- Unequal distribution of school of educational institutions,
- Content of educational and parents faith in it, and
- Lack of provision of compulsory education and its prerequisites.

Nangia, 1991 states that education plays an important role in the physical, intellectual, aesthetic, scientific, moral and spiritual development of the individual. However, most of the working children are deprived of this

opportunity. A substantial proportion of children is being restricted from schooling because of poverty (Suwal et al., 1997). As a consequence of the vicious cycle of poverty these children are out of school and are forced to go to the labour market, which could have been prevented through a proper education. Therefore, it is desirable to have the provision of compulsory education up to the secondary level. A second factor affecting children's schooling is the unequal distribution of schools. Most of the poor people in Nepal live in remote rural areas where a child has to walk a long distance to reach school. Besides schooling, parents also desire some help from their children in household activities morning and evening time. When it takes much time to reach school, parents think. It is futile to send their children to school because of the conflicting time between schooling hours and household works. Instead, they send their children to cities or urban centers for education and both.

2.4 Law and Child Labour

Rodgers and standing (1981) have mentioned that while legislation may help to control the more obvious form of exploitation, legislation designed to eliminate child employment itself is not enough. According to them, it is one of the ironies of child labour that where it is prohibited by law, the law is likely to leave child workers unprotected, since legally they do not exist. Nevertheless, time situation should be distinguished in those cases where the law exists but is not enforced and others where the activity is not covered by existing laws.

Presently, there are several United Nations conventions that concern child labour and child slavery. The supplementary convention on slavery, the slave trade and institutions and practices similar to slavery (1956), defined slavery as:

"Any practice whereby a child under the age of 18 years is delivered to another person with a view to the exploitation of the child labour" (IWGCL: n.d.).

The convention on the rights of the child (1989), addresses a child (defined as a person below 18 years of age) as having right to be protected from hazardous work and work that is likely to interfere with the child's education or to be harmful to the child's health or physical, mental, spiritual, moral or social development". The gist of new legislation of Nepal is as follows:

The Constitution of the Kingdom of Nepal 1990

- Prohibits the employment of children in any occupation which is hazardous to life.
- Prohibits the trafficking of human beings including children, slaves, serfs and forced labour. It restricts sale, trafficking and abduction of children.

The Labour Act 1991

- Prohibits the employment of children under 14 years of age.
- Requires the employment of more than 50 workers to provide supervised care and also time for mothers to breast-feed their children.
- Provides for initial check up and medical treatment of employees.

The Child Rights Act 1992

- Prohibits the employment of children under the age of 14.
- Prohibits the employment of minors, aged 14 to 16 between the hours of 18.00 and 06.00
- Prohibits the employment of children in work that is likely to be harmful to health or hazardous to life.
- Prohibits the employment of minors, aged 14 to 16, for more than six hours per day and more than 36 hours per week.

The constitution of the kingdom of Nepal, 1990 has clearly stated that traffic in human beings, slavery, serfdom or forced labor in any form is prohibited. It has also been that minors shall not be employed to work in any factory or mine or be engaged in any other hazardous work (HMG, 1990).

On 14 September 1990, Nepal ratified the convention on the rights of child adopted on 20 November 1989 by the UN General Assembly. Furthermore, The Government of Nepal endorsed the declaration of the world summit for children hold at the United Nations in New York on 29 and 30 September 1990. As a member of the South Asian Association for regional cooperation (SAARC), Nepal has signed the Colombo resolution. In accordance with this resolution, Nepal has obliged itself to work for the following goals.

Basic Education: Access to, and enrollment in primary education for at least 80 percent of boys and 75 percent of girls and completion of primary education by at least 50 percent of girls as well as boys by 1995.

Child Labour: Progressive and accelerated elimination of child labour.

There are many studies on child labour. But, it takes into consideration only particular area. There are no national level studies, which covers the whole country. In this respect the child labor situation in Nepal conducted by CDPS is of greater value. This study, child labour situation in Nepal is based on Nepal labour force survey, 1998/99.

Nepal labour force survey, 1998/99 marks an important stage in the development of labour statistics in Nepal, so as in child labour. Previous reports have highlighted the absence of a sound statistical base, which is needed for monitoring the market of child labor in Nepal. This present report based on the results from the first labour force survey to be carried out in the country goes a long way in helping to fill that gap.

2.5 Empirical Literature

2.5.1 Causes and Consequences of Child Labour

Child labour is a product of low living standard of the population resulting from the low level of income, illiteracy and increasingly lack of means of subsistence, food, shelter, and clothing and inadequate basic schooling and education. Thus, the practice of child labour is considered as effective means of augmenting the current level of income among poor families so as to enhance, by and large, their economic well being (CDPS, 1997: 3).

Major causes of child labour in Nepal are identified due to the effect of abject poverty and financial pressure, unemployment/underemployment, family disruption, lack of alternatives, inadequacy of education system, inadequate enforcement of legislation, abduction/deception and prevalence of public attitudes and values which tolerate and sometimes can done child labour (ILO, 1995).

Nepal is a rural agrarian country with persistent poverty, which is the most important reason for child labour. Poor households need money, which their children can earn. Children generally contribute around 20-25 percent of the family income (ILO, 1998).

Child labour is not accidental. The market demand for child labor determines children's employment in various enterprise and industries. Children are employed because they are docile, obedient, and hired at cheaper rates than adults and dispersed of easily if labour demand should fluctuate. They involve no long-term investment on the part of industry in terms of insurance and social security or other benefits (UNICEF, 1994).

A study by Chhetry (1996) indicates that, in Nepal districts with a high child labour status tend to have a illiteracy rate and the districts with a high incidence of poverty tend to have a high child labour rate. He concludes that poverty compels children to participate in the labour force, which in turn deprives them of the right to education.

Practice of child labour prevents children from going to school, resulting in a low school attendance rate and a low level of general and vocational education among children. As a result, the consequence of child labour has an adverse impact on the productivity capacity of the children themselves even when they reach adulthood. they are under paid, which makes them unable to meet their requirements of housing and food. Thus, the vicious cycle between underdevelopment and child labour is self-perpetuating (CDPS, 1997: 3).

There are several factors responsible for the problem of child labour. The socio-cultural background and land distribution patterns are important roots of child labour in Nepal the legacy of the feudal rule is still apparent and more than that there is the influence of the village elite, large landowners and money lenders over the poor have still been continued through historical trends (Sattaur, 1993). Thus, the system perpetuates mass poverty in Kamaiya system, and domestic servants are important examples of this system. On the other hand, social indifference is also an important root of child labour (Pradhan 1999)0. Poor parents exploit their children's labour because they are poor and they do not have an alternative economic scheme for their livelihood.

Many parents cannot afford money for their children to study. Even in poverty it is not compulsory, poor people are always busy in solving hand to mouth problems, and they are ignorant of the advantages and the value of education. Children are weighted only from the economic perspective. Even if some children realize that education is advantageous for their future life, either

they do not have access to school or they cannot afford to buy stationary and pay the fees. So children leave home with the hope of acquiring both an income and an education (KC et al. 1998).

2.5.2 Brick Kiln Child Labour as a Worst Form of Child Labour

It is hard to trace the development of brick making activities in Nepal, but it can be assumed to be a very old activity and do have involved in the Kathmandu valley before spreading to the other parts of the country as the oldest brick monuments/temples in the country are situated in the three cities of the Kathmandu valley (CWIN: 1992: 15). In the Kanchanpur District, brick-both burnt and unburned are found extensively used in construction of buildings as store is not easily available.

Urban centers of the Terai region and some other historical towns in other parts of the country have also been using bricks for years. However, brick making in the tarai got a better technology from India. The world is obliged to recognize and acknowledge these risks and ensure that these invisible workers are allowed to enjoy their childhood and their rights (UNICEF, 1997: 30).

Enhew (1994) states that child work is exploitative when,

- Children are too young to be doing the type of work,
- The hours are too long,
- They are too small for the tasks and tools involved,
- The work is too hard for a growing body,
- They have too much responsibility,
- The working environment is too dangerous,
- They work under slave- like arrangements,

As per article 3 of convention 182, the worst forms of child labour include:

- The use of children for illicit activities particularly within the drug trade.
- Work that is likely to endanger the health, safety, or morals of children.
- The use, procuring or offering of a child for prostitution or for pornography.
- Slavery or practices similar to slavery including debt bondage, sale of children, serfdom, and forced or compulsory recruitment of children for use in armed conflicts.

The accompanying recommendation (No. 190) draws attention to such cases where children are exposed to:

- Work with dangerous machinery, equipment and tools.
- Work under difficult circumstances, including long hours, during the height.
- Unreasonable confinement of the employer's premises.
- An unhealthy environment exposing workers to hazardous substances, agents or processes or temperatures, noise levels or vibration damaging to health.
- Work underground, under water, at dangerous heights, confined spaces.
- Manual handling or transport of heavy loads.

ILO-IPEC has facilitated and supported these positive developments by choosing Nepal as one of three countries in which to implement a large-scale Time Bound programme for the elimination of the worst forms of child labour. In preparation for this important initiative, five fields of child labour prevalent in Nepal have been tentatively identified as fitting in the 'worst forms' category. These are domestic child labour, bonded child labour, child rag picking, child

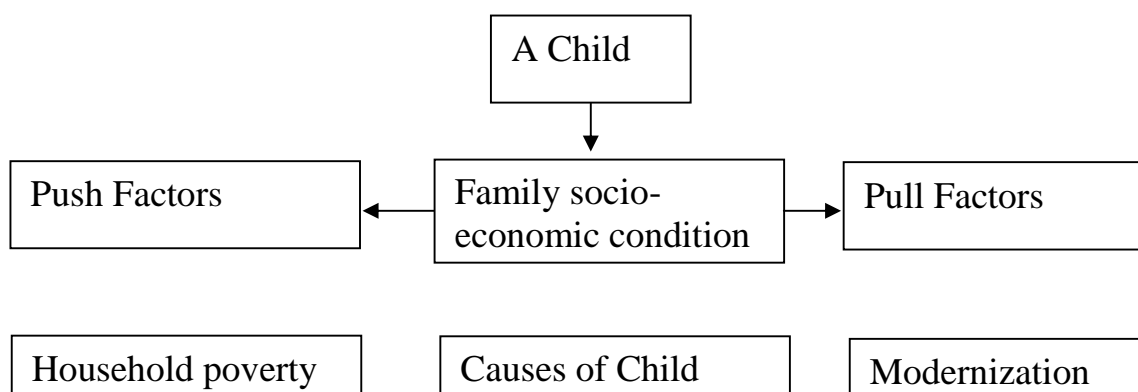
portering and girl trafficking for commercial sexual exploitation. (Sharma, 1999)

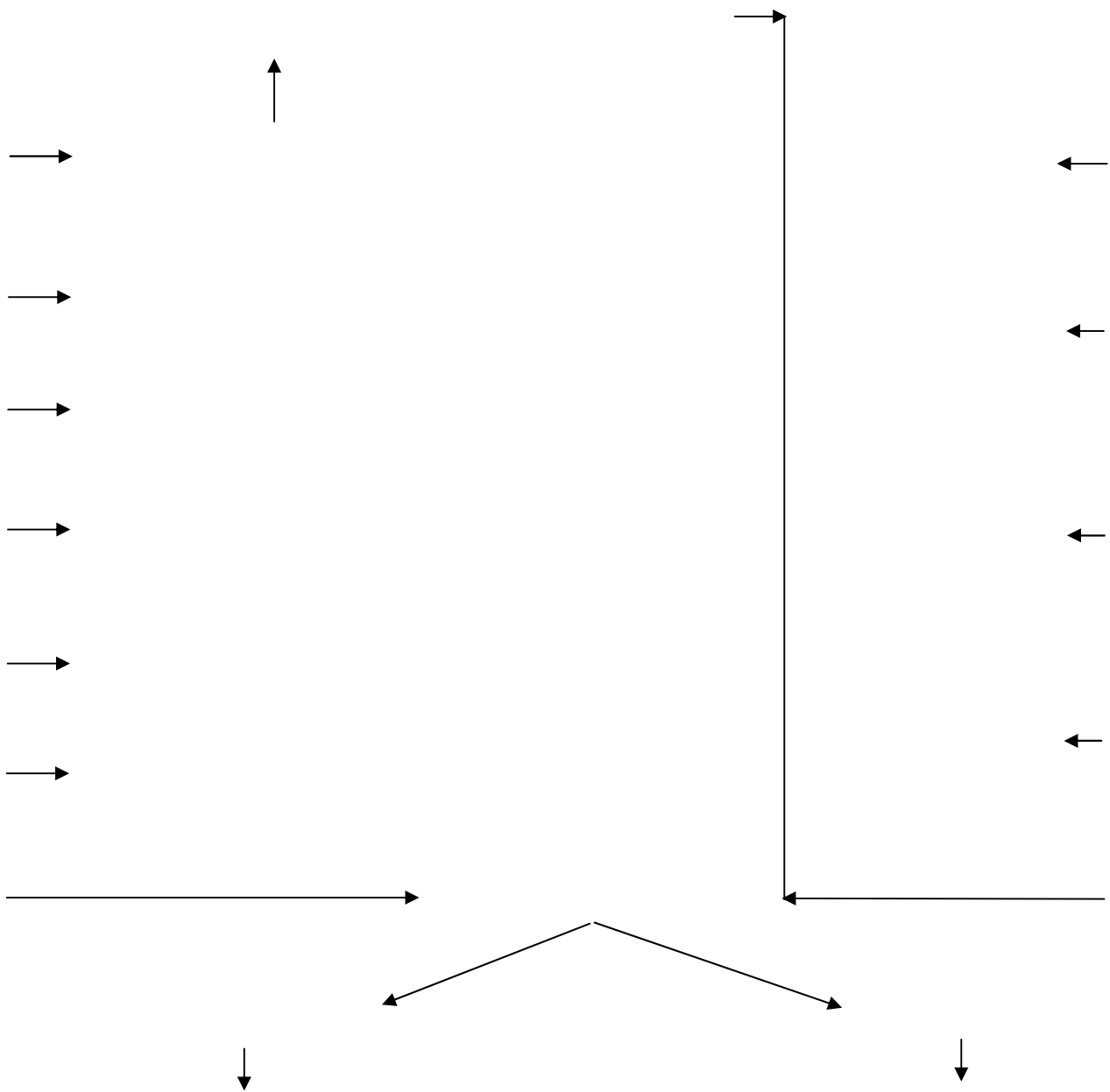
Brick kiln industries is one of the most exploitative and hazardous sector for child labour. An effort has been made by GOS, NGOs INGOs and UN organizations including ILO and UNICEF to create awareness about the problem of child labour. Most of these organizations believe in the gradual elimination of child labour condition of children not working in hazardous situation might be improved once they are adequately paid for limited working hours and at the same time they have adequate access to education, health, and other facilities. This is justified in a society in which the state and the organizations are not in a position to provide either job/social/security or rehabilitation to the working children. Most and more NGOs and INGOs working in Nepal could be motivated to focus on the problem of child labour. In this context, a national regional and global net working system could be initiated and activated for appropriate action to come about.

2.6 Conceptual Framework:

The literature reviewed on the related issue provides the basis of study. The present study is conceptualized with two phases of children's survival, the first phase is socio-economic condition of children and the second is employment in brick kiln industries labours. There are related push and hazardous and others of working condition while employed at brick kiln industries, the conceptual framework of this study can be summarized as:

Figure 1: Causes and Consequence of Child Labour





For the conclusion of this chapter child labour is a serious problem and challenging issue for the future since the beginning of the 1990's., the problem of child labour is receiving increased attention. The issue of child labour has

been a neglected issue for a long time millions of child labours in the world are exploited by greedy employers. There are two terms: child work and child labour which may be very difficult to differentiate with each other. Child labour is considered as those who go outside the household and are under any type of contact with the employer for wage in terms of cash or kind or food and clothes only. Major jobs that children do in Nepal are agriculture, cottage industries, selling, catering, domestic manufacture etc. There are different forms of child labour in different sectors and in different countries. For Nepal about 68 percent children aged 5-14 is literate. Child labour has been attributed to overwhelming poverty, ignorance and illiteracy. The constitution of Nepal 1990, the labour act 1991 the child rights act 1992 has formed for elimination of child labour.

The present study conceptualized with two phases of children's survival. First is socio economic condition & next is employment status in brick kiln. Causes of consequences of child labour are family socio-economic condition and pull and push factors. Sector of child labour is from domestic service to illegal activities like prostitution etc.

CHAPTER III

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The basic task of this field study is to document the situation of child labourers employed in brick kiln industries. Therefore, the present study was

undertaken mainly to study the socio-economic background, terms and conditions of work and to find out the major factors which force children to work in hazardous places like brick kiln industries. This study is primarily exploratory and descriptive in nature. In this study an attempt has been made to describe the socio-economic characteristics of the children and the actual situation under which they are working in the brick kiln industries in the Kanchanpur District. Actually, following steps and procedures have been applied to complete this study systematically.

3.1 Introduction of the Study Area

The Kanchanpur District has been selected for this study. Brick kiln industries are also increasing for brick production where great amount of labour force including significant proportion of child labour is engaged in brick making activities. It is the most hazardous work specially for children and exploits their childhood. Thus, Kanchanpur District is specially chosen as the research site to observe the prevalence and situation of child labour in brick kiln industries. In addition time and economic constraints are responsible for selecting Kanchanpur District for study area, which is easily accessible and not too much expensive to conduct field work.

3.2 Population and Sample Size

Brick kiln industries have been growing in Kanchanpur District. It is not very clear, how many children are working in the brick kiln industries in Nepal and in the Kanchanpur District particular. Similarly, there seems the lack of accurate population of children aged under 18 years working in brick kilns of

Kanchanpur districts. For the purpose of the study 5 brick kiln industries were chosen purposively. Then, each and every child working in selected brick kilns has been considered as relevant respondent for interview. Altogether, 100 child workers are included in this study as the target population out of 5 industries surveyed. Actually the sample frame for child labour adopted in this study has been formed purposively as shown in Table 2.

3.3 Nature and Sources of Data

Both qualitative and quantitative data has been collected and used in the present study. The data was collected using both primary and secondary sources.

3.3.1 Primary Sources

This is the main component of the study. Primary data was collected through interviews, observations and cases of the working children in the brick kiln industries in the Kanchanpur District and the employers of factory managers owners.

3.3.2 Secondary Sources

The secondary data was collected from various published and unpublished information sources which were collected by visiting different libraries, information and documentation centers of governmental and non-governmental organizations. Among the major places visited include: documentation center, CWIN, Tribhuvan University central library, Central Department of Population Studies, International Labour Organization, Books, of different author from different libraries, journals, research reports, newspapers, magazines and other reliable source.

3.4 Data Collection

The following techniques have been used to collect data.

3.4.1 Interview

The structured questionnaire (Appendix II) has been used to collect basic information about child labour employed in brick kiln industries in Kanchanpur District. The questionnaire is prepared in terms of personal identification and population structure like family characteristics, sex, age, caste, work, experience, income, saving, attitude towards work etc.

3.4.2 Observation

Observation is also one of the techniques of data collection to document the present condition of child labour. Information are collected through observation of the working condition, behaviour of employers, physical appearances and even the food given them.

3.4.3 Case Study

In the field survey, a few case studies had been conducted to collect in-depth information on their past and present situation focusing on how they came to join the brick kiln work and on what condition they are working:

Table 2: No of Child Workers Sample Population in Brick Kiln Industries

Name of the factory	Total no of labourers	No of child-labour				Total	Sample population %
		Boys		Girls			
		No	%	No	%		
Betal Brick factory	450	40	29.6	25	31.25	65	46.15
Suraj Brick Factory	375	28	20.7	17	21.25	45	44.44
Bajrangi Brick industry	325	25	18.5	15	18.75	40	50
Jagdamba Brick Factory	300	22	16.3	13	16.25	35	42.85

Suresh Brick Industry	280	20	14.8	10	12.5	30	50
Total	1730	135	100	80	100	215	

In the five brick kilns factories surveyed in Kanchanpur District, 10 to 15 percent child labourers involve in each factory. There were a total of 1,730 workers on an average of 346 persons per factory. Out of 1730 workers 215 (12.4 percent) were child workers under 18 years of age. Among 215 child workers 135 (62.8 percent) were boys and 80 (37.2 percent) girls. A total of 100 (46.5 percent of 215) child working in the 5 brick kiln industries of Kanchanpur were interviewed. Among the 100 children interviewed, 30 were from Betal brick factory, 20 each from Bajarangi and Suraj brick factory and 15 each from Jagdamba and Suresh brick factory in Kanchanpur District.

3.5 Method of Data Analysis

In this study the analysis of collected information (data) from both qualitative and quantitative method is made through the particular rules. The quantitative data obtained form pre-coded structured questionnaires are first processed through editing and responses of open ended questions have been edited through specific coding keeping them on relevant categories. After this the processed data has been presented in tabular form and interpreted and analyzed. The population structure, ethnicity/caste composition, age and sex composition of the child labours, size of the family, income and calculation of mean have been applied for interpretation and analysis of data.

CHAPTER IV

SOCIO-ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS OF BRICK KILN CHILD LABOURERS

This chapter deals with the background characteristics of the brick kiln child labourers. They have their family related to demographic and socio-economic characteristics of child labour in selected brick kiln of Kanchanpur District. The analysis included age and sex composition, caste ethnic composition, educational status of schooling and drop out of child workers as well as their family background including family size parental status, poverty and indebtedness of their family.

4.1 Age and Sex Composition of Child Labour

Those brick kiln child who are under the age of 18 are selected for this study. Children (less than 15 years age) or minor (15-17 years age) are engaged in greater extent that differ the degree of vulnerability of children because they differ significant growth deficit due to heavy work burden. Actually, the proportion of children involved in brick kiln industries varied with age and sex of the children.

Table 3 : Distribution of Child Labourers by Age and Sex

Age group	Boys		Girls		Total%
	No.	%	No.	%	
< 10 years	7	12.3	5	11.6	12
10-14 years	20	35.1	15	34.9	35
15-17 years	30	52.6	23	53.5	53
All	57	100.0	43	100.0	100

Source: Field survey, 2006

This survey is the summary of 100 brick kiln child labour of Kanchanpur District. Of them the age group 15-17 constituted the highest percent (53 percent), and the age group less than 10 are lowest percent (12percent) of brick kiln child labourers. The proportion of boys brick kiln child labourers is higher (57) than girls (43).

Box 1: A case study of Raju

Raju Chaudhari is a 12 years old boy from Dhangadi is working for brick moulding with his brothers at Betal brick factory, Kanchanpur. He has been working for two years . His parents felt he might get better exposure and opportunity for schooling. In his village, school is quite far away, and Raju never had the opportunity to go to school. He came to work in brick kiln accompanying with brothers. He seems to be engaged in brick moulding with his soft hands.

4.2 Caste/Ethnic Composition of Child Labourers

The prevalence of child labour in the brick kilns varies greatly by caste/ethnicity. Most of the children working in these factories surveyed have been found to be engaged. Table 4 shows that child labourers came from different caste/ethnic groups and have been doing the same types of job in every brick kiln industries.

Table 4 : Distributrion of Child Labourers by Caste/ethnicity and Sex

Caste/ethnicity	Boys		Girls		Total %
	No.	%	No.	%	
Brahmin/Chhetri	6	10.5	4	9.3	10
Chaudhari	11	19.3	10	23.3	21
Tharu	4	7.1	5	11.6	9
Magar	9	15.8	8	18.6	17
Dalit	6	10.5	6	14.0	12
Bihari	8	14.0	8	18.6	16
Other	13	22.8	2	4.6	15
Total	57	100.0	43	100.0	100

Source: Field survey, 2006

Table 4 shows that, highest percent (21.0 percent) of brick kiln child labourers are Chaudhari, followed by Magar (17.0 percent), Bihari (16.0 percent), others (15.0 percent) Dalit (12.0 percent) and Brahmin / chhetri (10.0 percent). The lowest percent of brick kiln child labourers are Tharu (9.0 percent).

4.3 Literacy and Educational Status of Child Labourers

Education is a fundamental right of children. The education is invisible but most important instrument to develop personality of every individual and is essential in order to be liberated from all sorts of exploitations and oppressions. Most of the Nepalese children involve even in hazardous sector depriving of the ray of education and dropping out of schooling. Hence, this study has tried to find out the educational status of child in brick kiln industry.

Table 5: Distribution of Child Labourers by Education and Sex

Educational status	Boys	Girls	Total
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	No	%	No	%	No	%
Literate	37	64.9	16	37.2	53	53
Illiterate	20	35.1	27	62.8	47	47
Total	57	100	43	100	100	100
Level completed						
Less than 5 class	30	81.1	12	75	42	79.2
Upto 5 class and more	7	18.9	4	25	11	20.8
Total	37	100	16	100.0	53	100
Currently attending	4	80.0	1	20.0	5	

Source: Field survey, 2006

Table 5 shows that majority (53 percent) of brick kiln child labourers are literate. Compared to girls (37.2 percent) higher percent of boys (64.9 percent) are literate. Of those who are literate, the highest percent (79.2 percent) have completed primary level of education, followed by having up to 5 and more level of education (20.8 percent). Out of 100 children interviewed, only 5 children are currently attending school.

Box 2: Schooling and work in brick kilns

Prakash Tharu, 13 years old originating from local area, works with his parents in brick kilns because he studies in class 6. He says that he helps his parents for brick moulding at morning and sometimes evening. Then he goes to school at day time. Though their earning comes collectively on the basis of how the whole family makes the bricks. Prakash certainly support his family expenditure as well as own educational expenses.

4.4 Reasons for not going to or Dropping out of School

A great number of Nepalese children don't have access to educational facilities. Although primary level of education is free in Nepal, other types of

expenditure associated with schooling such as, uniform, school supplies etc. were beyond the reach of poor families.

The major problem that the children were not able to continue their school, besides was the financial master follow by their parents. They have little land to produce food for themselves around the year. Their parents had no continued income sources for children working in brick kilns of Kanchanpur District surveyed, major reasons for never attending school and dropped out has been revealed in table 6.

Table 6: Distribution of Child Labourers by Reasons for Non-Schooling or Dropping Out of School by Sex

Reasons	Boys	Girls	Total	
	No.	No.	No.	%
Low economic status	15	5	20	21.1
Household work	7	16	23	24.2
Parents interest for not schooling	9	5	14	14.7
School far away	4	1	5	5.3
Own interest	11	6	17	17.9
Other	9	7	16	16.8
Total	55	40	95	100.0

Source: Field survey, 2006

Note: Other reasons include hard punishment by teacher, marriage, arrival of parents in other place than house, closing school in emergency period etc.

Table 6 shows that, for girl children, household work is reported as the main obstacle in non-schooling/dropping out of school whereas most of the boy children (15) working in brick kilns reported low economic status of family as the main reasons of non-schooling/dropping out school.

Box 3: Emergency period: An intervening obstacles for schooling

Bikash Bihari from Bihar (INDIA) work for carrying bricks from field to kiln at Suda Kanchanpur. He is 14 years old, and was reading at class 8. But he was forced to drop out schooling on their origin place because schools had been closed for a month in New Session. He said, "there is holiday for one month. So many students have come to work in brick kilns like me". He stated that he was slapped by police as he was wearing school dress coming here. He preferred taking readmission in the same class for studying.

About one fourth (24.2 percent) of children working in brick kilns surveyed have deprived of schooling because of household work followed by financial reasons (21.1 percent), own interest (17.9 percent) other reasons (16.8 percent), parents negligence(14.7 percent) and school far (5.3 percent).

4.5 Family Size

Generally, demographic and socio-economic status of family plays a vital role in the process of socialization and overall development of children. They should be engaged in labour force or schooling is determined by family size of children. Table 7 indicates that the majority of children working in brick kilns come from large family size having 5-8 family members and more.

Box 4: Parents deserted

Kamala Kumari Gharti , 13 years old, from Local area is working in brick kilns at Suraj Brick Kiln industry, Mahendranagar with her uncle. She was deserted by her parents due to unavoidable death. She doesn't know when her parents were died. Her family is constituting 5 members as poor that their own farming does not carry on the family. She comes in brick kilns seasonally for carrying bricks from field to kiln.

Table 7 : Distribution of Child Labourers According to Family Size by Sex

Family size	Boys		Girls		Total%
	No.	%	No.	%	
4 or less	10	17.5	5	11.6	15
5-8	35	61.4	28	65.1	63
More than 8	12	21.1	10	23.3	22
Total	57	100.0	43	100.0	100

Source: Field survey, 2006

Highest percent of respondents (63.0percent) belong to families with 5-8 members, followed by 22.0 percent respondents with more than 8 members in the family.

4.6 Parental Status

Among the children interviewed, majority (68 percent) have both of their parents alive. The significant proportion of children (8 percent) reported to have both died and only mother alive. Step parents (6 percent), only father alive (9 percent), only mother alive (8 percent). Both died (8 percent) and either mother or father deserted (1 percent). Therefore most of the people are both father and mother alive.

Table 8: Distribution of Child Labourers by Living Status of Parents and Sex

Parental status	Boys		Girls		Total%
	No.	%	No.	%	
Both alive	40	70.2	28	65.1	68
Both died	5	8.8	3	7.0	8
Only father alive	6	10.5	3	7.0	9
Only mother alive	4	7.0	4	9.3	8
Step parents	2	3.5	4	9.3	6
Either mother or father deserted	-	-	1	2.3	1
Total	57	100.0	43	100.0	100

Source: Field survey, 2006

4.7 Poverty and Indebtedness

Specially, cultivated land is the major source of income in the rural areas but the vast majority of people possess too small plots of land for cultivation. In a agrarian economy, it is reflected the economic, political and social status of people whether they own productive assets such as land for cultivation, buildings, livestock, houses, stores of food and other products or not. Children are also forced be engage into different sectors of labour market to escape from indebtedness as well as for their own survival. Children working in brick kilns of Kanchanpur District, the large percentage of child workers reported to have their own house and farm land in the village at their origin. However, almost 9 percent child workers surveyed in the study are from agricultural landless families.

Table 9: Distribution of Child Labourers by Ownership of House, Cultivable Land Indebtedness and Main Source of Surviving of Their Family and Sex

Status		Boys		Girls		Total%
		No.	%	No.	%	
Having own house	Yes	56	98.2	41	95.3	97
	No	1	1.8	2	4.7	3
Having own farm land	Yes	50	87.7	41	95.3	91
	No	7	12.3	2	4.7	9
Indebtedness	Yes	40	70.2	29	67.4	69
	No	8	14.0	6	14.0	14
	Don't know	9	15.8	8	18.6	17
Total		57	100.0	43	100.0	100
Main source of surviving						

Own farming	32	56.1	35	81.4	67
Wage employment in agriculture	7	12.3	2	4.7	9
Wage employment in non-agriculture	18	32.6	6	13.9	24
Total	57	100.0	43	100.0	100

Source: Field survey, 2006

Table 9 shows that more boy children are reported to be engaged in brick kiln industries coming from landless and indebted families compared to girls. The figure indicates that 7 (12.3 percent) and 40 (70.2 percent) among boy child workers reported their families being landless and indebted. The corresponding figure for girl children are 2 (4.7 percent) and 29 (67.4 percent) respectively.

Generally, there are variations in child labour on brick kilns according to their family's main source of surviving (main economic activity by sex. In terms of gender, more girl children 35 (81.4 percent) have been reported to be engaged in brick kilns having own family farming as the main source of surviving for their family with contrast to 32 (56.1 percent) for boy children. But children who have wage employment in agriculture and non-agriculture as the main source of surviving for their family, boy children exceed to girl child workers. Out of 100 children interviewed, majority of children (69 percent) reported their family being engulfed by indebtedness. Only 14 percent children reported their family having not been indebted condition.

Box 5: Landlessness

Sundar Sadar, 14 years old from India, Bihar works in brick kilns at Sundarpur Kanchanpur. His family is landless, so his large family having 10 members has to strive food deficiency. Taking suggestion of his parents, Sundar came here with a mistri (middle man). His father works to build houses in his native land. Due to poverty, he did not get any chance for schooling.

Manu Chaudhary, aged 12 from Beldadi Kanchanpur, works in brick kilns living with his father. There are 8 family members in his home. His family is totally engulfed by poverty due to landlessness. To collect food grains, his family is engaged in farming for landlord. Only half of the production belongs to them. He said that his family including him should involve in additional works for landlord.

In the end of this chapter the analysis included age and sex, caste/ethnic composition, educational status, family background, family size, parental status, poverty and indebtedness of their family. The highest proportion of children working in brick kilns are age 15-17 and lowest is aged less than 10 years. Child workers are from different caste and ethnicity. Highest from Chaudhari and lowest from Tharu. Most of them are literate but no one is attending secondary level. Major reason for not going school is poverty and household work. Majority of children working in brick kilns are from large family size and both of their parents alive. Most of them have their own house but not their own land.

CHAPTER V

MIGRATION OF CHILD LABOUR IN BRICK KILN

Brick kiln industry is one of the most child labours demanding sectors and this is true for the kiln industries in Kanchanpur District. Brick kiln industry demands boys child labour more than girls. This chapter deals with migration of child workers and seasonality of work. It provides general description about migration status, place of origin, migration pattern, including nature, medium and reasons of migration as well as duration of engagement in a season.

5.1 Migration of Child Labour

5.1.1 Status of Migration

Generally, rural poverty contributes to migration of children in urban areas. Due to lack of work in these rural areas during slack agricultural season in the winter, low wage rate, and lack of income from non-agricultural sources/economic opportunity, a large number of workers including children are forced to migrate seasonally for earning in urban areas. Child labour in urban areas has a direct correlation with child migration from rural areas which is the major source of child labour/work in Nepal.

Most of the workers including children are migrated seasonally from outside. Almost all of them go back to home, when brick kiln are closed down in rainy season. At present days ongoing conflict, political instability and violence of the country have grown up casualties. In addition natural disaster armed conflict may push families to migrate in search of livelihoods elsewhere and younger children are bound to migrate accompanying with their parents.

There are many problems in the present time, the adults workers and children themselves working in brick kilns of Kanchanpur District. They were bound to drop out schooling on their origin place because schools had been closed for uncertain time in educational strike. Therefore most of the children are working in the brick kiln industry.

Table 10 : Distribution of Child Labourers by Migration Status and Sex

Migration status	Boys		Girls		Total
	No.	%	No.	%	
Migrant	55	96.5	40	93.0	95
Non-migrant (local)	2	3.5	3	7.0	5
Total	57	100	43	100	100

Source: Field survey, 2006

Table 10 shows that more boys (55) have migrated to work in brick kilns of Kanchanpur District compared to girl children (40) among 100 children surveyed. Whereas the comparable figure for non-migrant child labourers 2 (3.5 percent) and 3 (7.0 percent) for boys and girls respectively. Its seem that child migration is very high in brick kiln industries of Kanchanpur District.

Box 6: Seasonal migration due to poverty

Shanti Dagaura, aged 33 years of old from Kailali, has been working in brick kilns seasonally since last 5 years. Her husband is out of contact gone to India since 3 years. Her daughter Laxmi aged 12 years old left school, when she was in class 3 and other kids Ambika and Umesh aged 8 and 10 respectively did not go to school at all.

Overall, they are indebted due to poverty. Shanti says, she has not available food grains, only maize and wheat can be grown in a year. And we have to depend on natural rainfall for farming. So, there is no enough food grains and people have to go outside for earning.

5.1.2 Place of Origin of Child Labour

In this study place of birth is considered as place of origin from where migrant have come to the Kanchanpur to work in the brick kiln industry. Therefore, child labourers in the brick kilns of Kanchanpur District are found to be originated from different districts. Table 11 shows that among the 100 children interviewed, below 18 years, the highest proportion of children (31 percent) seem coming from different other VDCs of the same Kanchanpur district. The percentage of female is higher (37.2 percent) who came from neighbouring districts compared to males (26.3 percent). The next majority are from hill districts (27 percent). There are also some children coming from Kamaiya districts (11 percent). Data also shows that there are some children (15 percent) who come from India (Bihar).

Table 11: Distribution of Child Labourers by Districts of Their Origin

Place of Origin	Boys		Girls		Total %
	No.	%	No.	%	
Local district (Kanchanpur)	15	26.3	16	37.2	31
Other hill district	13	22.8	14	32.6	27
Kamaiya district(Banke, Bardiya, Dang)	6	10.5	5	11.6	11
Other Terai District	10	17.5	6	13.9	16
India (Bihar)	13	22.8	2	4.7	15

Total	57	100.0	43	100.0	100
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Source: Field Survey, 2006

Note:

- Other Hill districts includes, Rolpa, Humla, Bajhang, Bajura, Kalikot and Mustang.
- Kamaiya Districts Includes, Banke, Bardiya, Dang.
- Tarai District Includes Kailali, Saptari, Siraha and Morang.

5.1.3 Reasons for Leaving Home

Children do not want to leave their home without any compelling reason. There are different socio-economic factors that influence and promote to leave their own village or home. Generally, parents and family are responsible to provide the basic needs of children such as food, shelter, clothing, schooling and affections. When children are deprived of these basic needs, they are bound to leave home and are more likely to be engaged in the most hazardous and the worst forms of child labour. In some instance the child itself is responsible for leaving home.

Table 12: Distribution of Child Labourers by Reasons for Leaving Home and Sex

Reasons	Boys		Girls		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No	%
Poverty/no food	36	65.5	18	45.0	54	56.8
Abusive behaviour of step parents	-	-	3	7.5	3	3.2

Death of bread winner	-	-	1	2.5	1	1.1
Arrival of parents	11	20.0	10	25.0	21	22.1
Others	8	14.5	8	20.0	16	16.8
Total	55	100.0	40	100.0	95	100.0

Source: Field Survey 2006.

Note: Other reasons include interest to visiting Terai and closing down school etc.

In term of gender,(about 66 percent) among boy child workers stated that poverty is the major cause for leaving home and engaging brick kilns of Kanchanpur District. Usually, a significant proportion of girl children are bound to leave home for working in Brick kilns of Kanchanpur District due to abusive behaviour of step parents 3(7.5 percent). Other reasons for leaving home, arrival of parents like interest to visiting Terai and closing down school.

Usually, some key informants (Adult workers) stated that lack of food at home, no opportunity for schooling, maltreatment of step parents, influence of peer groups (friends), interest of looking city are the major factors for leaving home by children. They also opined that several girls including minor girl children elope with the boys of own origin place or other area from work size. In addition, they are victim of sexual harassment.

Box 7: When own parents abuse

Hari Ram Roka Chhetri, was 15 years when he came from Punarbash (Kanchanpur) running away from home. Actually he left home due to abusive behaviour of own parents. At home he used to work for grazing goat and sheep in Jungle. One day a goat was killed by a tiger and he was beaten savagely by his own parents, then, he was forced to leave home. Now, he is in mood not to go back home.

5.1.4 Medium of Migration

The middleman (Naike/mistri) are the key person taking workers including children from their home in Brick kilns of Kanchanpur. They attract the children as well as their families for working in Brick kilns of Kanchanpur District. Giving some money as an advance provided by employees. They get a monthly wage from the brick kiln owner as well as commission from the age of workers who are under their supervision.

Indian workers including children originating from Bihar come to work in Brick kilns of Kanchanpur. They are transformed by broker/ middleman. Children who are influenced by friends, older brother/sister and other relative come with them. Due to the household poverty, parents come to work in Brick kilns of Kanchanpur and their children are accompanied by them.

Table 13: Distribution of Child Labourers by Migration (Ways for Joining Brick Kilns) and Sex

Migrant child coming with	Boys		Girls		Total	
	No	%	No	%	No	%
Middleman	23	41.8	12	30.0	35	36.8
Parents	15	27.3	11	27.5	26	27.4
Relatives	17	30.9	17	42.5	34	35.8
Total	55	100	40	100	95	100.0

Source: Field Survey, 2006.

5.2 Migration and Seasonality

5.2.1 Nature of Migration

Similarly, children working in brick kilns of Kanchanpur District come from agricultural based rural family. Most of them leave home seasonally for earning. They come to work at brick kilns since October/November and come back to home in May/June while these brick kiln factories are to be closed down in rainy season. Table 14 shows that 91 children are seasonal migrants while only 4 child workers reported to be migrant as semi permanent among these children identified as semi permanent migrant work in Brick kilns living temporarily since 2 years and more in the Kanchanpur. It is also evident that the proportion of boy children is higher compared to girl child workers for both seasonal and semi permanent migrant.

Table 14: Distribution of Child Labourers Their Nature of Migration and Sex

Nature of Migration	Boys		Girls		Total%
	No.	%	No.	%	
Seasonal	52	91.2	39	90.7	91
Semi permanent	3	5.3	1	2.3	4
Local	2	3.5	3	7.0	5
Total	57	100.0	43	100.0	100

Source: Field survey, 2006

5.2.2 Duration of Engagement in a Season

Generally, child workers are migrants from outside of the Kanchanpur. Specially, the middleman (mistri/naike) provides some money as an advance to people including children before coming in brick kilns per years. When, brick

kilns start to come into existence after cleaning up rice fields on November, December, numerous labourers including children are transferred for working in these factories then they are forced to engage in these industries in off farm season. Some workers leave for home before closing down the brick kiln factories to involve in farming and others work in brick kilns for whole season. This is a painful case stated by key informants (middleman, adult workers) and children themselves that this trend persists each year for poor families.

Table 15: Distribution of Child Labourers According to Duration of Engagement in a Season and Sex

Duration of engagement	Boys		Girls		Total %
	No.	%	No.	%	
< 6 months	27	47.4	34	79.1	61
6-9 months	30	52.6	9	20.9	39
Total	57	100	43	100.0	100

Source: Field survey, 2006

The Table 15 shows that in terms of sex, more girls compared to boys pointed to be engaged in brick kiln factory for less than 6 months whereas the opposite trends seems for children who work for 6-9 months i.e. more boys compared to girls reported to be engaged in these establishments for 6-9 months in a season. In totality 61 and 39 children are reported to be engaged in brick kilns for less than 6 months and 6-9 months respectively.

This chapter concludes migration of child workers and seasonality of work. It provides general description about migration status, place of origin, migration pattern, including nature, medium and reasons of migration as well as duration of engagement in a season. Main conclusion is that rural poverty contributes to migration of children in urban areas. Most of the children are migrated seasonally from inside the district. Only 7.0 % are local. Lowest are from Kamaya district. Main reason of living origin is poverty/no food, arrival of parents abusive behaviour of step parents.

CHAPTER VI

WORKING CONDITION, EXPLOITATION AND PERCEPTION OF CHILD LABOURERS

This chapter is divided into three parts. The first parts deals with the working conditions and environment of child worker in brick kilns industry. The analysis mainly focuses working hours, types of work, earning status and controlling over their income. The second part deals with the information about living condition and health of children dealing with housing and basic amenities, food intake, illness and accidents/injuries and recreation for child workers in brick kiln industry. The third part deals with the perception and aspiration of child labourers on their earning and current work preference to study as well as aspects of harassment in brick kiln industry.

6.1 Working Condition and Environment of Child Brick Kilns

6.1.1 Working Hours

According to child labour (prohibition and regulation) act 2000, Nepal the working hours for children are limited to 6 hours a day and 36 hours a week but this provision is not applicable for children and minor workers in brick kiln because they cannot get minimum livelihood due to piece rate system in wage if they work less than 6 hours a day. Specially, most of the children engaged in brick kiln work for long hours per day. Some minor workers and adult workers involved in brick moulding stated that they wake up as early as 3 or 4 o'clock in the morning to dig and knead mud sufficient for the day. Then they continue working till 7 or 8 o'clock in the evening.

Table 16: Distribution of Child Labourers by Average Working Hours and Sex

Average working hours	Boys		Girls		Total%
	No.	%	No.	%	
<8	16	28.1	10	27.9	26
8-10	33	56.1	27	58.1	60
>10	8	15.8	6	14.0	14
Total	57	100.0	43	100.0	100

Source: Field survey, 2006

Table 16 shows that majority of child workers (60 percent) among 100 children surveyed in brick kilns work 8-10 hours per day. A significant proportion of children 14 are reported having more than 10 working hours per day and 26 child workers revealed that their average working hours is less than 8 per day.

6.1.2 Types of Work

Especially, the brick kiln industries uses large mass of labour force including child labour. There are different types of work in the process of brick production. The first is brick mouldings which covers the most strenuous work including digging up and kneading the clay, moulding bricks by hand with the mould and sun drying the bricks. The second types of work is transportation of brick from field to kiln (raw bricks) and kiln to outward (blaked bricks). Like a coolie, labourers including children carry raw bricks from field to kiln to their backs with the help of a string called 'namlo' in Nepali. Whereas workers specially Indians involving children carry the baked bricks from kiln to outward putting on their head. The other work comprises of sacking bricks on the kiln and throwing away to ruined raw bricks from the kiln. Children are involved on these all types of work.

Table 17: Distribution of Child Labourers by their Types of Work in Brick Kilns and Sex

Types of work	Boys		Girls		Total%
	No.	%	No.	%	
Brick moulding	25	43.8	12	27.9	37
Field to kiln	12	21.1	28	65.1	40
Kiln to pile	18	31.6	2	4.7	20
Other	2	3.5	1	2.3	3
Total	57	100.0	43	100.0	100

Note: Other work includes stacking bricks on the kiln and throwing away to ruined brick from kiln

Source Field survey, 2006

The survey study indicates that most of the children are involved in carrying raw bricks from field to kiln followed by brick molding.

From the Table 17 it is also observed that more boy (25) are engaged in brick molding compared to girl children (12). Although majority of children involved in carrying baked bricks from kiln to pile are boys (18) compared to girl children (2). Generally, 2 boy children against of one girls children have been found to be involved on other types of work like stacking bricks in kiln and throwing away to ruined bricks from the kilns. On the other hand more girl children (28) compared to boys (12) are involved in brick kilns for carrying bricks from field to kiln.

6.1.3 Earning Status

Children are the cheap sources of labour and they are compelled to work more hours but give less payment. Usually, workers in brick kilns receive wage in piece rate basis i.e. payment is made on the basis of work done. They are not paid monthly only certain amount of money are given to expend for their fooding per week. Actually, working in brick kilns is very strenuous for children. They have very low earning status, most of the children are bound to work in this sectors for livelihood.

Box 8: Hazardous Work: Little Money

Rajesh Nepali, aged 13, is from Pipaladi Kanchanpur. There are 6 members in his family. His father has already died and only mother is alive. He has been working in brick kilns seasonally with his uncle since last 2 years. He carries bricks in his back from kiln to pile as well as loading to trucks, keeping 10 bricks in his head. He has been injured several times falling bricks from his head. His face is not recognized really because his whole body is covered with dust struggling in this way for earning what he gets just 50 rupees carrying 1000 bricks.

Table 18: Distribution of Child Labourers by Average Earning Per Month and Sex

Average earning (NRs) Per month	Boys		Girls		Total%
	No	%	No	%	
<1000	14	24.6	7	16.3	21
1000-2000	34	59.6	25	58.1	59
>2000	9	15.8	11	25.6	20
Total	57	100.0	43	100.0	100

Source: Field survey, 2006

Table 18 shows that majority of child labourers (59) among 100 have only Rs. 1000 to 2000 earning on average in a month of the children engaged in brick kilns surveyed.

Actually, whatever they earn per month working in brick kilns, they expend in daily consumption. A few children save small portion of their earnings. It is observed that more girl children 11 compared to boy 9 can make a little bit more than Rs. 2000 average earning in a month. Similarly, many children who have Rs. 1000-2000 average earning in a months.

In the bricks kilns surveyed, the key informants that workers engaged in brick moulding get Rs. 250-300 per 1000 raw bricks as a piece rate. Similarly, workers who carry raw bricks from field to kiln and kiln to outward receive Rs. 70-80 and 40-50 per 1000 respectively, whereas the employer sell in Rs. 3600 per 1000 baked bricks. The workers of bricks kilns receive 200-300 per week from their wage for their daily expenses. Whatever they save from their wage that is calculated even in their own diary and the final calculation is done at the end of the season. The adult worker engaged in brick moulding indicate that they are not given any compensation if the bricks are ruined by heavy rain before piling up sun dried bricks. In this case their whole labour is just like water in sand. Even among the piled up the sun dried bricks, only half percent of bricks are compensated if huge amount of bricks is ruined by heavy rain.

6.1.4 Controlling Over Income

Similarly, child labourer are taken in brick kilns by broker naike/mistry children also come to work in brick kilns with their parents/guardian and brother/sisters. It is found that children who come to work in these factories and live with their parents/guardian as well as brother/sister, so they do not get their wage in their own hands. Therefore, whatever they earn, is almost controlled by parents or immediate guardians. Other who have control over their income also have to provide their income to their parents/guardians in the home. Thus, all children working in brick kilns directly support their family.

Interms of gender, majority of boy child workers (37) have control over their earnings. The girl children control their earnings ownself (23). The rest of the children reported that their earnings is taken by their parents/guardians and brother/sister. The survey results has also depicted that children are more likely to control over their earnings as the age increases.

Table 19: Distribution of Child Labourers by Sex on Controlling Over Their Earnings

Person who keeps their earning	Boys		Girls		Total %
	No.	%	No.	%	
Self	37	64.9	23	53.5	60
Parents/guardian	15	26.3	13	30.2	28
Brother/sister	5	8.8	7	16.3	12
Total	57	100.0	43	100.0	100

Source: Field survey, 2006

6.2 Living Condition and Health

6.2.1 Daily Food Intake

Food is the basic need for human being. The children who do brick kiln have to work hard for survival but they don't get adequate food as they require. In the informal discussion, children indicated that their daily earnings level determines the daily food intake. Children who come to work from their own home have relatively better fooding habit than those who stay in rented rooms. Most of the children staying in rented rooms prepare food in their rooms themselves but some of them take meal in hotels stay at home said that their meal is prepared by their family members.

Table 20: Distribution of Child Labourers by Their Daily Food Intake and Sex

Daily food in take	Boys		Girls		Total%
	No	%	No.	%	
Twice	30	52.6	18	41.9	48
Thrice	27	47.4	25	58.1	52
Total	57	100.0	43	100.0	100

Source: Field Survey, 2006.

The Table 20 shows that 48 of the 100 surveyed children are reported to have taken meals twice a day and thrice corresponding figures for taking meals thrice a day is (52). In terms of gender more boys working in Brick Kilns (30) have reported to have taken meals only two times compared to taking meals three times (27) a day. Whereas the proportion of taking meals two times (18) seems a little bit lower than proportion of taking meals three times (25) a day for girl children.

The key informants (adult workers/middlemen) and children themselves stated that rice is only staple food for them. They use only one curry like lentils (Dal) or vegetable (Sabji) in their meal. Sometimes, they take meat for their meals, when they get wages for their weekly expenses.

6.2.2. Housing and Basic Amenities

Generally, child labour is the brick kilns live in thatched hut and small attached huts (Chhapra) made off raw for backed bricks. Straw and tin sheet along the premise of the kilns. The floor of the huts is wet and damp having been paddy field.

Table 21: Distribution of child Labourers by Their Housing

Housing	Number	Percent
Temporary hut	97	97
Own House	3	3

Source: Field Survey 2006.

Note: Other includes own house:

Most of the labourers including children involved in Brick kilns are deprived of toilet facilities and electricity. Among the children surveyed, 68 children are reported to be far from toilet facilities. Generally, 89 percent

children stated having no electricity facilities in their residence. Only 32 percent and 11 percent child workers reported to have got toilet and electricity facilities respectively. But 76 children pointed out that they got piped water being public tap near the kilns and 24 children are reported to have deprived of even safe drinking water piped water.

Table 22 : Distribution of Child Labourers by Availability of Electricity and Toilet Facility at Work Place

Description	Availability	
	Yes	No
Electricity	11	89
Toilet	32	68

Source: Field Survey 2006

Table 23 shows that 28 percent children work in brick kiln surveyed living with their parents and 37 percent children stated living with their borther/sister. Other children are living relatives friends and broker.

Table 23: Distribution of Child Labourers by Person with Whom They Live

Persons with whom they live	Boys		Girls		Total%
	No	%	No.	%	
Parents	16	28.1	12	27.9	28
Brother/sister	24	42.1	13	30.2	37
Relatives	6	10.5	7	16.3	13
Friends	7	12.3	9	20.9	16
Broker	4	7.0	2	4.7	6
Total	57	100.0	43	100.0	100

Source: Field survey, 2006

6.2.3 Illness and Injuries/Accidents

The deterioration of the children's health seems to be an alarming problem. The whole area of brick kilns is full of dust, smokes come out from kilns. All the workers including children work in these polluted sites without any marks which deteriorates their health. The workers, in brick kilns suffer from serious health hazards due to heavy work burden as well as suffocating working environment. They are always exposed form the risk of falling in injuries/accidents working in brick kilns. On the survey study, most of the children (78 among 100) mentioned to have been ill during this working season. On the other hand, 39 children are reported to be fallen in injuries/accidents working in brick kilns to survey study.

Table 24: Distribution of Child Labourers by Incidence of Health Hazard

Health hazards	Response		Total
	Yes	No	
Illness	78	22	100
Injuries/accident	39	61	

Source: Field survey, 2006

The brick kilns child mainly suffer from many types so sickness like respiratory problems, fever, headache, joint pain, backaches and more. The table 25 shows that generally, out of 39 children who have ever fallen in injuries/accidents, 9 children stated to have wounded seriously. On the other hand most of the children 35 are reported to have suffered from fever followed by headache 22 to survey study. Children suffer from respiratory problems, like flu, cough, chest pain and throat problems 9, joint pain, 5 and backache 3.

Table 25: Distribution of Child Labourers According to Sickness and Types of Injuries/Accidents by Sex

Characteristics	Boys		Girls		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No	%
Types of injuries/accidents						
Very serious	5	19.2	4	30.8	9	23.1
Minor	21	80.8	9	69.2	30	76.9
Total	26	100.0	13	100.0	39	100.0
Types of sickness						
Relating to respiratory	5	11.6	4	11.4	9	11.5
Fever	19	44.2	16	45.7	35	44.9
Joint pain	2	4.7	3	8.6	5	6.4
Headache	13	30.2	9	25.7	22	28.2
Backache	1	2.3	2	5.7	3	3.8
Other	3	7.0	1	2.9	4	5.1
Total	43	100.0	35	100.0	78	100.0

Source: Field survey, 2006

Respiratory problems includes fuel, cough, chest pain and throat problems.

There is no special facility for health care provided to children working in brick kilns. Some key informants (Adult workers) and children themselves argued that sometimes only citamol and other general medicine is provided when they are ill. But, they have to cure themselves on extreme illness and injuries. If they are provided some money for treatment, that is cut up from their wage. Therefore, there is no provision of compensation in extreme illness and injuries/accidents. The table 26 shows that a significant number of children are reported to be deprived of getting treatment on their illness out of children suffered from illness.

Table 26: Distribution of Child Labourers on the Basis of Getting Treatment on Their Illness and Sex

Getting treatment	Boys		Girls		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Yes	36	83.7	27	77.1	63	80.8
No	7	16.3	8	22.9	15	19.2
Total	43	100.0	35	100.0	78	100.0

Source: Field survey, 2006

6.2.4 Recreation

Actually, working in brick kilns is the most tedious for children due to heavy work burden. Every child has a right to have a time for recreation. It is very sorryful things that children are bound to work on brick kilns for their livelihoods in the time of schooling. They work nearly a whole day with adult workers and get leisure time for entertainment rarely. Table No. 27 shows that out of children surveyed 59 children reported having time for recreation only for some time. Among the children, 42 by compared to 17 girl children are reported to have got leisure time for entertainment. Usually, more children (29) watching T.V. in the shop near by as the means of recreation followed by hearing radio 23 and playing games (6).

Table 27 : Distribution of Child Labourers According to Getting Time for Recreation and Means of Recreation by Sex

Characteristics	Boys		Girls		Total %
	No.	%	No.	%	
Getting time for recreation					
Yes	42	73.7	17	39.5	59
No	15	26.3	26	60.5	41
Total	57	100.0	43	100.0	100
If yes, means of recreation					
Playing games	3	7.1	3	17.6	6
Hearing radio	15	35.7	8	47.1	23
Watching T.V.	23	54.8	6	35.3	29
Cinema	1	2.4	-	-	1
Total	42	100.0	17	100.0	59

Source: Field survey, 2006

6.3 Perceptions to Job and Aspirations of Child Workers

Children might have certain expectations and aspirations when they entered into brick kilns, because child perception on their work is one of the important aspects of policy.

6.3.1 Perceptions on Earning and Current Work

Actually, children of today become the active member for new society of tomorrow. And the whole future of the country depends on the present condition of today children. But most of the children seem to be deprived of their basic rights. They are bound to engage in the most hazardous work like brick kiln. Table 28 presents earnings from current work of the child labourers working in Brick kiln factories.

Table 28: Distribution of Child Labourers by Attitude Towards Their Earning, Current Work and Sex

Earning	Boys		Girls		Total %
	No.	%	No.	%	
Sufficient	23	40.4	19	44.2	42
Insufficient	34	59.6	24	55.8	58
Current work					
Satisfied	20	35.1	15	34.9	35
Not satisfied	37	64.9	28	65.1	65
Total	57	100.0	43	100.0	100

Source: Field survey, 2006

Above table 28 shows that majority of children working in brick kiln surveyed are reported to be dissatisfied with their earning and current work. Out of the children interviewed, 58 child workers expressed that their earning is not

sufficient and at the same time, 65 children among 100 opined to have not satisfied with their current work.

The children not satisfied with his current work (65), majority of children (47) reported that they are not satisfied with their work due to very hard and hazardous work. The significant number of children (13) stated to have dissatisfied being low wage for their work.

Table 29 : Distribution of Child Labourers by Reasons for not Satisfying with Current Work and Sex

Reasons for not satisfying with current work	Boys		Girls		Total	
	No	%	No	%	No	%
Low wage	8	21.6	5	17.9	13	20.0
Hard and Hazardous work	27	73.0	20	71.4	47	72.3
Other	2	5.4	3	10.7	5	7.7
Total	37	100.0	28	100.0	65	100.0

Source: Field Survey 2006

Another aspect of child perception on work has been observed on the course of survey study whether they want to work again in birck kiln for next season or not. Table 30 Shows that majority of children (59) among 100 are not interested to work for next season.

Table 30 : Distribution of Child Labourers by Their Interest to Work for Next Season and Sex

Interest to work	Boys	Girls	Total %
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	No.	%	No.	%	
Yes	25	43.9	16	37.2	41
No	32	56.1	27	62.8	59
Total	57	100.0	43	100.0	100

Source: Field survey, 2006

6.3.2 Incidence of Harassment/Abusive Behaviour

The children working in brick kilns have been observed to be badly treated by their middleman (Naike/mistri), managers of brick kilns and adult workers as they opined to be scolded, insulted and sometimes slapped in the worksite. Mostly, working children are deprived of their basic rights. They become even victim of harassment abuse behaviour of their employer as well as co-workers. Table 31 shows that 49 children out of 100 are reported to have harassed/abused by their naike/mistri, manager of brick kilns and adult workers. Among those, a significant number of children (5) informed to have faced many types of harassment/abusive behaviour made by their work provider and even adult workers. But 44 children reported to have harassed/abused only for sometime. In terms of gender, more boys (34) compared to girl children (15) are reported to be harassed/abused by their work providers as well as adult workers. Though girl children might be sexually harassed/abused due to prevalence of male domination, those incidence have not been indicated by them.

Table 31 : Distribution of Child Labourers According to Harassment/Abusive Behaviour Made by Master/ Broker and Adult Workers

Characteristics	Boys		Girls		Total %
	No.	%	No.	%	
Abusive behaviour/harassment					
Yes	34	59.6	15	34.9	49
No	23	40.4	28	65.1	51
Total	57	100.0	43	100.0	100

If yes, degree					
Often	3	8.8	2	13.3	5
Sometimes	31	91.2	13	86.7	44

Source: Field survey, 2006

Box 9: Abusive behaviour of employer

Janak Chaudhari and Suman B.K. carry raw bricks from field to kiln coming from Dang. They are 14 and 15 years old respectively. When they were working together, they quarreled and tried to fight each other just before a couple of days. Then, the employer pushed into the ditches of water slapping to both of them instead of spreading them from quarrel.

6.3.3 Preference to Study

Children particularly, working in brick kilns have been found to be never attended or dropped out schooling. Though most of the children have interest in studying. The proportion of children currently attending school is negligible. Generally, education is the rights of children by birth. But many children remain deprived of schooling. Household work and financial problems are the main obstacles of schooling for children working in brick kilns. The deep aspiration and interest towards schooling of these children has been shown in table 32.

Table 32: Distribution of Child Labourers for Preference to Study by sex

Preference to study	Boys		Girls		Total percent
	No.	percent	No.	percent	

Yes	44	77.2	29	67.4	73
No	13	22.8	14	32.6	27
Total	57	100.0	43	100.0	100

Source: Field survey, 2006

Table 32 shows that majority of children (73 percent) working in brick kilns their interest to study if they are given a chance for schooling and children who are currently attending school revealed their interest for continuing schooling. In terms of gender, the proportion of girl children for preferring to study is a little bit lower than boy children due to prevalence of traditional belief on unnecessary of schooling for girl children.

In conclusion of this chapter more boys are engaged in brick molding although majority of child workers are involved in carrying baked brick from kiln to pile. Usually, workers in brick kilns receive wage in piece rate basis. Only certain amount of money given to expend for their fooding per week. They do not get their income own hands, whatever they earn, is almost controlled by parents. Most of them staying in rented rooms and prepared their food in their rooms themselves. Most child workers seem to be suffering from serious health hazards due to heavy work burden as well as suffocating working environment. They work nearly a whole day with adult workers and get leisure time for entertainment. Mostly, working children are deprived of their basic rights. Though, most of the children have interest of studying. The proportion of children currently attending school is negligible.

CHAPTER VII

SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

7.1 Summary

The study on child labour in brick kiln industries: A case study of the Kanchanpur District is based on the sample interviews of 100 children of five brick kilns industry. In our study labours are found male and female. Child labour is a big and ever increasing socio-economic problem in Nepal. Due to existing socio-economic inequality, child labour is interlinked with poverty, illiteracy and unemployment. Many children are forced to work even in abusive and exploitative conditions for their own and family survival. In this situation, they are not only deprived of their basic child rights but also suffered form abuse, exploitation, neglect and humiliation. This study has the main objective of examining into the realities of child labours of brick kilns in the study area. Its specific objectives were to assess the socio-economic conditions of the child labourers in brick kilns industries.

This study utilizing both quantitative and qualitative data has attempted to analyze the situation of child labour in brick kilns of Kanchanpur District. Brick kiln is one of the major area which exploit a large proportion of child labour. The present study is based on the interview of 100 child labourers under 18 years of age and some key informants working in five selected brick kiln industries of Kanchanpur District. The survey sites are selected on the basis of purposive sampling method from both quantitative and qualitative information, the following findings and conclusions are drawn.

The study observed nearly 13 percent child labour on an average in 5 brick kilns surveyed within Kanchanpur District.

Out of 5 brick kilns industries child labourers interviewed, 57 percent are males and 43 percent are females. Data show brick kilns child labourers is age and sex selective with more boys than girls older children predominate over younger children.

In the study there are 100 respondents of under 18 years age groups. They are majority of age group of 15-17 years (53 percent) and 10-14 years (35 percent) and less than 10 years (12 percent). It shows that there is majoring of older children than comparison to younger one.

The children belong to different caste as well as ethnic groups. There are Brahmin/Chhetri (10 percent), Magar (17 percent), Chaudhari (21 percent), Tharu (9 percent), Dalit (12 percent), Bihari (16 percent) and others (15 percent). A majority of child workers are Chaudhari (21 percent), Magar (17 percent), others (17 percent) and thereafter other caste/ethnic groups. Almost all children working in brick kilns of Kanchanpur District come from local area.

The children are from various peripheral district, neighbouring village and Bihar state of India. Majority brick kiln child labour were born in Kanchanpur district.

In terms of schooling, out of the total children working in brick kilns about 53 percent of children are literate who ever attended school, 42 (79.2 percent) children have passed less than 5 class and only 11 (20.8 percent) upto 5 class and a little more. Among them only 5 children are attending school currently whereas 47 percent stated to be never attended schooling. However, the literacy level of girl children is lower than that of boys.

The major reason for never attending/dropping out schooling are poverty and household work. Due to poverty 21.1 percent, household work 24.2 percent, parent interest for not schooling 14.7 percent, school far away 5.3 percent, own

interest 17.9 percent and other reasons (hard punishment by teacher, marriage, arrival of parents in other place than house, closing school in educational strike) for never attending/dropping out school. In fact, the household work for more girl children than boys.

Most of the child workers (63) are found coming from large family size having 5-8 members. Likewise 22 child workers have more than 8 members and 15 child workers 4 or fewer members.

Sixty eight percent children have both their parents alive. 8 percent mentioned that both of their parents had died, 9 percent children have only father alive and 8 percent children have only mother alive and other 6 percent are step parents. Most of the children have father and mother alive.

Most of the children (67 percent) reported to have own farming as the prime means of surviving for their family followed by wage employment in non-agriculture (24) and wage employment in agriculture (9). Among the children survey, a significant proportion of children have been recognized to have come from landless (9) and homeless (3).

Majority of children (56.8 percent) leave their home due to poverty and 21 (22.1 percent) arrival of parents. 3 (3.2 percent) abusive behaviour of step parents and other reason for leaving home 16 (16.8 percent).

Child workers are transferred and recruited for working in brick kilns of Kanchanpur by middleman (Naike/Mistri), a significant proportion of children reported to have come with their parents 26 (27.4percent) and relatives 34 (35.8percent) from outside of the Kanchanpur.

Most of the child workers in brick kiln (91) are seasonal migrants. Actually, brick kiln industry are operated in October/November to May/June in a season.

Out of 100 child labourers interviewed, majority of children (61) are engaged in brick kiln for less than 6 months and a significant number of children (39) are reported to be engaged for more than 6 months.

Most of the child workers (60) are reported to be engaged in brick kiln for 8-10 hours per day. Only 14 child workers are engaged in brick kiln for more than 10 hours and 26 child workers are engaged for less than 8 hours per day.

Out of 100 children surveyed in brick kilns majority of children (40) are involved in carrying raw bricks from field to kiln followed by brick moulding, 37 children are engaged in carrying baked bricks from kiln to pile (20). Mostly Indian children coming from Bihar, do such type of work with their adult workers putting bricks on their head.

In the study majority of children (59) are income Rs. 100-2000 per months. (21) children are less than Rs. 1000 per months and 20 children's income is more than 2000 Rs. per months. So, they get little money mostly by piece rate basis. Actually, they are paid some money every week for their fooding and other expenses and the final payment is made at the end of the season.

Most of the children (60) are self keeps their earnings. But (28) and (12) children are keeps their earning parents/guardian and brother sister are respectively.

The children daily food intake (52) and (48) are three times and two times a day is respectively.

Most of the children (97) working in brick kilns are living in temporary hut. Actually the temporary huts is wet and damp being paddy field in rainy reason. They make their bed lining with bricks without 'khat' for sleeping.

Most of the workers including children have been deprived of electricity and toilet facility. There are (89) and (68) child workers in brick kiln deprived from electricity and toilet facility are respectively. All the child workers have hand pump drinking water facility.

Of the children surveyed in brick kilns, majority of children (37) living with brother/sister. With parents (28), with relatives, friends and brother (13) (16) and (6) are respectively.

Being risky and hazardous work for children. Almost, some children are suffering from injury/illness during work. Of them (78) and 39 children illness and injury/accident are respectively. Among the children interviewed 39 (39percent) reported to have get injuries/accidents working in brick kilns. Out of 78 children illness which is most of the suffering from fever (35) and headache (22). Brick kiln sites are enveloped in dust and smoke come out from kilns. So, the prolonged exposure to dust and smokes affect the health of the children in addition, hard work, poor living condition, inadequate and lack of nutritious food and lack of medical attention of child workers in these industry enforce to be ill themselves. Specially, relating to respiratory, headache, fever, backache, and joint pain are identified as the major forms of sickness to children working in brick kilns. There is no medical facility in any of the factories.

Most of the children 63 (80.8percent) say that the getting treatment. But 15 (19.2percent) children are not getting treatment.

The children working industries get leisure time for recreation rarely. Surveyed 59 children out of 100 reported to have getting recreation for some

time. But 41 children are not recreation. Most of the children watching T.V. and hearing radio for some time.

Majority of children are dissatisfied with their earning and current work. At the same time, hard and hazardous work is cited by children including minor workers (47) as the main reason for not satisfying with this work followed by low wage (13).

Usually, children working in brick kilns are harassed/abused by middleman, managers of factory and other adult workers. A total of 49 children have incidences of harassment/abuse in one or another form.

7.2 Conclusion

Children both boys and girls are different caste/ethnic groups coming from various geographic locations in Nepal work in the brick kiln industries in the Kanchanpur district. This study is based on interview with 100 children and some key informants working in 5 selected brick kiln of Kanchanpur. Both quantitative and qualitative information have been used in this study which are following conclusions.

) Most of the these children come from poor families who are dependent on subsistence agriculture as their source of income. Many of these family either have a little land or no land at all. The prevailing socio-economic conditions, i.e. poverty, lack of adequate working and employment facilities compel parents to send their children to work rather than to schools for their survival. Some causes of children working in the brick kiln industries:

- Poor economic conditions of the family.
- School was not accessible or not affordable.
- Influenced by friends and middleman.

- Large family size.
 - Children's willingness to support poverty ridden family.
 - Have a little land or no land at all and no sufficient food for the family.
 - Children were asked to work at home to support their family.
-) Most of the child workers are predominantly from a narrow age band of pre-adolescent and early adolescent boys and girls roughly 10-14 years old. A significant proportion of children aged even less than 10 are working in brick kilns. In addition, children working in these industries work long hours and are underpaid mostly on the piece rate basis. Actually, working hours and wages for children is neither fixed nor fair.
-) Children are working very long hours a day. Working children earn very little most of which is spent on food and clothing. Even though most of their income goes into food they must save something for their family. Majority of child workers in brick kilns are seasonal migrants from Kanchanpur districts. Outside of the Kanchanpur including Bihar of India. Among them most of the child workers are largely from poor, underprivileged and oppressed caste/ethnic community.
-) The overall working conditions of the brick kiln industries is far from satisfactory specially the working and living conditions. The working place were found full of dust and smoke therefore, the situation of living conditions are hazardous to all the workers and especially dangerous or child workers as they are more vulnerable than adults.
-) A significant proportion of children working in brick kilns seems illiterate and most of the children who have attended schooling are reported to have drop out before completing primary level.
-) A significant proportion of child workers does not receive their own earnings rather their earning is controlled by their parents and other relatives. But other some workers including children working in brick kilns are paid per

week for their fooding and other expenses. The final payment is made at the end of the season when theses factories are closed down due to rainy season.

-) There is need for further social mobilization and public campaign on the issue of children and their rights for survival protection and development.
-) Actually, there is no direct relation between workers and real employees of brick kilns. Most of all workers including children the transferred by middleman (naike/mistri) from rural area into brick kilns giving some money for advance. They get monthly wage as well as commission from earnings of workers who are under this control.
-) In summary, working children have little or no access to appropriate education opportunities, the full developmental potential of working children is constrained by hazardous working conditions, social attitude towards working children locks them in their place and perpetuates low self esteem, and they are faced with a range of exploitative situations including financial, social, physical, psychological and sexual.
-) In spite of the legal prohibitions on child labour, a large number of children are employed in different factories. Small industrial concerns, auto-repair shops, garment factories and restaurants. Poverty, in adequate educational facilities, lack of access to basic needs and facilities, willingness of employers to hire children at low wages. The lack of enforcement of labour laws in the factories and industrial concerns and various other factors are responsible for the widespread prevalence of child labour in Nepal. There has been no mechanism for monitoring child labour in brick kilns and their condition children in these factories work under hazardous and exploitative condition as well as unhealthy working environment. They have to face various kinds of injuries/accidents inflicted by spades, brick and not kilns. In addition, most of the child workers suffer from different kinds of illness like respiratory problems, fever, headache , backache, and joint pain. But there is

no facility for health care provided to children in brick kilns surveyed of Kanchanpur.

-) The children working in brick kilns are exploited, harassed and abused in work places by one or another from. Being the worst and the most hazardous form of child labour in brick kilns, most of the children reported to have been dissatisfied with their earning and current work.
-) It can be concluded that the root causes of child labour are strongly associated with poverty, lack of educational opportunities, certain cultural traditions and family size. In other words, exploitative and hazardous work that children are doing derives from structural inequality, the effect of economic and social policies. In addition, lack of work opportunities in off farm season, arrival of parents in brick kilns, abusive behaviour of step parents are also contributing factors for children to be engaged in such a child labour. The complete elimination of child labour from these factories is a national challenge for future because most of the children loss physical mental, social and moral development engaging in such a intolerable forms of child labour.

7.3 Recommendations

The convention on the rights of the child (CRC) constitutes the legal framework for the promotion and protection of the civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights of all children in an integrated manner. This means that all children, without exception, must be ensured survival, personal and social development, and physical, psychological and moral integrity, and that special protection measures must be taken for those in especially difficult circumstances. Child labour is a complex problem. Clearly it is the result of existing poverty and exploitative socio-economic relations of the country. There is no easy solution for eradication of child labour particularly engaged in brick

kilns. The finding of this study show that the poverty has forced many children to be engaged in brick kilns of Kanchanpur with their parents as well as friends especially coming from rural areas. On the basis of this study some preventive and protective measures have been recommended to phase out child labour in brick kilns of Kanchanpur and other areas.

As the problem of child labour is closely linked with wide-spread poverty, lack of quality educational facilities, certain cultural traditions and lack of effective enforcement of existing laws, there is a need to come up with clear and comprehensive policy and programmes focusing both formal and informal sectors of the economy. The goals of such policies in long term should aim at eliminating all forms of child labour completely in the country, which might be not possible in a short time frame. The long-term policies should create a conducive environment by providing social security, universal compulsory primary education, increasing access to employment income by poor households, and ensuring strict adherence to certain minimum labour standards such as prohibition of work in hazardous occupations or activities and of any work before completion of primary school, which will help eliminate child labour gradually. The short-term policies should aim at minimizing and gradually eliminating the adverse conditions effecting child labour and improving the working conditions. Policies and programmes on child labour should be prepared both long term and short term goals in mind. Investment in the physical, mental, spiritual, moral and social development of children is an ethical, social and economic imperative for all societies.

Child labour is a national problem therefore, it should be handled in cooperation and collaboration with all possible allies at national and international level such a NGOs, INGOs and other agencies involved in the field. Mechanized brick kilns should be replaced in stead of smoky non-mechanized chimney kilns which exploit large amount of labour force. In

addition, there should be provision of labour inspection and monitoring in the field of brick kilns.

Actually, without involvement of the child workers or communities at the grassroots level, the awareness raising programme cannot be successful. So, the awareness programme should focus to children themselves, their parents, employers, worker's organization children at school, teachers, NGOs and other CBOs. Public awareness campaign should be launched to enhance the awareness about child rights and child labour, legal provision, importance of schooling of children and impact of child labour upon their overall development employing on the hazardous environment like brick kilns.

Though primary education is free in Nepal but there exists still indirect cost of schooling such as charging admission fees, school, uniforms and to other stationery, so, children of poor families should be motivated for schooling providing these facilities. There should be non-formal education and other literacy programmes launched for vocational training to adult workers and regular schooling of children.

Child working in brick kilns is the most hazardous and life threatening for children. So, state should immediately remove the worst forms of child labour like existing in brick kilns. Usually, various acts and rules as well as other international conventions and their commitments related to child and child labour have been adopted in Nepal. But there is still a big problem in implementation level.

Many children and their families are affected from present conflict and violence created by political instability. They are bound to engage in brick kilns of Kanchanpur for their livelihood. So, a special package programme should be launched for their socio-economic support. About all children including adult

workers come to work in brick kilns from outside of the Kanchanpurspecially from underprivileged and poor families. So, there should be implemented rural centred poverty alleviation. progarmmes targeting the poor families of children working in brick kilns. Children and their parent should be given vocational training so that they can be self employed. So that parents and other family member of children can be employed on these industries.

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APPENDIX-1

SELECTED CASE STUDIES

Case-1

(Jagadamba Brick Industry)

Gopal Gharti, a young child from Rolpa, has been working in the brick kiln industry for last six months. He carries brick from the field to the duck every day, seven days a week, starting early in the morning. a.m. and continues it until 11.30 a.m. with some rest and food he starts again working at around 2.00 p.m. and continues it until it becomes dark. There are 7 members in his family. Gopal earns about 45 rupees per day, which is kept by his father who is also a worker in the factory. Although Gopal is 12 years old, he looks very small. he came with his parents. He wants to go to school and become a service man in the future. He is very poor, illiterate and lack of sufficient land at home. Gopal is not happy working in the factory and wants to go home. He has no idea of children's rights. He is not sure if he will come back to work again.

Case-2

A Case Study of Dipak Tamang (Betal Brick Factory, Kanchanpur)

Dipak Tamang 14, years old, is also from Mustang. He looks very thin and stunted but he works for brick moulding with his father and elder brother. There are 7 members of the family. All of them except his mother work in brick kiln. His mother does not work with them because she has been mad since two year. He said, "when I was reading at class 5, my mother teared my books and tired to slap me." So, Dipak and his small brother and sister are deprived of maternal love and affection. They have very small piece of land but that is not sufficient for living a life throughout the year. His father started to have engaged in brick kiln since about 5 years. He says indicating the piece rate wage system that it is the work which is done and wage is given but wage is not given without working. He has also been harassed several times by the naike. Even

while working hard, the naika and the owner shout at him and sometimes they don't even pay anything for his work. "They do not give medicine while I'm sick", says Dipak. He does not think he will come back to work again.

Case-3

A case study of Kalu Chaudhari (Bajarangi Brick Industry)

Kalu Chaudhari is 15 years old and he comes from Mahendranagar. He came to this factory with his father and has been working in the factory for the last 9 months. His mother died, when Kalu was nine years old. There are five members in his family. They are very poor having no land, were dependent on their own labour for their survival. Although, he is only 15, this is not the first time that he came to Kanchanpur, he has been coming and working during the brick making season for last two years. He used to go to school and has completed class two and now he can only write his name and read simple letters but he is not confident enough to write letters. He was drop out of school not because he was not interested but due to his family's poverty. He is not happy and he thinks that the job he is doing is very hard. He does not have any plans as he believes without education he will not get any good job although he wishes to have one. He wants to study further, but he also knows that it is not possible for him because he is poor and he will have to support family for which he needs to work.

Case-4

Maya Kumari (Suresh Brick Industry, Kanchanpur)

Maya Kumari is 14 years old. She comes from Kailali. There are 8 members in the family but she does not have her own mother but a step-mother instead. Her mother died in a landslide where she was buried. The step-mother has never loved her. Since I did not have my mother, and father was also supporting me, step-mother did not allow me to go to school, instead. She forced me to work at home", says Maya Kumari. She is illiterate and never had the chance to go to school. We are very poor and have not enough food for

survival, therefore, I came to Kanchanpur", she said. she was brought to Kanchanpur by the relatives. Maya Kumari wants to go back home as soon as she can and has no intention of coming back. But she is also afraid of her step-mother who is at home. 'It is not easy there either', says Maya Kumari. However, she firmly says that she would like to go back home and is prepared to tackle the difficulty there. She is still interested in going to school provided that she gets the opportunity.

Case-5

Laxmi Gharti (Suraj Brick Industry)

Laxmi Gharti is 15 years old, is also from Rolpa. Her father went to India a long time ago but Laxmi does not even know when that was. Her mother married to somebody else as Sita's father was away for a long time and there was no news from him. Laxmi was only 8 years old when her mother fled with another person and she has been living with her uncles since. She feels that if her parents were with her, then she would not have to come for work like this, she would be in school instead. She strongly feels that she should go to school but "who will help me as my parents are not with me", says Laxmi. She has never been to school and is illiterate. Sita has been working in the brick factory for the last 8 months and her day starts early in the morning at around six o'clock and ends when it becomes dark. She works at least 10 hours everyday. She carries brick from field to the duck. She does not want to come here working in brick kilns for next season because she thinks that it is hard work. She regrets coming with friends running away from home.

APPENDIX-2

Individual Questionnaire

Central Department of Population Studies

Kirtipur, Kathmandu

Questions asked to the child labourers in Brick Kilns

District: S.N. of Establishment S.N. of respondents

Factory Name:

Address: Municipality/VDC: Ward No.....

A. Basic Information

S.No.	Questions	Response category code
1	Name of the respondent
2	What is your age?	Complete age:
3	What is your caste/ethnicity?	
4	What is your mother tongue?	
5	Sex of the respondents	Male1 Female2
6	Can you read?	Yes1 →7 No2
7	Can you write?	Yes1 No2
8	Are you currently attending school?	Yes1 No2
9	Have you ever attended school?	Yes1 No2 → 11
10	What is the level you have passed?	
11	Why did you never attend school (or drop out)?	Having been low economic status.....1 Having not been leisure due to work ..2 Parents interest for not schooling3 Having the school far away4 Having not interested for schooling ...5 Others (specify)6
B. Origin Place and Household Information		
12	Where is your origin place?	District VDC

13	If you are migrated, what is the nature of migration?	Seasonal1 Semi-permanent2 Permanent3
14	What is you parental status?	Both alive1 Both dead2 Only mother alive3 Only father alive4 Father with step mother5 Mother with step father6 Father deserted7 Mother deserted8 Other (specify)9
15	What is your family size in your home ?	
16	Do you have your own house ?	Yes1 No2
17	Does your family have own cultivable land ?	Yes1 No2
18	Is your family indebted?	Yes1 No2 Don't know3
19	How does your family's life survive mainly?	Own farming.....1 Wage employment in agricultre..2 Wage employment in non agriculture3
C. Ask to migrant Children for Questions No. 23 and 24		
20	Why did you leave home?	Poverty/no food at home.....1 Abusive behaviour of step father/mother.....2 Due to death of bread winner ...3 Arrival of parents4
21	With whom did you come here ?	Parents1 Brother/sister.....2 Other relatives3 Broker/Naike4 Running away alone5 Running away with friends6
D. work and Payment		
22	How did you join this factory ?	Coming with borker/Naike1 Coming with parents2 Coming with relatives3 Coming own self4

23	What is your work in this factory?	Brick moulding1 Carrying bricks field to kiln2 Carrying bricks from kilns to piles3
24	How many months do you work here in a year?	Less than 61 6 to 92
25	How many hours do you work in a day?
26	How much do you earn monthly?
27	Who keeps your earning?	Self1 Parents/Guardian.....2 Brother/Sister.....3 Broker4
28	Do you find your earning sufficient?	Yes1 No2

E. Living Condition and Health		
29	Where do you live here?	Temporary hut1 Rented house2 Other (specify)3
30	With Whom do you live here	Parents1 Brother/sister2 Relatives3 Friends4 Broker5 Alone6
31	Do you use piped water?	Yes1 No2
32	Is your room electrified?	Yes1 No2
33	Have you got toilet facility?	Yes1 No2
34	How many times do you take meals per day?	One1 Two2 Three and More3
35	Have you ever been sick since working here?	Yes1 No2
36	What types of sickness have you suffered from?	Relating to respiration1 Fever2 Headache3 Chest pain4 Joint pain 5 Backache6
37	Have you got any treatment?	Yes1 No2
38	Have you ever experienced injuries/accidents?	Yes1 No2
39	If yes, how serious have you experienced?	Very serious1 Minor2
40	Does your master and broker abuse you physically?	Yes1 No2
41	If yes, how often do they abuse you ?	Daily.....1 Sometimes.....2 Every time when they visit...3
F. Perceptions of Child Workers		
42	Are you satisfied with current work?	Yes1 No2→44
43	What is the reason for not satisfying with current work?	Low wages1 Hard and hazardous work ..2 Not good employer3 Other (Specify)4

44	Do you get time for recreation?	Yes1 No2
45	If, yes what types of recreation do you get?	Playing games.....1 Hearing radio2 Cinema3 Watching T.V.4 Other (specify)5 → 46
46	Do you want to work here in next season again?	Yes1 No2
47	Do you want to study?	Yes1 No2
48	If you are migrated, do you want to come back home quickly?	Yes1 No2

4.1 Population

In the five brick kilns surveyed in Kanchanpur District, 10 to 15 percent child labour involve in each factory. There were a total of 1730 workers on an average of 346 persons per factory of which 1160 (67.1%) were male and 570 (32.9%) female workers. Out 1730 workers 215 (12.4%) were child workers and 17 years of age. Among 215 child workers 135 (62.8%) were boys and 80 (37.2%) girls respectively. Table 2 shows the total number of workers in the different brick industry surveyed.

A total of 100 (46.5% of 215) children working in the 5 brick kiln industries of Kanchanpur were interviewed. Out of 5 industries surveyed, 3 are from Tathali VDC 9, 1 from Tathali 8 and 1 from Bhatedhikur (Chittapol) VDC 1 Kanchanpur. Among the 100 children interviewed, 1 factory from 30, 2 factory from 20 and 20 and 2 are from 15 and 15 Kanchanpur District respectively. In addition, children were interviewed especially for case study.

Table 2
No. of workers in brick kiln industries

Name of the factory	No. of workers					No. of child workers				
	Male	%	Female	%	Total	Male	%	Female	%	Total
S.K. Chimney industry	180	60	120	40	300	22	62.9	13	37.1	35
Hanuman brick factory	330	73.3	120	26.7	450	40	61.5	25	38.5	65
Jay Sri Mahakali brick industry	220	67.7	105	32.3	325	25	62.5	15	37.5	40
Sri Laxmi brick industry	250	66.7	125	33.3	375	28	62.2	17	37.8	45
Ajima brick industry	180	64.3	100	35.7	280	20	66.7	10	33.3	30
Total	1160	67.1	570	32.9	1730	135	62.8	80	37.2	215

Source: Field survey, 2005

Brick kiln industries have been growing in Kanchanpur District. Although, it is not very clear how many children are working in the brick kiln industries in Nepal and in the Kanchanpur District particular. For the purpose of the study 5 brick kiln industries were purposive sampling. Although, it was planned to interview at least 100 children. According to number of child labour from each factory purposive sampling. Among the 100 children interviewed, one factory from 30 two factory from 20 and 20 and two are from 15 and 15 Kanchanpur District (57) more boys children compared to girl (43). Altogether, 100 child workers are included in this study as the target population. Then, each and every child working in selected brick kilns has been considered as relevant respondent for interview.

This research both primary and secondary data. There are both data has been collected and used in the present study.

Table 3 shows that the age of child labourers ranges from 10-17 years, of which 87.7 percent are males and 88.4 percent are females. The participation of elder children is higher than younger because elder children are preferred by employers because they can understand their responsibilities and do not need any constant guidance but those younger children are not capable of doing their responsibilities properly.

Table 3 also shows that more boys than girls are employed in this sector. It may be surprising to see such a high incidence of male workers in an occupation that is typically considered female oriented in most countries. Sharma et al (1999) documented a similar pattern in other municipalities of Nepal.

Table 5 shows that most of the children working in these factories to be engaged who belong to Magar (17%), Brahmin/Chhetri (10%), Tamang (21%), Newar (9%), Dalit (12%), Tharu/Rai (16%). On the other caste/ethnic group, Bihari constitutes a significant proportion of child labour (15%). therefore for many caste/ethnicity, males are predominantly higher than females.

Table 5 shows that majority of brick kiln child labourers (53) are literate and only (47) percent are illiterate. Therefore 42 (79.2) percent have attended less than 5 class of education, and (20.8) have upto 5 and more level of education.

Table 6
Percentage distribution of child workers schooling by sex, 2005

Status of schooling	Boys	Girls	Total
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	No.	%	No.	%	
Never attended	17	36.2	30	63.8	47
Ever attended	40	71.7	13	28.3	53
	57	100.0	43	100.0	
Currently attending	4	80.0	1	20.0	5

Source: Field survey, 2005

According to educational status, working children can be classified into 2 groups: those who have never attended school and those who have ever attended school. Actually, great number of children working in brick kilns seem out of schooling in survey period. Table 6 shows that out of total 100 children interviewed only 5 children are currently attending school. Girl children are more likely to be out of schooling than boys. Among the male children (71.7%) have ever attended school.

Susila Nepali, 13 years old, is from Ramechhap. she is working in brick kiln with her uncle. her parents deserted to her at 10 years at age. Actually, her mother eloped with another male then her father left to her marrying with another women.

Among boy children, majority of children (61.4%) have 5-8 family members followed by more than 8 (21%) and four or less (17.5%), while the corresponding figures of girls children reveals 65.1, 23.3 and 11.6 percent respectively. It reflects that girl children are likely to work in brick kilns coming from larger family size compared to boys.

Background	Average earning (NRs) per month	Total
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	<1000		1000-2000		>2000		
Sex	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	
Boys	14	24.6	34	59.6	9	15.8	57
Girls	7	16.3	25	58.1	11	25.6	43
Basis of payment							
Piece rate	21	22.2	56	58.9	18	18.9	95
Other	-	-	3	60.0	2	40.0	5
Monthly saving							
None	13	43.3	17	56.7	-	-	30
One-fourth	8	14.3	36	64.3	12	21.4	56
Half	-	-	6	42.9	8	57.1	14
Total	21	-	59	-	20	-	100