

Household Child Labor in Kathmandu: A Case of Kuleshwor Residential Area, Kathmandu

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Abstract

Child labor is a socio-economic reality in every sector of the society. Many children work as household labor in Kathmandu. They are compelled to work in difficult conditions as wage earners to support their family and themselves. Their mental, physical and social developments are often threatened as a result of poverty, family breakdown, social injustice, economic exploitation, etc. A major concern is children should not be deprived of their educational and other career opportunities. Unless we are able to consolidate the families by enabling them to escape from the deep-rooted unemployment, we would not be able to eliminate child labor which is deep-rooted in the society.

INTRODUCTION

This paper is the outcome of an empirical study conducted in 2001 based on primary information. Some secondary information was also collected to fill the data gap. Secondary information was collected mainly from the review of past studies. A total of 70 household child laborers under the age of 18 from 216 households of 'B-Block' Kuleshwor, Kathmandu, were covered to produce this paper.

Domestic child laborers are suffering from many problems such as mistreated by employers, over loaded work, no chance to study and recreation, etc. Poverty and deprivation are the key-factors, which have contributed to the growing number of children in the exploitative labor market. However, ignorance of parents and their guardians, family breakdowns and the trends of child exploitation have been increasing the incidence of child labor in Nepal (ILO 1995a: 41). Kamaiya (a system of bonded labor that exists mainly in western Nepal) families send their children in most of the urban centers to be a child labor is most common. This has further increased after the release of Kamaiyas through a declaration of the government. The exploitation¹ of child labor has not changed and children are compelled to work in different labor systems. The involvement in off-farm activities has however increased from 1.9 percent in 1981 to 10.7 percent in 1991 (Shrestha, 1995:

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¹ Types of work that is inappropriate to the child's age and strength; hazardous and injurious to the child's physical, mental and social well beings; denies schooling; play; separates from family; employs/Labors children rather than adults (UNICEF, 1997:39).

208)². It is expected that those children who are between 6-15 years age group should all be enrolled in schools. Out of 4,898,000 of school age children, only 74.67 % were enrolled in the schools. It is supposed that a great number of children who were still not enrolled in the schools were working somewhere as child labors (ILO, 1995b: 16). On the other the dropout rate of the enrolled children is significant mainly in the rural areas. Among the various reasons responsible to dropout poverty comes at the top rank.

Extreme poverty and landlessness in the rural areas are leading to urban migration at uncontrolled rates. This has benefited an informal labor industry in which brokers supply urban businesses with a cheap work force. All too often the workers are children, sent in urban areas to pay off the interest on loans taken by themselves or by their ancestors (Sattaur, 1993:9). Although there are several efforts to eliminate child labor from the side of HMG/Nepal and NGOs, child labor is still a problem and "...child labor is a socio-economic reality in every sector of the society" (CWIN, 1993:3). Fifty two percent of the total population of Nepal comprises children below 18 years.³ Since the problem of urban household working children is alarming in the cities, this study concentrates on its socio-economic situations, the nature of work, access to health and education of child labors in household sector.

General Background of Child Labors and their Family in the Study Area

The majority (80%) of the child labors in the household level of Kuleshwor residential area were coming from hill, where as 17.14 percent from *Terai* and only 2.86 percent from India. Most of the employers (51.43%) settled in Kuleshwor residential area, which came from central hill. Similarly the majority (58.57%) of the children came mostly from the districts around Kathmandu. Relatives brought most of them. The unbalanced socio-economic development of the country in rural hills has pushed children to migrate to cities and *Terai* for jobs. The high percentage (25.71%) come from Brahmin and followed by Newar, Magar and Tharu. This indicates that untouchable castes are not accepted for household labor (IPEC, 1995).

Most of the child labors (55.71%) were between the ages of 10-14 years. This is the age of child workers most favored by employers. Of the 70 child labors, 41.42 percent were girls and 58.58% were boys. According to CWIN's (1993) estimate, in Kathmandu only, 60 percent domestic helpers are children and 10 percent household child labors are under

² The decrease in the magnitude of child Labor in the 1981 to the 1991 census is based on the determination of the overall economic activity rate in the census. According to the 1981 census "the economic activity of a person" refers to gainful activity during a minimum eight-month period of the year preceding the census. In the 1991 census, those who worked for at least three-months and those seeking employment were classified as economically active". Therefore, the economically active of the 1981 census is not comparable to the economically active of 1991 (ILO 1995b: 6).

³ The UNCRC (1989) defines the child as "all persons under 18, unless by law majority is attained at an earlier age". According to the ILO proposed convention (1999) "no person under the age of 18 is to be in a worst form of child Labor". Hidden in domestic service are most vulnerable and exploited. Children are largely "invisible" workers hidden and ignored (ILO 1999).

10 years of age and 70 percent are 11-14 years of age. They do not prefer very young or big age children. Therefore, the 10-14 years of age children were in large numbers than the others ages of children. This study shows low percentage as compared to CWIN survey for comparable categories. From the study, it is found that 70 percent of the child labors had both their father and mother alive while 15.71 percent had mother only and 8.57 percent had father only. Of the total sample, 2.86 percent had stepmothers and 2.86 percent had either elder sister or brother at home. From the study, children come in general from medium size families (5-7), which is exactly equal to the national average (CBS 1998:16). It shows that the family size of the employees may not be a problem.

Main Occupation of the Child Laborers' Family

Migration becomes a way of life for the rural underprivileged families and local money lenders tempt them into indebtedness by offering loans at high interest, pulling their innocent child into debt-bondage and bringing slavery to the modern market (Sattaur, 1993:15-18). Most of the families work for low wages on landowners' fields or on their own tiny plots of land for their living. It is hard for them to collect food grains enough for the whole year (Subedi, 1993:87). Most households produce food to last for only three to eight months of the year, they have compulsion to turn to others work, loans or migration to sustain them. That is why rural families' children are sent to the cities in search of livelihoods.

Table 1: Main Occupation of the Child Laborer's Family

Main Occupation	No.of Respondents	Percentage
Agriculture	34	48.57
Ploughman for landlords	19	27.14
Porter	4	5.72
Others	13	18.57
Total	70	100.00

Source: Field Survey, 2001.

Table 1 shows that 48.57 percent child labor reported that the main occupation of their families is agriculture and followed by 27.14 percent working as agricultural labor for landlords or farmers, 5.72 percent as porters for village merchants and 18.59 percent engaged in other works such as guard, army, carpenter, firewood seller, waiter, bus helper, and as *Nagloshop* owner. Although farming is the main occupation of majority of the families of child labors under this study, it alone cannot support their living. Therefore, they must look for alternative employment to supplement the family income necessary for their livelihood.

Reasons Behind Leaving Home

The main reasons of the child movement as a child labor is lacking of food and clothes in their homes, which is followed by pay back of merchant loan, influence of friends, misbehavior of step mother. Other reasons for leaving home as reported by the children were their desire of study, mother married with another man, father being sick, or hopping to get a job and to stay in the city.

Table 2: Reasons behind Children to Become Child Labor

Reasons	No. of Respondents	Percentage
Lack of food/clothes in house	42	60.00
Pay back of merchant Loan	11	15.71
Influence of friends	6	8.57
Misbehavior of step mother	1	1.43
Others	10	14.29
Total	70	100.00

Source: Field Survey, 2001.

The in-depth case studies of some children revealed that children came to the city to become household labor because of misbehavior of stepmother. According to *Voice* of child workers (1999) family and social disturbance are valuable factor responsible for early age children leaving home.

Under the study 64.29 percent child labors have been away from their parents and community for 1 year, 30 percent for 5 years. While each 5.72 percent spent away from their home even for 10 years or more. For instance, a girl who left her home more than 10 years ago confided with the researcher that she had a desire to visit her family at home but her employer would not grant her a leave. Children need to socialize with friends of the same age and demand love and care. As we discussed above, many children are not even provided with the opportunity to meet their friends. This has had a negative impact on their mentality of the growing children. They want to visit their friends but their employers do not permit them to do so. Most of the children are kept inside the employers' houses and nobody knows what happens to them. Sports needs to building healthy and active children (NPC 1998:731). But it is limited only to the children of privileged families. There was never given holiday for majority of children. An act mentioned that "a holiday of one day for each week shall be given to the child engaged in the work" (HMG/N 1992:16). But in practical life, things are found to be different. Work burden, no leave to go home, abusing, beating, bad food, lack of recreation are the reason for their unhappiness.

Nature of Work of Child Labors

Leisure time is considered necessary for child development. There is never a leave or leisure for the children working as household labors. Majority of the children in this study reported that they worked for 15 hours a day under difficult circumstances. Such children do all the household chores, including taking care of elderly people, babies, cooking, etc jobs as assigned by the employers.

Table 3: Nature of Work Performed by Child Labors

Natures of Work	No. of Respondents	Percentage
All work including food preparation	43	61.43
All work excluding food preparation	24	34.29
Care to members of the family	2	2.86
Babysitting	1	1.43
Total	70	100.00

Source: Field Survey, 2001.

Table 3 shows that 61.4 percent of the child labors did all types of work within the domestic chores including food preparation, while 34.29 percent did everything except food preparation, 2.86 percent did massaging and take care of the old/sick members of the employer's house and 1.43 percent did baby sitting only. In general employers think that, the child labors must do all the work that they ask for. The working hours for child labors are not fixed; commonly they do not sleep unless their employers go to bed. Only when the employer goes away from home child labor may take some rest. The children under this study felt hardship work for cleaning dishes in late night, toilet cleaning, washing clothes, cleaning floor, caring old/sick members of the family, washing children stool, assisting old family member to go to the toilet, fetching water from well, marketing and baby sitting. Whereas, CWIN (1998) stated that a child who may be employed in work as a labor shall not be made to engage in work against his will. But from the observation it was found that children were engaged in various types of hard work whether they liked it or not.

Working Conditions of Child Labors

Household servants are forced to do all chores and their difficulties are confined within the four walls of a house (Urbashi, 1997) and not allowed to meet and mix up with neighbors. Most children (84.26%) reported that they felt that their present jobs were difficult while 15.74 percent did not feel that way.

Table 4: Problems Encountered by Child Labors

Problems	No. of Respondents	Percentage
Not chance to home visit	27	45.76
Mistreated by of employer	14	23.73
Over loaded work	11	18.64
Sick frequently	3	5.08
Low wages	2	3.29
No chance to study	2	3.29
Total	59	100.00

Source: Field Survey, 2001.

Of the 59 child labors, who mentioned that they had encountered problems, 45.76 percent reported that they did not get a chance to visit home, followed by misbehave of employer (23.73%), overloaded of work (18.64%), sick frequently (5.08%), low wages (3.39%), no chance to study (3.39%) (Table 4). The reports of sexual harassment of girl in our society have been on the rise for the last few years. In a study by CWIN (1993), 13.7 percent of girl children admitted of having experienced sexual harassment from the employers. In the period of field observation, 87.14 percent reported that they were not sexually harassed while only 12.86 percent mentioned that their employers teased them.

Under the study, 45.71 percent child labors worked from 6 am to 9 pm. This is a remarkable physiological trouble for a child within the age of 18 years, which could affect their mental as well as physical growth. There were others (44.29%), who worked from 5 am to 10 pm (that is about 17 hours). In any way, it was compulsion for a child labor to serve the large family for extended hour. Two of the children whose day-to-day life was studied in detail reported that they wake up at 5 am and go to bed at 10 pm. They performed household chores until late night.

Wages Received By Child Labors

Most of the children either did not receive any wages or received very low wages. Practice of cash payment on monthly basis is very limited. According to CWIN (1993) study, on an average, at least 41 percent are not paid any thing while the rest are paid very nominal salary. Of the 70 children, 54.28 percent were neither paid nor had knowledge about their wages. They only got simple food, clothes, shelter, schooling and in some cases, up down transportation expenses in the time of home visits. The compensation to the children was found to differ from unpaid (only study) to Rs.800 per month. Only 45.71 percent children reported that they received wages for their work. Among the children who get compensation in cash, the salary ranges from Rs.201 to Rs.800 per month. It was found that 90.63 percent children received Rs.301 to Rs.800 per month, while 9.38 percent received Rs.201-300 per month (Table 5).

Table 5: Monthly Remuneration Received by Children under Study

Amount	No. of Respondents	Percentage
Rs.201 to Rs.300	3	9.38
Rs.301 to Rs.800	29	90.63
Total	32	100.00

Source: Field Survey, 2001.

The household child labors were provided relatively more cash remuneration from business (*Marbadi*) families but they did not enroll child labor into the schools. On the contrary, in the family of service holders, the child labors, either got low cash compensation or was provided other provision such as education, clothes, food, shelters, etc. From the survey, it was revealed that small families treated the child labors as one of their family members by providing schooling support and in many ways. Such children tend to stay longer in the same house as child labor. Majority (53.85%) of the child labors in the survey reported that it was not fixed, while 23.08 percent reported that they obtain remuneration monthly, 20.51 percent reported that it was paid in the time of home visit for their up and down transportation and 1.43 percent reported that it was yearly. Of the total children in the survey, 68.75 percent reported that their parents collected their remuneration from their employers, and 31.25 percent revealed that they had kept it with their employers. Children who were either allowed to go to school or were promised to be sent to school later were not paid.

Access to Health Services

Due to the lack of wealth and other social reasons, children are suffering from malnutrition diseases, illiteracy, economic and social exploitation (NPC 1998:678). Children normally face certain sickness in growing up stage. In addition, child labors may suffer from various types of work they do. Almost all of the child labors were bare footed and they often suffered from cold. It was found that out of the 70 children interviewed, 50 percent had been sick. Almost all children looked drogue. Some of the children looked stunted and malnourished.

Table 6: Treatment of Child Labors

Treatment	No. of Respondents	Percentage
Check up with doctor	18	51.43
Medicine used in home	12	34.29
Not treated/self-recovery	5	14.29
Total	35	100.00

Source: Field Survey, 2001.

Table 6 shows that out of the 35 children who had fallen sick, 51.43 percent got improvement in their health by check up with doctor and 34.29 percent from medicine used in home and 14.29 percent self recovered. Under the study, most of the children (71.43%) were supported by their employer and 22.86 percent nobody supported (self recovery), 5.72 percent by their relatives. It was found that the employers were not taking the child labors to the physician until the problem was serious. During the field study it was observed that a boy who had fever, headaches and diarrhea was given medicine by the employer himself without proper check-up. Other studies have mentioned that employers did not care regarding the child labor treatment (VOCW, 1999). But the reality was found to be different. In this study it was found that employers supported for the child labors' treatment by giving due importance to their health.

Access to Education

Sadly, however, in poor countries such as Nepal the young children are exploited both in the home and in the wider labor market and they are denied the chances for schooling which inhibits their all round development (Grover 1993:38-39). Opportunity of education and child labors has a direct correlation. Policy makers have realized that in order to end the problem of child labors, a mandatory primary level schooling policy can be the effective measure. However, in the case of Nepal, even though primary education has been made free children in remote areas of the country do not still have access to basic education.

Table 7: Literacy Status of Child Labors by Sex

Status	Girl	Percentage	Boy	Percentage
Literate	15	51.72	29	70.73
Illiterate	14	48.27	12	29.26
Total	29	100.00	41	100.00

Source: Field Survey, 2001.

Table 7 shows that almost half of the girl child labors were illiterate while the proportion of boys was below 30 percent. This shows that child laborers are not much worse off from the point of view of literacy though the educational attainment of them was very low.

Table 8: Child Labors who have been to School

Situation	Girl	Boy	Total (%)
School dropped out	11	14	25 (35.71)
Never been to school	13	11	24 (34.29)
Currently schooling	5	16	21 (30.00)
Total	29	41	70 (100.00)

Source: Field Survey, 2001.

Of the 70 children, 35.71 percent had been school dropout, 34.29 percent had never been to school, while 30 percent were currently schooling. According to CWCD (1999a) the deprived child workers of schooling of boys is 15.7 percent and 37.3 percent of girls under the age of 14. More than half of the girls had never been to school as compared to one-fourth of the boys.

Due to the strong son preference (which prevails throughout the mid-hills and Terai), effectively denies girl an equal chance of education. Uneducated parents do not know the long-term advantages of educating their children and might face economic problems to schooling their children. In a survey done by CWIN (1993) it was found that 49 percent had never been to school and 40 percent had dropped-out. The figures of CWIN's findings are higher than the findings of this study. In this connection NPC (1998) stated that "thirty one percent children are deprived of the opportunity for primary education". Of the wards, 35 percent throughout the kingdom still have no schools (Paudel, 1996:4). Thus many parents are unable to send their children to schools. Almost half of the literate children have dropped school class due to either sibling caring, unable to pay fees as well as minimum stationeries, books or day-to-day work and income support to their family. Most of the children reported that they wanted to join school again and continue their studies. Some of the children are found waiting for employers' supports to join schools. On the one hand, children have no time at all to go school because of heavy work burden, on the other many employers feel they cannot afford to lose labor by sending their child labor to school.

Table 9: Reasons for Never Going / Dropping out from School

Reasons	No. of Respondents	Percentage
Negligence of employer	21	42.86
Ignorance of parents	12	24.49
Poverty	11	22.45
Others	5	10.20
Total	49	100.00

Source: Field Survey, 2001.

Although, the government has offered free textbooks and the tuition is free, parents still have to provide stationary. In addition to this, widespread poverty in the hills makes every helping hand, even those of children, an essential part of the household work force. The employers are the major decision maker for the child labors schooling or not.

When asked what child labors wanted to be or to do in future after leaving present work place, they expressed their different views which were: not sure about their future, to be a peon in any office, go to back home for farming, to continue their study and later to become government servant, go to work in another house, to join in sewing training, to become a day labor and start a *Naglopasal*.

From the key informant interviews with eight organizations that work on children issues, suggested that effective policies should be developed in order to deal with the problems of child labors and underprivileged groups.

Summary and Conclusion

Children, both girls and boys from different caste/ethnicity and various districts of Nepal have come to work as household child labors in Kathmandu. Most children come from poor families who depended on subsistence farming, farm labor, pottering, etc. Their vulnerable socio-economic condition, i.e. poverty and illiteracy compelled them to send their children as child labor. Although most of the children in the present study were between 10-14 years of age, there were some children as young as 8 years old that had also come to work as labor. At such an early age children are normally not given major responsibilities of any work in many societies. Generally, childhood is considered to be a time period for children's socialization and self-identity formation. Given this, it is argued that steps should be taken to protect working children and enable them to improve their lives through access to educational opportunities in particular. Child labors in the present study performed all types of household chores including cooking, cleaning, washing and shopping. They did most of the work without any hesitation. They worked an average of 15 hours a day. It would very difficult to reduce the incidence of child labors in Nepal without improving the economic situation of their poverty stricken families. It would be better to fully utilize under employed and unemployed adults instead of putting children to work. One alternative measure that could reduce the work burden on children might be an effective compulsory education for children.

The remuneration of child labors under study was not satisfactory in comparison to their workload. They were still compelled to work in order to survive and support their families. The overall condition for the sample child labors in terms of food, shelter, health, etc was found to be not satisfactory. They were often served with stale and left over food and many reported that they were sleeping in the floors, corridor and stairs. Sick child labors were treated either with their own money (earned as wages) or sometimes employers bought medicines for the sick children without consulting a physician. View of those who worked on issues related to child labor and child rights was that the household child labors were in worst condition. It would be very difficult to reduce the problems associated with child labors without rational and practical policies focusing on various aspects of the problems of marginalized and poor families in the rural areas of Nepal (i.e. the communities which are forced to send their young children to work in the cities as child labor instead of sending them to schools).

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Book Review

Ramesh Raj Kunwar (2006). *Tourist & Tourism Science and Industry Interface*. Published by International School of Tourism and Hotel Management, Dilli Bazar, Kathmandu. Pages 370 including Index. ISBN 99946-997-1-7. Price: NRs. 800 (Hard Cover) and NRs. 400 (Soft Cover).

World Tourism Organization (WTO) has taken tourism beyond a stereotyped image of 'holiday making'. Tourism is perceived as the science, art and business of attracting tourists providing transportation, accommodation and also catering their needs and wants during their stay in the destination. Almost all the countries of the world have taken keen interest to develop and promote tourism because of its economic benefits. It is for this reason, World Travel and Tourism Council (WTTC) has declared tourism is the world's largest industry. For a number of countries, tourism is the largest commodity in international trade in many others it ranks among the top three industries. Tourism has grown rapidly to become a major social and economic force in the World. While the economic benefits of tourism have long been recognized, at present attention has been directed towards other aspects as well. Thus, it is a discipline that has recently attracted the attention of scholars from many disciplines.

The book under review is intended to present tourism as a discipline of human science. The book contains thirteen chapters. Each chapter focuses on different theoretical aspects of tourism. In this context the author has tried to conceptualize the theoretical background of tourism with few empirical evidences from various angles.

Chapter One is the introductory chapter that defines and describes 'tourists' and 'tourism'. General concepts such as evolution and motivation are also described. A basic approach to study tourism is discussed in Chapter Two. The fundamental approaches are referred as Institutional, Product, Economic, Anthropological and Sociological, Business, Geographical, Interdisciplinary and System. At the mean time, the need of tourism education and research is highlighted. As from the residents perspective tourism development should not be overlooked because tourism has both positive and negative impact on the host community. Sociology and Anthropology of Tourism is discussed in Chapter Three. The author has quoted the viewpoints of renowned writers of sociology and anthropology of tourism. Socio-cultural change due to advent of tourism is perceived because it involves face to face encounter between people of different cultural background. The concept of acculturation as used by anthropologists refers to socio-cultural change, desirable or undesirable that result from cultural contacts.

Cultural effect of tourism and cultural tourism are not the same subject of anthropology of tourism. It is for this reason Cultural and Heritage Tourism is presented in Chapter Four that calls for conservation and preservation of culture and heritage of the tourism destination. Excessive and poorly managed tourism related development and activity tend to threaten

the very cultural and natural heritage sites. The twelfth General Assembly of International Cultural tourism ICOMOS (International Council on Monuments and Sites) suggested various principles to preserve cultural and heritage places. Model cultural tourism of Bali and Hawaii are cited as successful story.

Impact of tourism is described in Chapter Five. Commercialization and museumification of culture and heritage is the issue that makes sociologists and anthropologists to think twice to develop tourism in certain destination. Some of scholar even mentioned 'tourism' as pervasive influence of neo-colonization and tourism eventually has been called cultural prostitution and process of cocacolization within indigenous lifestyles. The theory of acculturation at present has been replaced by 'cultural drift' as an alternative concept to explain the relationship between hosts and guests. The author opines that tourism being seasonal industry the tourists may not much affect the cultural behavior of the hosts because most of the time hosts are with their own family and friends.

Tourism is much more linked with its sustainability. Sustainable tourism development perceived attention since a tour operator in Costa Rica registered the word 'eco-tourism' referring the type and the extent of tourism activity that must be balanced against the capacity of the natural and manmade resource available. Chapter Six describes the issue of sustainability of tourism. This concept is later on described as alternative tourism, low impact tourism, responsible tourism, appropriate tourism, and sustainable tourism. Carrying capacity is the key concept in planning for sustainable tourism development that pursues strategies to ensure sensitive approaches comprising various stakeholders of tourism.

Historically tourism has been an urban concept. Both tourists generating and tourism destination used to be in urban areas. The rural tourism is highlighted in the context of growth and development of the country especially developing one. Chapter Seven discusses about urban and rural tourism. There is increasing evidence that tourism could be effective tool that help to reduce poverty both urban and rural areas. Religiously, the art of traveling is highly appreciated almost all religion of the world. Chapter Eight is about pilgrims and pilgrimage tourism. Hindus perform *tirthayatra*, Christians visit Rome and Vatican City, and Muslims visit Mecca and Medina of Saudi Arabia from time immemorial.

Tourism policy is set of rules and regulation where as tourism planning is a multidimensional activity that embraces social, economical, political, anthropological and technical factor. Tourism planning is influenced by different groups representing different interests. Chapter Nine discusses about tourism policy and planning. Tourism characteristics are discussed in the context of tourists of different nationals, their attitudes and behavior. It is imperative to know the psychology and behavior of guests of different parts of the world because tourism is human science; Chapter Ten is concerned about tourism characteristics. Chapter Eleven deals about Tourism, Globalization and Postmodernism. Tourism is very much a part of the globalization process. In essence globalization involves the exchange and flow of economic and intellectual items in terms of goods, knowledge, values and images as well as people on a global scale.

Chapter Twelve discusses Peace Tourism and Political Conflicts. In 1980s the World Tourism Conference in Manila declared that tourism can be a vital force for peace. Many world leaders and statesmen have recognized this benefit and attributes of tourism. Tourism has been used as the great force for peace and understanding between people, places and countries. Terrorism in 1990s has been linked with tourism. Longer the terrorists' activities continue the more damage it could bring to economy, resource depletion and tourism. Therefore Tourism-Passport to Development should go along with Tourism-Passport to Peace. The last chapter recapitulates tourism in Nepal, title is given as Nepal: Pilgrimage for Modern Pilgrims. It gives the bird's eye view of tourism development in Nepal.

The book is a very good documentation on tourism as a discipline that encompasses various dimension of tourism. The book has long list of references plus Index. It indicates that the author has consulted the books of very renowned scholars on tourism and quoted their viewpoints. Some Sanskrit *Sloks* (Verse) have been placed in some chapters to integrate modern tourism with Hindu philosophy. The book has accorded much weightage to sociology and cultural aspect of tourism. The economics of tourism and politics of tourism should have discussed more extensively as politics and economics are the forceful elements that affect tourism. Similarly, tourism management and marketing, investment in tourism should have included in the book that would make the book a complete book of tourism.

Finally, the author has presented the book as Principle of Tourism to the academia, students, policy maker industry people and the readers who are interested to gain knowledge about tourism. Tourism has been introduced at different colleges and universities at various levels in Nepal. Thus this book is a valuable source of knowledge to students and those interested in knowing tourism.

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