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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CONTENTS

Page No.

PREFACE I-III

AKNOWLEDGEMENT IV-V

CONTENTS VI-XI

LIST OF TABLES XII-XVI

LIST OF FIGURES XVII-XIX

LIST OF MAPS XX-XXI

LIST OF PHOTO PLATES XXII

ABBREVIATIONS XXII-XXIV

Chapter: I

Conceptual Framework and Methodology 1-27

1.1. Statement of the Problem

1.2. Conceptual Framework

1.3. Review of Literature

1.3.1. Global Context

1.3.2. National Context (Nepal)

1.4. Objectives of the Study

1.5. Hypotheses

1.6. Limitations of the Study

1.7. Research Techniques and Methodology

1.7.1. Research Process

1.7.2. Research Design

1.7.3. Sources of Data

1.7.4. Methods of Data Collection

1.7.4.1. Tools of Data Collection

1.7.4.2. Universe and Samples/ Selection of Study Area

1.7.4.3. Household Sampling Procedure

1.7.4.4. Sample Size Allocation 1.7.5. Data Analysis and Interpretation

1.8. Organization of the Study

1.9. Signification of the Study

Chapter: II

The Study Region: Physical and Cultural Setting 28-66

2.1. Location and Extent

2.2. Physical Setting

2.2.1. Topography/ Physiography

2.2.2. Drainage

2.2.3. Soil

2.2.4. Climate

2.2.5. Forest /Natural Vegetation

2.3. Socio-cultural Setting

2.3.1. Population

2.3.2. Religion

2.3.3. Language

2.3.4. Ethnicity / Caste

2.3.5. Main Festivals

2.3.6. Land Use

2.3.7. Settlement

2.3.8. Transportation

2.3.9. Regional Economy

Chapter: III

Existing Status of Urban Facilities and Functions 67-122

3.1. Physical Infrastructure

3.1.1. Road Facilities

3.1.2. Drinking Water

3.1.3. Air Transport Facilities

3.1.4. Electricity

3.1.5. Sewerage Service 3.1.6.Communication Facilities

3.2. Socio-Economic Infrastructure

3.2.1. Educational Facilities

3.2.2. Health Facilities

3.2.3. Administrative Facilities

3.2.4. Financial and Commercial Institutions

3.11. Functional Weightage and Hierarchy of Municipality

Chapter: IV

Patterns and Trends of Urbanization 85-122

4.1. Urban Growth and Urbanization

4.2. Urbanization in Nepal

4.2.1. Changing Definition of Urban Area

4.2.2. Historical Growth of Urban Centers in Nepal

4.2.3. Trends of Urbanization in Nepal

4.2.4. Degree of Urbanization in Nepal

4.2.5. Pace of Urbanization in Nepal

4.2.6. Size Class of Urban Places in Nepal 4.2.7.Spatial Pattern of Nepal

4.2.8. Urbanization by Development Region

4.2.9 Urbanization Level by Districts

4.3. Urbanization in Far-Western Development Region

4.3.1. Urban Growth and Urbanization

4.3.2. Spatial Pattern of Urbanization

4.3.3. Urbanization by District

4.3.4. Size Class of Urban Places

4.3.5. Ranking of Urban Areas

4.4. Urbanization in Far-Western Terai Region

4.4.1. Trends of Growth of Urban Population

4.4.2. Degree of Urbanization

4.4.3. Comparative of Urban Growth in Nepal FWT

4.4.4. Urban Growth and Development of Urban Places

4.4.5. Hierarchy of Urban Places

Chapter: V

Urban-Rural Differences and Transformation 123-152

5.1. Demographic Differences

5.1.1. Population Growth

5.1.2. Household Size and Population

5.1.3. Sex Ratio

5.1.4. Population Distribution and Density

5.1.5. Age Composition of Population

5.1.6. Dependency Ratio

5.2. Socio-Cultural Differences

5.2.1. Religion 5.2.2.Caste and Ethnicity 5.2.3.Family Types

5.2.4.Family Size

5.2.5. Literacy 5.2.6.Drinking Water 5.2.7.Source of Lighting 5.2.8.Use of Cooking Fuel 5.2.9.Toilet Facilities 5.2.10. Other Facilities

5.3. Economic Differences

5.3.1. Source of Income

5.3.2. Family Income

5.3.3. Economically Active Population

5.4. Rural Transformation and Emerging Urban Centre

Chapter: VI

Urban Structure and Morphology 153-183

6.1. Urban Land Use

6.2. Bhimdatt Municipality

6.2.1. Setting and Origin

6.2.2. Population Growth and Distribution 6.2.3.Land Use and Morphology of Bhimdatt Municipality

6.3. Dhangadi Municipality

6.3.1. Setting and Origin 6.3.2.Population Growth and Distribution

6.3.3. Land Use and Morphology of Dhangadi Municipality

6.4. Tikapur Municipality

6.4.1. Setting and Origin 6.4.2.Population Growth and Distribution

6.4.3. Land Use and Morphology of Tikapur Municipality

6.5. Factors Affective Land Use and Morphology of Urban Areas

Chapter: VII

Urban Environmental Status and Change 184-197

7.1. Urban Environmental Status Evaluation: A Case of Nepal

7.2. Far-Western Development Region

7.2.1. Physical Environment

7.2.2. Socio-Cultural Environment

7.3. Environmental Situation and Problems in Far-Western Terai

7.3.1. Forest Degradation

7.3.2 .Land Fragmentations

7.3.3. Air Pollution

7.3.4. Water Pollution

7.3.5. Slums

7.3.6 .Solid Waste Generation

7.4. Perception about Environmental Pollution

7.5. Types of Pollution

7.6. Causes of Environmental Pollution

Conclusions, Findings and Recommendations 198-207

Bibliography 209-219

Annexure - I, II & III 220-231

LIST OF TABLES

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Table No. | Description |

1.1. Selected Wards of the Study Area

1.2. Sample Size Allocation of the Study Area, 2001

2.1. Characteristics of Physiographic Regions of Nepal

2.2. Main Rivers in Far-Western Terai

2.3. Lakes and Pounds of Far-Western Terai

2.4. Mean Temperature and Rainfall Far-Western Terai

2.5. Season-wise Average Temperature and Rainfall

2.6. Population Size, Growth Rates, Doubling Time and Population Density

2.7. Population Composition by Age and Sex in Far-western Terai, 2011

2.8. Population Distribution of VDCs and Municipalities in Far-Western in Terai, 2011

2.9. Population Composition of Far-Western Terai by religion, 2011

2.10. Population Composition of Far-Western Terai by Language, 2011

2.11. Ethnic Composition of Far-Western Terai, 2011

2.12. General Land Use Pattern of Far-Western Terai, 1998

2.13. Road Types and Length in Far-Western Terai

2.14. Some Important Roads Links in Far-Western Terai

2.15. Estimated Area under Food Crops and Production in Far-western Terai

3.1. Municipality -wise Road Length

3.2. Municipality -wise Road Density

3.3. Drinking Water in Urban Area of Far-Western Terai

3.4. Distribution of Sampled Households by Various Sources of Drinking by Municipality

3.5. Division of Airports in Far-Western Terai

3.6. Municipality -wise Status of Electricity Facilities

3.7. Urban Sewerage Services by Municipal

3.8. Number of Telephones and Related Facilities

3.9. Municipality -wise Other Communication Facilities

3.10. Municipality- wise Number of Educational Institutions

3.11. Municipality -wise Number of Health Institutions

3.12. Municipality- wise Health Workers

3.13. Municipality -wise Number of Administrative Office

3.14. Municipality -wise Number of Banks in Far-Western Terai

3.15. Criteria of Classification of Banks and Financial Institutions in Nepal

4.1. Nepal: Changing Definition of Urban Area (1952/54 to 2011)

4.2. Categorization of Designated Urban Areas by Local Self Governance 1999

4.3. Population of Nepal by Residence

4.4. Degree of Urbanization

4.5. Annual Growth Rates of Population by Residence

4.6. Number of Urban Centers and Per cent of Urban Population by Size Class

4.7. Distribution Urban Population and Urban Places by Geographical Region in Nepal

4.8. Distribution of Urban Population by Development Region (2014)

4.9. Level of Urbanization Development Region.

4.10. Urbanization Level by Districts of Nepal 2014

4.11. Urban Population of Far-Western Development Region

(2001 to 2014)

4.12. Urban Population Growth in Inter-census Period

(1981-2014)

4.13. Urban Population Distribution by Ecological Area

in 2014

4.14. Ecological Distribution Pattern of Urban Areas

4.15. District-wise Urbanization (2014)

4.16. Size Class Distribution of Urban Areas and

Population (2014)

4.17. Change in Ranking of Urban Areas (1981-2014)

4.18. Trends and Growth of Urban Population and Centers in Far-Western Terai

5.19. Population Change in Far-Western Terai 1981-2011

4.20. Degree of Urbanization and Rural Urban Ratio

4.21. Comparison of Annual Urban Population Growth Rates

4.22. Urban Places and Population Growth

4.23. Urban Area and Their Population in Far-Western Terai

4.24. Size Class and Number of Urban Places on

Far-Western Terai

4.25. Changing Hierarchy of Urban Municipalities

4.26. Urban Population and Density

5.1. Population Growth Rates in Far-western Terai

5.2. Average Households Size of Sampled Areas

5.3. Rural-Urban Sex Ratio

5.4. Rural-Urban Population Distribution and Density

5.5. Rural-Urban Population by Age Group in

Far-western Terai

5.6. Rural-Urban Dependency Ratio

5.7. Rural-Urban Households by Religions

5.8. Rural-Urban Households by Caste and Ethnicity

5.9. Rural-Urban Households by Family Type

5.10. Rural-Urban Family Size

5.11. Rural-Urban Literacy Rates in %

5.12. Sex wise Rural-Urban Literacy Rate in %

5.13, Distribution of Households by Sources of Drinking Water

5.14. Households by Sources of Lighting

5.15. Households by Usual Type of Fuel Used for Cooking

5.16. Households by Usually Toilet Facilities

5.17. Households by Using Other Facilities

5.18. Number of Households and Their Main Sources of Incomes

5.19. Family Income ( per month in Nepalese Rupees)

5.20. Economic Activity Rate by Urban and Rural Population

5.21 Rural Transformation and Emerging Urban Centres

in Far-Western Terai

6.1. Population Growth of Bhimdatt Municipality

6.2. Land Use of Bhimdatt Municipality

6.3. Population Growth of Dhangadi Municipality

6.4. Land Use of Dhangadi Municipality

6.5. Land Use of Tikapur Municipality

7.1. Waste Generation by Urban Areas of Nepal

7.2. Change of Forest Area in Far-Western Terai

(area in ha.)

7.3, Number of Vehicles Registered in Far-Western Terai

7.4. Slum Dwellings of Far-Western Terai

7.5. Solid Waste Generation in Municipality

7.6. Perception about Environmental Pollution

7.7. Types of Environmental Pollution

LIST OF FIGURES

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Figure No. | Description |

2.1. Mean Monthly Temperature and Rainfall 2011

2.2. Season wise Temperature and Rainfall 2011

2.3. Population Size (1951-2011)

2.4. Population Pyramid

2.5. Population Composition by Religion

2.6. Population Composition by Language

2.7. Population Composition by Caste

2.8. Land Use Pattern

2.9. Road Types and Length

3.1. Municipality-wise Road Length and Class

3.2. Municipality- wise Road Density

3.3. Sources of Drinking Water in Urban Area

3.4. Sources of Drinking Water in Municipality

3.5. Municipality-wise Status of Electricity Facilities

3.6. Length of Sewerage Service by Municipality

3.7. Telephone and Related Facilities

3.8. Municipality- wise Population and Health Workers

3.9. Municipality -wise Number of Administrative Office

3.10. Municipality -wise Number of Banks

4.1. Population of Nepal

4.2. Degree of Urbanization

4.3. Pace of Urbanization in Nepal

4.4. Urban Population by Development Region, 2014

4.5. Development Region-wise Total Population and Urban

Population, 2014

4.6. Total Population and Urban Population of FWDR

4.7. Increasing Trends of Urban Population

4.8. Distribution of Total and Urban Population by

Ecological Region, 2014

4.9. Urban Places in Different Ecological Region

4.10. District-wise Total and Urban Population

4.11. Size Class Distribution of Urban Area

4.12. Trends of Rural, Urban and Total Population Growth

4.13. Trends of Total Population and Urban Population

Growth Rate

5.14. Degree of Urbanization

4.15. Annual Urban Growth Rates

4.16. Urban Population Growth

4.17. Municipality-wise Areas and Population Density

5.1. Population Growth Rate

5.2. Rural-Urban Sex Ratio

5.3. Rural-Urban Population Density

5.4. Urban Population Pyramid

5.5. Rural Population Pyramid

5.6. Rural-Urban Dependency Ratio

5.7. Rural-Urban Difference by Religions

5.8. Rural-Urban Difference by Caste

5.9. Rural-Urban Difference by Family Types

5.10. Rural-Urban Literacy Rates

5.11. Sources of Drinking Water

5.12. Sources of Lighting

5.13. Fuel Used to Cooking

5.14. Toilet Facilities

5.15. Using Different Facilities

5.16. Sources of Income

5.17. Family Income

6.1. Population Growth in Bhimdatt Municipality

6.2. Land Use Pattern of Bhimdatt Municipality

6.3. Population Growth in Dhangadi Municipality

6.4. Land Use Pattern of Dhangadi Municipality

6.5. Land Use Pattern of Tikapur Municipality

7.1. Waste Generation by Urban Areas of Nepal

7.2. Change of Forest Area in Far-Western Terai

7.3. Number of Vehicles in Far-Western Terai

7.4. Municipality-wise Solid Waste Generation

7.5. Perception about Environmental Pollution

7.6. Types of Environmental Pollution

LIST OF MAPS

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Map No | Description |

2.1. Location Map

2.2. Topographic Map

2.3. Drainage Map

2.4. Land Use Map

2.5. Settlement Map

2.6. Transportation Map

3.1. Nepal Urban Centre

3.2. Urban Centre (including proposed in 2014)

3.3. Urban Centre of Far-Western Development Region

3.4. Urban Centres of FWDR (including proposed in 201

3.5. Far-Western Terai Urban Centres

3.6. Terai Urban Centres (including Proposed in 2014)

3.7 Far-Western Terai Urban Population

6.1. Map of Bhimdatt Muncipality

6.2. Population Density of Bhimdatt Muncipality

6.3. Existing Land Use of Bhimdatt Muncipality

6.4. Residential Area

6.5. Commercial Area

6.6. Administrative Area

6.7. Educational Area

6.8. Religious and Tourist Places

6.10. Map of Dhangadi Municipality

6.11. Population Density of Dhangadi Muncipality

6.12. Existing Land Use of Dhangadi Muncipality

6.13. Residential Area

6.14. Commercial Area

6.15. Administrative Area

6.16. Educational Area

6.16. Map of Tikapur Municipality

6.17. Population Density Tikapur Municipality

6.18. Existing Land Use of Tikapur Municipality

6.19. Residential Area

6.20. Commercial Area

6.21. Administrative Area

6.22. Educational Area

LIST OF PHOTO PLATES

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Photo Plate No. | Description |

2.1 Maghi Festival of Chaudhary Tharu

2.2 Dance of Rana Tharu

2.3 Dance of Dangara Tharu in Maghi Festival

2.4. Gaura Festival of Brahman and Chhetri

2.5. Gaura Festival of Brahman and Chhetri

2.6. Panche Baja of FWDR

2.7 Panche Baja of FWDR

2.8. Deauda Dance of FWDR

2.9. Gaura Dance of Women in FWDR

2.10. Dhangadi Municipality

2.11. Dhangadi Bajar

2.11. Google Photo of Dhangadi

2.12. Bhimdatt Municipality

2.13. Bhimdatt Municipality

2.14. Bhimdatt Main Market

2.15. BhimdattBuspark Area

2.16. Tikapur Main Market Area

2.17. Tikapur Park Area

5.1. Belauri Market

5.2. Attariya Market

5.3. Attraiya Market Google Photo

5.4. Lamki Market

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