PREFACE

The present period is viewing urbanization as one of the major social changes wide all over the world, especially in developing countries where urban growth and urbanization is rapidly increasing. Today urbanization brings fundamental changes in people's way of life.

Urbanization in general is known as the process of growth in the proportion of population residing in urban palaces, expansion of urban areas and rural area transfer into urban area. The higher population growth within the urban area as well as migration of people from outside areas mainly rural to urban is called urbanization. The urbanization process also involves the increase in number of urban centres.

Urban growth and urbanization is the one of the fast growing processes in the developing countries. Most of the rapidly growing urban areas in the world are situated in the developing counties. So this scenario indicates that the urban growth and urbanization process is a concerned matter of the developing countries.

Nepal is experiencing rapid urbanization. Urbanization or the urban growth has been one of the most significant demographic features of the present day. In the last five decades there has been rapid population growth in the urban areas and the number of now urban centers (municipalities) has been increasing significantly in Nepal.

The present study is undertaken to study the trends of urban growth and urbanization in Far-western Terai of Nepal. The study was mainly focused to observe the urban population growth, urban facilities in the municipal area, urban and rural differences, urban land use and its morphology and general scenario of environment of Far-western Terai.

The study is divided into 7 chapters. The 1st chapter introduces the theme of the research that consists of statement of problem, conceptual framework, review of literature, objectives of the study, limitations of the study, significance of the study, hypotheses, research techniques and methodology etc.

The 2nd chapter is devoted to physio-cultural profile of the study area. The topography, drainage, soil, climate and natural vegetation of physical setting and population, religion, language, caste, main festivals, land use, settlements, transport and regional economy of socio-cultural setting of the study area have been discussed.

The 3rd chapter deals with existing status of urban facilities of urban areas in Far-western Terai. It describes municipality wise educational facilities, drinking water facilities, road facilities, electricity facilities, health facilities, commercial activities, sewerage service facilities and communication facilities etc. of the study area.

The 4th chapter deals with pattern and trends of urbanization of Nepal. It describes changing definition of urban area in Nepal, trends of urban growth, degree of urbanization, pace of spatial pattern of urbanization and ranking of urban areas of Nepal, FWDR and FWT.

Rural urban differences and rural transformation of Far-Western Terai is attempted in the 5th chapter. It describes based on 600 sample households which are selected from rural and urban places. This brings into focus the demographic aspects (population growth, size of house, sex ratio, population density, age composition and dependency ration), socio-cultural aspects (religions, caste/ethnicity, family structure, literacy, drinking water, source of lighting, cooking fuel, toilet facilities and other) and economic aspect (source of income, family income and economically active population) of the study area.

The 6th chapter focuses an attention on urban land use and its morphology in the study area. It describes setting and origin, population growth, population density and urban land use of Bhimdatt, Dhangadi and Tikapur municipalities. Also it describes the different categories of land use like residential, commercial, medical, religious, and other etc.

The general scenario of urban environment of study area is attempted in the 7th chapter. At the end, resume of conclusions along with the finding and the recommendations have been incorporated.

Govinda Singh Bista

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 Research Scholar

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ABBREVIATIONS

CBS = Central Bureau of Statistics

AD = Anno Domini

PRB = Population Reference Bureau

CBD = Central Business District

GIS = Geographical Information System

RS = Remote Sensing

VDC = Village Development Committee

DDC = District Development Committee

FWT = Far-Western Terai

FDR = Far-Western Region

CDR = Central Development Region

WDR = Western Development Region

FWDR = Far-Western Development Region

Sq. = Square

Km = Kilometer

HHs = Households

No. = Number

Mt. = Mount

LRMP = Land Resource Mapping Project

NP = Nagar Palika

DC = Degree Centigrade

MM = Millimeters

M. Ton = Metric tons

he. = Hectare

WHO = World Health Organization

BTR = Black Toppled Road

GR = Graveled Road

ER = Earthen Road

TR = Total Road

MD = Doctor of Medicine

MBBS = Bachelor of Medicine Bachelor of Surgery

CDMA = Code Division Multiple Access

GSM = Global System Mobile

ADSL = Asymmetric Digital Subscriber Line

FM = Frequency Modulation

RGTP = Rate of Growth Total Population

RGUP = Rate of Growth Urban Population

RGRP = Rate of Growth Rural Population

U/R = Urban / Rural

T.V. = Television

NC = Nepali Currency

ADB = Asian Development Bank