



**LAUREA**  
UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES  
*Together we are stronger*

# Negative Effects of Earthquake 2015 for the Tourism Industry in Nepal Case: Nagarkot

Lamichhane, Subash

2016, Kerava



Laurea University of Applied Sciences  
Kerava

## Negative Effects of Earthquake 2015 for the Tourism Industry in Nepal. Case: Nagarkot

Subash Lamichhane

Degree Programme in Tourism  
Bachelor's Thesis  
August, 2016

Subash Lamichhane

**Negative Effects of Earthquake 2015 for the Tourism Industry in Nepal**

Year	2016	Pages	84
------	------	-------	----

Nepal is a small landlocked country where tourism industry and its impacts are inseparable. The tourism industry is one of the largest growing commercial sector industries in the world which applies to Nepal, too. The main aim of this Bachelor's thesis was to project and present the negative effects of 2015 Nepal's earthquake for the tourism industry of Nepal and especially Nagarkot. This thesis was conducted to obtain the true scenario of tourism in Nepal before and after the 2015 Nepal's earthquake as well as to present the true challenges and problems that the country is facing after the massive earthquake in 2015. In addition, the probable futures threats and challenges that might strike Nepal and its tourism industry are forecasted.

This research was conducted using both qualitative and quantitative research methodologies which made the research more systematic, scientific as well as easily understandable. Nagarkot was chosen as the case study of the research since it is one of the major tourist destination of Nepal. Earthquake Survey Report-2015 conducted by Nagarkot Municipality 11 was mainly used for the quantitative research and other required data for the quantitative research were collected from secondary sources such as websites, books, newspapers and e-books. For the qualitative research, interview with the recognized personnel in the tourism industry of Nepal was carried out both personally as well as through email questionnaires.

The key results of this report cover the possibility of the tourism industry in Nepal along with the present situation of tourism after the massive 2015 Nepal's earthquake. The readers of this thesis will be able to obtain all the crucial information regarding the past as well the present situation of tourism in Nepal in one place. The negative impacts of natural disasters in tourism (especially earthquake) and the data regarding the present situation of the tourism industry in Nagarkot have been highlighted in this report. The social, economic and environmental challenges faced by the people of Nagarkot due to the earthquake have been presented. In addition, basic definition and information about the future trends and their effects on future tourism have been presented so as to make the report more informative and productive.

Nepal is a country with the tremendous possibility of tourism which could attract tourist from all around the globe. The country can have a massive impact in the global tourism industry but is lagging behind due to its geographical location and unendurable infrastructures of development. Because of its geographical location, the natural calamities like earthquake, flooding, and landslide are common in Nepal which has negatively affected the economic, socio-cultural and environmental growth of the country. In addition, unendurable infrastructures of development are among the other reasons behind the vulnerability of nature which have deteriorated the overall tourism industry of Nepal. The sustainable, suitable and efficient practice of tourism in Nepal can have a substantial impact in the global tourism industry.

**Keywords:** Tourism Industry, Nepal, Natural Disasters and Earthquake Effects

## **List of Acronyms**

ABC: Australian Broadcasting Company

AI: Artificial Intelligence

BBC: British Broadcasting Cooperation

CNN: Cable News Network

CO<sub>2</sub>: Carbon Dioxide

CRED: Centre for Research on the Epidemiology of Disasters

EM-DAT: Emergency Events Database

EPA: United States Environmental Protection Agency

ETC: European Travel Commission

GDP: Gross Domestic Product

GNP: Gross National Product

GHG: Green House Gas

ICIMOD: International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development

INGO: International Non- Governmental Organization

ITB: Berlin Internationale Tourismus Börse Berlin

KM: Kilometers

NGO: Non-Governmental Organization

MMU: Manchester Metropolitan University

MOFA: Ministry of Foreign Affairs

MSG: Management Study Guide

NASA: National Aeronautics and Space Administration

NEA: Nepal Electricity Authority

NIOS: National Institute of Open Schooling

NPR: Nepalese Rupees

NTB: Nepal Tourism Board

OSAC: Overseas Security Advisory Council

PHC: Primary Health Care

SAARC: South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation

TCT: Top China Travel

TG: Tourism Geographies

TIA: Tribhuvan International Airport

T&T: Travel and Tourism

UK: United Kingdom

UN: United Nations

UNEP: United Nations Environment Programme

UNESCO: United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

UNWTO: United Nations World Tourism Organization

USA: United States of America

USC: University of Southern California

USD: United States Dollar

USGS: United States Geological Survey

WHO: World Health Organization

WTO: World Tourism Organization

WTTC: World Travel and Tourism Council

Y2K: Year 2000 Problem

## Table of contents

1	Introduction	8
2	Tourism Concept	9
2.1	Impacts of Tourism	10
2.2	Types and Forms of Tourism	11
2.3	Key Figures	14
2.3.1	Total Number of International Visitors	14
2.3.2	Contribution to GDP	15
2.3.3	Contribution to Employment	16
2.3.4	Visitors Exports and Investment	17
2.3.5	Most Visited Countries in the World	18
3	Future Trends in Tourism	19
3.1	Megatrends	20
3.1.1	Safety and Security	20
3.1.2	Technology	20
3.1.3	Demographic Trends	21
3.1.4	Urbanization	22
3.1.5	Climate Change	22
3.1.6	Weak Signals and Wild Cards	23
4	Nepal	24
4.1	Tourism in Nepal	26
4.1.1	Wilderness Tourism	27
4.1.2	Religious Tourism	27
4.1.3	Culture and Heritage Tourism	28
4.2	Impacts of Tourism in Nepal	29
4.2.1	Economic Impact	30
4.2.2	Socio-Cultural Impact	30
4.2.3	Environmental Impact	31
4.3	Tourism Statistics	32
4.3.1	Total Number of Tourist Arrivals	32
4.3.2	Purpose of Visit	33
4.3.3	Foreign Exchange Earnings	34
4.3.4	Contribution to GDP	35

	4.3.5 Contribution to Employment	36
	4.3.6 Visitors Export and Investment	37
5	Natural Disaster	38
	5.1 Classification of Disasters	39
	5.2 Impacts of Natural Disasters	41
	5.3 Key Figures	42
	5.4 Impact of Natural Disasters in Tourism	44
6	An Earthquake	45
	6.1 Earthquake in Nepal	46
	6.2 Negative Effects of Earthquake in Nepal	47
	6.2.1 Human Casualties	48
	6.2.2 Residential Effects	49
	6.2.3 Educational Effects	51
	6.2.4 Medical Effects	52
	6.2.5 Effects in Agriculture	53
	6.2.6 Effects in Industry	53
	6.2.7 Utility Effects	54
	6.2.8 Infrastructural Effects	54
	6.2.9 Effects in Tourism	54
7	Research Methodology and Conduction	56
	7.1 Data Collection	57
	7.2 Validity and Reliability	59
8	Findings and Analysis	60
	8.1 Human Casualties	60
	8.2 Property Effects	61
	8.3 Agricultural Effects	62
	8.4 Educational Effects	62
	8.5 Health Effects	63
	8.6 Environmental Effects	63
	8.7 Effects in Tourism	63
	8.8 Other Effects	64
	8.9 Case Study of Nagarkot Municipality	65
	8.10 Analysis of the interview	65
	8.11 SWOT Analysis	68

9	Conclusion	69
	References	72
	Figures	80
	Tables	81
	Appendixes	82

## 1 Introduction

United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) defines tourism as the activities of persons traveling to and staying in places outside their usual environment for not more than one year for leisure, business, and other purposes. The travel and tourism industry is the world's largest commercial sector industry. (TG Journal, 2008) It is one of the most dynamic and competitive industry in the globe. It has experienced continued growth and radical changes over the decades and has become one of the fastest growing economic sectors in the world. Today, tourism acts as one of the major foundation for development and it bounds a growing number of new destinations which have turned tourism into a key driver for social, economic and environmental progress. (UNWTO)

Nepal is a small landlocked country known globally for its high mountains, natural beauty, hospitality and simplicity of its people as well as renowned UNESCO world heritage sites. It is a developing country where tourism industry acts as one of the major industry like in many other developing countries. The social, economic and environmental aspects of development are directly proportional to the development of tourism industry in Nepal. The tourism industry has a huge impact on Nepalese economy as it provides numerous job opportunities and generates income through foreign exchange earnings. (Gurung, 2015) Thousands of tourists visit Nepal every year for different purposes such as holiday, pilgrimage and adventure which generates social, economic and environmental and other miscellaneous benefits to Nepal. (Being a small land-locked country), It is difficult for Nepal to rely on any other businesses than tourism as tourism can be practiced easily in Nepal since Nepal is a naturally gifted beautiful country. The natural means and resources of Nepal are unique and extreme, such the highest mountain on the earth "Mount Everest" and the lake situated at the highest altitude "Tilijo Lake." The systematic, scientific and authentic practice of tourism in Nepal can have the substantial impact in the overall promotion and development of Nepal.

The main objective of this Bachelor's thesis is to understand and reflect the negative effects of 2015 Nepal's earthquake for the tourism industry of Nepal. Being the student of Degree Program of Tourism and the victim of the 2015 Nepal's earthquake the topic of the study was chosen. This research was conducted in two different parts where the quantitative data were collected through secondary sources and the qualitative data were collected through personal and online interview with authentic personnel in the tourism field. The data used for this thesis are both authentic and reliable. This research shows the current profile of tourism industry in Nepal after the earthquake as well as the challenges and problems it has created for local inhabitants of Nepal especially for the people of Nagarkot. In addition, it also shows the major strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats that Nagarkot possesses which might act a vital information regarding the future of tourism in Nagarkot as well as in Nepal.

## 2 Tourism Concept

"Tourism is the temporary short-term movement of people to destinations outside the places where they normally live and work, and activities during their stay at these destinations; it includes movement for all purposes, as well as day visits or excursions." (Holloway 1987, 2)

A tourist (overnight visitor) is a visitor who stays at least one night in a collective or private accommodation in the place visited. An international tourist is an international visitor who stays at least one night in the country visited. A domestic tourist refers to a domestic visitor who stays at least one night in the place visited. A visitor who does not spend one night during the trip is called same day visitor. (Statics Finland)

The business volume of tourism equals or even surpasses that of food products, oil exports or automobiles in the present day. It has become one of the key players in international commerce and is also one of the main source of income for many of the developing countries like Nepal, Bhutan, Thailand. The global reach of tourism in industrialized and developed states has produced economic and employment benefits in many sectors from construction to agriculture or telecommunications. The contribution of tourism to economic well-being depends on the quality and revenues it offers. (UNWTO)

Tourists traveling to their destinations needs certain services and facilities such as food, accommodation, transportation, communication, security and entertainment. These services and facilities play a vital role in the overall promotion and development of the certain place. At the same time, hospitality is a must do service for the better goodwill of the place which in fact results in the positive perception of the casual as well as future tourists. The increasing number of tourists plays an important role in the economic, socio-cultural and environmental aspects of a place or a country both in positive and negative manner. With the

increasing number of tourists, service providers like hotels, restaurants, lodges and airports should balance their day to day business through new policies, increasing manpower, discounts and offers. Customers' demands and satisfaction keeps changing and tourism study should be able to balance those changing aspects or trends of the customers to adapt as the business industry. Being tourism industry globally fastest growing industry, the advancement of science and technology and infrastructures of development such as communication and transportation have taken the tourism industry to a next level. For instance, the rapid growth of internet for information on tourism destinations, websites, promotions, bookings and flights cancellations have played a vital role in overall promotion and development of the industry. The travel and tourism industry has its merits and demerits, challenges and problems. It is a risky business where even a small factor can misbalance the whole business transactions. For instance, the earthquake in Nepal 2015 and the asylum seeker 2015-2016. The global economic recession has worsened the situation of tourism and hospitality industry in the recent years which has forced the businesses, families, and individuals to limit their spending on travel, and also fears of terrorism have made many travelers, trekkers or tourists less inclined to travel. And this is why tourism industry is a risky business.

Throughout the years, the tourism industry has had growing economic, social and environmental impact in the world. Tourism can have a substantial impact on the local and global development processes. (UNWTO) Tourism is the main link between all the people and all of the borders all over the world. Today, people are free to travel to anyplace and are free to express their emotions, feelings and can exchange their love and affection to each other at a global level and this all is possible because of tourism. Tourism has created the international chain of peace, aid, and awareness among the globe. For instance, 2015 earthquake victims of Nepal were provided financial and other aid from international territories like Finland and USA and it is possible only because of the tourism industry and its global reach. Thus, tourism industry is one of the most important industry in the world.

## 2.1 Impacts of Tourism

The key benefits of tourism are economic, socio-cultural and environmental. Social benefits are important. Tourism helps to uplift the true/original identity of a place or a country by showcasing the distinct characteristics of the ways of life, arts, history and culture of a place or a country. In addition, helps to preserve the customs and tradition which may be at risk through the promotion of tourism. The increasing number of tourist creates the need for new businesses and commercial activities which often leads to social and economic promotion of a place or a country. (The Responsible Traveler Guide, 2010)

Environmental benefits play an important role. Tourism provides financial support for the conservation of ecosystems and natural resource management, making the destination more authentic and desirable to tourist which adds more value to the local tourism. In addition, education on eco-tourism and environmental protection are increasing through tourism which helps for overall protection, promotion, and development of the quality environment. (The Responsible Traveler Guide, 2010)

Economic benefits provide prosperity and wellbeing in the community. Tourism provides job opportunity to individuals such as tour guide, hotel housekeeping and travel agent. Indirect employment is generated through other industries such as agriculture, food production, and retail. Tourism also helps in the alleviation of poverty in most developing countries where tourism is the main source of income. Development of infrastructures such as roads, schools, hospitals airports, and retail areas have the potential to benefit the local community and can assist economic development through more trade and better flow of goods and services. (The Responsible Traveler Guide, 2010)

However, there are also negative Impacts of tourism. When the amount of tourist is greater than environment's ability to adapt with the visitor's volume, the negative consequences tend to prevail in the area. Some of the consequences of exceeding the environmental capacity include strain on already scarce resources such as water, food, energy and natural habitat areas and also unchecked tourism management may lead to natural disasters like soil erosion, increased pollution and waste, deforestation. Increased pressure on endangered species of animals and plants and as well as loss of biodiversity. Mass tourism may deplete the socio-cultural traditions and authenticity of host community by introducing foreign elements which are in conflict with the cultural, historical, and religious heritage of the community. (The Responsible Traveler Guide, 2010)

## 2.2 Types and Forms of Tourism

The type of tourism depends on the reason for travel and travel can be both domestic and international. Domestic tourism is the tourism of resident visitors within the economic territory of the country of reference. (Statistics Finland) It is the first form of tourism practiced. Domestic tourism is beneficial for countries with large areas such as India. (Chand, 2015). For e.g., people from Lapland visiting Helsinki.

International tourism comprises "inbound tourism" (non-residents' visit to given country) and "outbound tourism" of residents of a given country (residents visits abroad). (Statistic Finland). International tourism usually involves longer distances although crossing small

countries or neighborhood of international borders may involve short distance. (Chand, 2015). For e.g. Nepalese visiting Helsinki, Finland.

**Inbound Tourism:** Inbound tourism is defined as comprising activities of non-residents traveling to a given country that is outside their usual environment and staying there no longer than 12 consecutive months for leisure, business or other (corresponding) purpose. (Statistics Finland). For e.g. Americans visiting Europe; i.e. Americans are an inbound tourist for Europeans.

**Outbound Tourism:** Outbound tourism comprises the activities of residents of a given country traveling to and staying in places outside their country of residence and outside their usual environment for not more than 12 consecutive months for leisure business and other purposes. (Statistics Finland). For e.g. Finnish people visiting Kathmandu, Nepal; i.e. Finnish people are an outbound tourist for Finland at the same time inbound tourist for Nepal.

Forms of tourism are generally categorized depending on the purpose of visit of the tourist. Classification of tourism on the basis of its forms have made the study of tourism more reliable, fluent and scientific. Below some basic forms of tourism by the purpose of visit are presented.

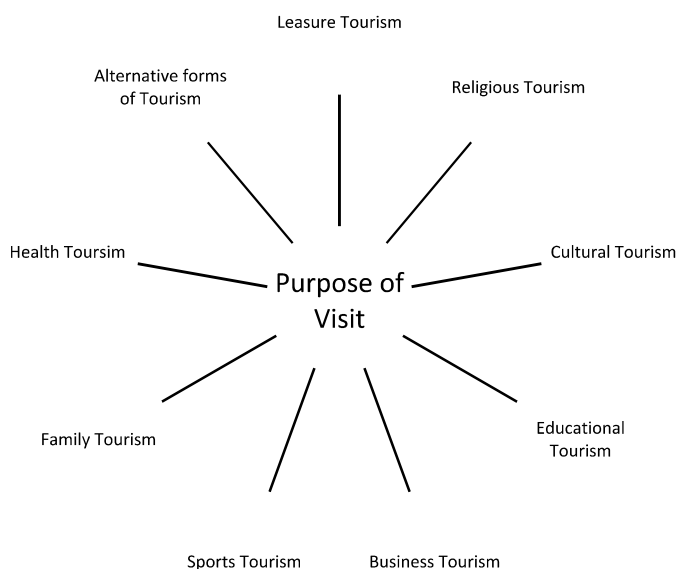


Figure 1. Forms of tourism by the purpose of visit. (NIOS, 2013)

The above figure 1 shows the different forms of tourism by the purpose of visit and they are leisure, religious, cultural, educational, sports, family, business, medical or health and alternative forms of tourism respectively. (NIOS, 2013)

**Leisure Tourism:** Leisure tourism refers to the travel for leisure, holiday and recreational purposes. Tourists travel to certain destinations for entertainment, relaxation and as hobby preferably to a beach, hotels or restaurants to enjoy and to get refreshed from the daily work life. (NIOS, 2013)

**Religious Tourism:** Religious tourism refers to the travel for religious or pilgrimage purposes. It is the travel to a sacred destination. Religious tourism is also called Pilgrimage/Spiritual tourism. The annual Hajj pilgrimage to Mecca, Saudi Arabia is considered as the world's largest form of mass tourism practiced. Jerusalem, Varanasi, and Mecca are some the examples of the most popular pilgrimage destinations in the world. (NIOS, 2013)

**Cultural Tourism:** Cultural tourism refers to the visits undertaken specially to know the foreign land and their cultures. It is also called heritage tourism. It is an import form of tourism and gives insight to religions, fairs and festivals, culinary delights, the way of life of people and also customs and traditions of a place or a country. (NIOS, 2013)

**Family Tourism:** Family tourism refers to the involvement of a family unit or its participants in a diverse form of tourism activity. It includes activities such as visiting one's family, friends or relatives for interpersonal reasons. For e.g., many people in India travel to other cities for visiting their family, relatives or friends while their visit they visit different attractions in or around the city which increases tourism. (NIOS, 2013)

**Educational Tourism:** Educational tourism refers to the travel undertaken mainly for educational purposes. The main focus of the visitor or the tour are to learn about new cultures, places and also to work and increase skills acquired outside the usual classroom environment. Educational tours, internship training and student exchange programs are some best examples of educational tourism. (NIOS, 2013)

**Business Tourism:** Business tourism refers to the travel undertaken for business purposes. It is also called MICE (Meeting, incentives, conferences, and exhibitions) tourism. It is the use of travel services and facilities by travelers traveling to their destination for businesses. Traveling for meeting clients, conferences, conventions selling products and business meeting are some of the examples of business tourism. (NIOS, 2013)

**Sports Tourism:** Sports tourism refers the travel outside of the usual environment either for viewing or participating in a sporting event where sport or sport related activities are the ultimate reason for travel. It is the globally fastest growing form of tourism. Sports events are the motivators that attracts visitors to big events like FIFA World Cup and Olympic Games.

Adventure Sports tourism is also known as adventurous tourism. Adventurous tourism takes the visitors to the places which are normally less visited and inaccessible. Rafting, hiking, mountain climbing is some of the examples under adventurous tourism. Land adventure, water adventure, and aerial adventure are the basic forms of adventure tourism. (NIOS, 2013)

Health Tourism: Traveling to distant places for receiving medical treatment is known as health tourism. It is also called medical tourism. It the form of tourism where the main focus of the travel is to improve one's health, fitness or physical appearances. It is an age-old concept which is gaining popularity in the present days. Many developing countries are emerging destination for medical tourism capitalizing on low-cost advantages. It also incorporates aspects of recreational tourism such as hot Sulphur springs, naturopathy, and art of living, change of climate, ayurvedic treatment as well as medical treatment. (NIOS, 2013)

Alternative forms of Tourism: Alternative form of tourism is the travel when tourist visit new places and things that are different than usual tourist attractions. It is also called special interest tourism. Alternative form of tourism helps to establish an authentic relation between the local community and the visitors. It comprises of tourist visitor for special interest, economical and agro-rural tourism. Special interest tourism is classified as cuisine and wildlife tourism at the same time agro-rural tourism are divided as agriculture tourism and rural tourism. The main focus of this tourism is to protect and promote local traditions, natural environment, authentic atmosphere and cuisine as well as alleviating poverty through rural and agricultural tourism development respectively. (NIOS, 2013)

## 2.3 Key Figures

Various global economic factors, conflicts, terrorist attacks and also the refugee crisis in Europe affected the tourism industry in the 2015. But overall the tourism trend in the year 2015 remained satisfying as international tourist arrivals grew 4.4% in reaching a total of 1,184 million in 2015. More than 50 million tourists (overnight visitors) travelled to international destinations compared to 2014. 2015 is also marked as the 6th consecutive year of above-average growth of international arrivals increasing 4% or more every year since the post-crisis year 2010. Falling oil prices, fluctuation of currency rate (especially US dollar), natural disasters and manmade crises in different parts of the world overall influenced tourism industry in 2015. Growth in advanced economy destination (+5%) exceeding that of emerging economies (+4%) boosted by the solid results of Europe. (UNWTO, 2016)

### 2.3.1 Total Number of International Visitors

The below given table 1 shows that the total number of international visitors in the year 2015. Around (+ 5%) growth in tourism was recorded in Europe reaching 609 million, 29 million more than year 2014, The Americas (+5%) grew 9 million to reach 191 million and the Asia and the Pacific (+5%) recorded 13 million more international tourists to reach 227 million in 2015. Tourists arrivals increased by (+3%) in the Middle East to a total of 54 million and around (-3%) decrease in tourist arrivals in Africa reaching total of 53 million. (Limited data available for Africa). (UNWTO, 2016)

S. No.	Countries	Growth in % 2015	Growth in Numbers, 2015	Total International Visitors 2015
1.	Europe	5%	29,000,000	609,000,000
2.	America	5%	9,000,000	191,000,000
3.	Asia and the Pacific	5%	13,000,000	227,000,000
4.	Middle East	3%	1,620,000	54,000,000
5.	Africa	-3%	-----	53,000,000

Table 1. International Tourist Visitors. (UNWTO, 2016)

There was 4% rise in average spending per night in the year 2015 compared to 2014. Overnight stays increased by 3% from January to August making the global total 7.5 billion nights with the average length of stay 7.3 nights which continued the long-term trend of shorter average trips due to above average growth of short trips (1-3 nights) compared to longer night trips. Short trips now make up 33% of all outbound trips compared to 37% for trips of 4-7 nights and 30% for 8 nights or longer. (ITB 2015/2016)

### 2.3.2 Contribution to GDP

The below-given figure 2 shows the economic contribution of world's travel and tourism in for the 2015. The total contribution of Travel and Tourism Industry to GDP was USD 7,170.3 Billion (9.8% of total GDP) in 2015 and is forecast to rise by 3.5% in 2016, and to rise by 4% per annum to USD 10,986.5 Billion (10% of GDP) in 2016. (WTTC, 2016)

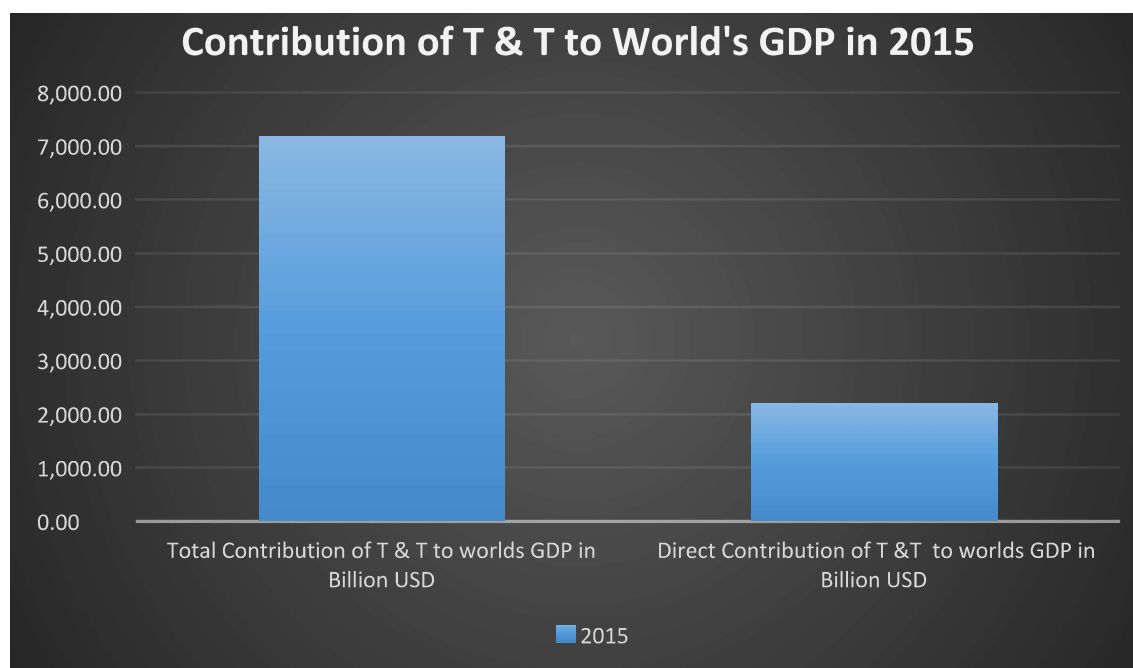


Figure 2. Contribution of T & T to World's GDP in 2015. (WTTC, 2016)

The direct contribution of T&T Industry to GDP was USD 2,229.8 Billion (3% of total GDP) in 2015 and is forecast to rise by 3.3% in 2016, and to rise by 4.2% per annum from 2016-2026 to USD 3,469.1 Billion (3.4% of total GDP in 2016). (WTTC, 2016)

### 2.3.3 Contribution to Employment

The below-given figure 3 shows the contribution of world's travel and tourism industry to employment for the year 2015. The world's T & T industry directly supported 107,833,000 jobs (3.6% of total employment) in 2015, and is expected to rise by 1.9% in 2016, and rise by 2.1% per annum to 135,884,000 jobs (4% of total employment) in 2026. (WTTC, 2016)

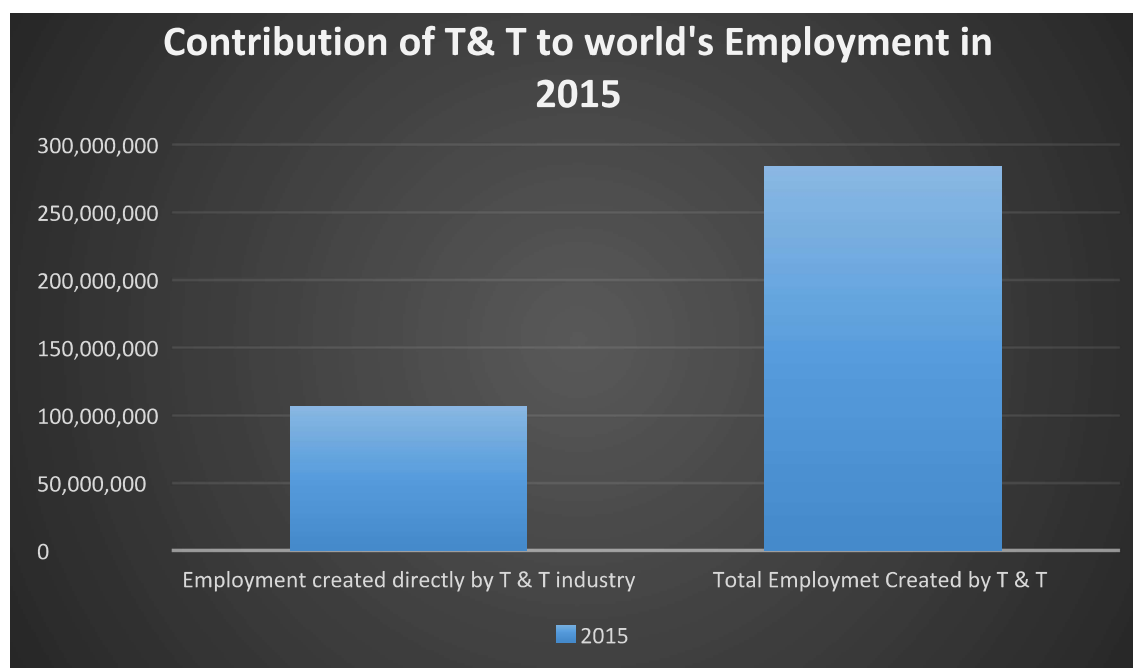


Figure 3. Contribution of world's T&T industry to employment for 2015. (WTTC, 2016)

The world's T & T industry supported 283,578,000 jobs (9.5% of total employment) in 2015 in total, and is expected to rise by 2.2% in 2016 to 289,756,000 jobs and rise by 2.5% per annum to 370,204,000 jobs (11% of total employment) in 2026. (WTTC, 2016)

#### 2.3.4 Visitors Exports and Investment

The below-given figure 4 shows the total income from visitor exports and total invest of T&T Industry 2015. Visitor exports generated USD 1308.9 Billion in 2015 (6.1% of total exports) in 2015 and is forecast to grow by 3% in 2016, and grow by 4.3% in per annum from 2016-2026 to USD 2,056 Billion in 2026 (6.2% of total income). (WTTC, 2016)

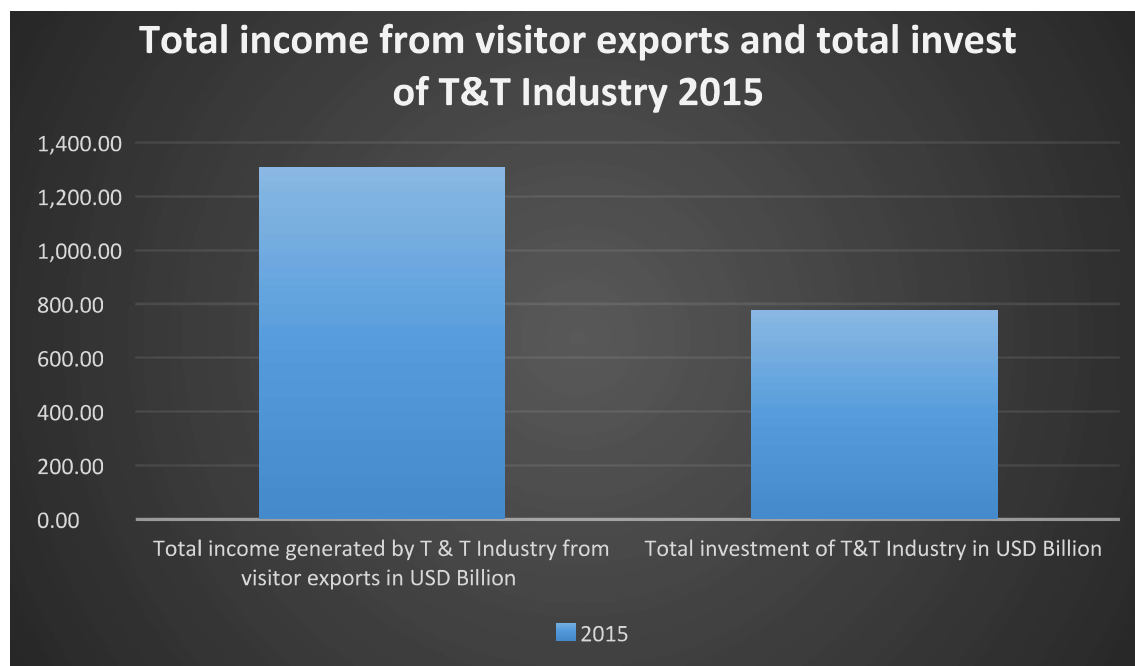


Figure 4. Total income from visitor exports and total invest of T&T Industry 2015. (WTTC, 2016)

T&T global investment in 2015 was USD 774.6 Billion (4.3% of total investment), forecast to rise by 4.7% in 2016 and grow by 4.7% per annum from 2016-2016 to USD 125.2 Billion (4.7% of total investment). (WTTC, 2016)

#### 2.3.5 Most Visited Countries in the World

The below-given figure 5 shows the top ten most visited countries in the world for the year 2015 according to World Tourism Organization, November 2015.



Figure 5. Ten Most Visited Countries in the world 2015. (WTO, 2015)

As of November 2015, France received highest number of international visitors. 83.7 million tourist visited France and France is ranked 1<sup>st</sup> in the top ten most visited countries in the world in 2015. United States of America (U.S.A.) received 74.8 million visitors ranked as the second while Spain (65 million), China 55.6 million), and Italy (48.6 million) were ranked as 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> countries to receive highest number of visitors in 2015 respectively. Turkey received 39.8 million visitors, Germany 33 million, United Kingdom (U.K.) received 32.6 million visitors standing in the 8<sup>th</sup> position while Russian Federation received 29.8 million standing in the 9<sup>th</sup>. Mexico was listed as the 10<sup>th</sup> on the list of top ten most visited countries in the world in 2015 and it received 29.1 million visitors. Overall Europe received highest number of visitors followed by The Americas and then the Asia. (Huang, 2015)

### 3 Future Trends in Tourism

Oxford English Dictionary defines future as a period of time following the moment of speaking or writing; time regarded as still to come and trends means temporary changes and they can have either short or long term influences. (Oxford Dictionaries, 2016) When referring to trends in tourism the focus should be pointed to changes in demand and supply. There can be demographical, economic and technological factors that affect to tourism from outside and inside. Tourism Industry is among the most unpredictable industry and understanding the deeper concept of factors of future trends in tourism might assist in promotion, preservation and advancement of tourism industry. Future is unpredictable but the knowledge of factors of future trends in tourism can minimize the future risk of the industry and its people. Future

trends are studied or can be anticipated looking at the direction of current developments (trends and megatrends) or trying to sense the possible but improbable events (weak signals and wild cards). (Antofagasta foresight)

### 3.1 Megatrends

A megatrend as an important shift in the progress of a society or any other particular field or activity; any major movement. (Oxford Dictionaries, 2016) A huge movement of people for sports events, meetings, seminars and other reasons are considered to be part of mega trends. For example, people move from one country to another for big sports events like FIFA World Cup and Olympics. Tourism is directly proportional with the factors like population growth, redistribution of wealth, geopolitical changes and conflicts, rising fuel cost, natural disaster and climate change, new technologies and work patterns, all forms of social fashion influence, who wants to travel where, for how long and to do what, and at what prices. Megatrend is further divided into 5 categories to make the study of mega trend easier and they are 1. Safety and security 2. Technology 3. Demographic trends 4. Urbanization and 5. Climate change. (Tourism Recreation Research, 2015)

#### 3.1.1 Safety and Security

When talking about the safety and security in tourism the major questions are: is it safe to travel the certain destinations, countries, places at certain times, how the risk can be minimized, how to ensure the safety and security of the tourist. Certain places and countries are not safe to travel and the future predictions done over to such countries are the reasons for overall depletion of the tourism industry in such places. (Tourism Recreation Research, 2015) For e.g. the 2015 earthquake in Nepal decreased the expected number of visitors which reduced tourism business. Another example of such is the increasing crime rate in the certain countries like India where 2069 rape cases were reported compared to 1,571 cases in 2013 in New Delhi, India which had reduced the tourist inflow in India compared to previous years. (OSAC, 2015) The current status of safety and security of a place or a country is an integral part of future tourism trends.

#### 3.1.2 Technology

Technology is an important aspect of modern life and tourism. Our lives have become more convenient, easier and scientific because of technology. The growing trend for technology plays a significant role in tourism promotion and distribution. In the present day, about one-third of the total population uses the smartphone and it is increasing widely. The main objective of the using technological gadgets or services are to perform services easier, faster,

reachable, scientific, and authentic and also to reduce stress, anxiety, physical labor and frustration of the travelers. Currently, more than 3.17 billion people worldwide access the internet, up from 394 million in 2000. The majority of global internet users are located in Asia with Europe following in second place. Technology has been significantly changing the way we travel through a wide array of websites or mobile applications that are used for making travel arrangements, purchasing transport tickets, accommodation booking systems, searching for information on leisure and culture in the desired tourism destination and also for obtaining guidance at the destination itself. (Statista) Rocket has taken people to the Mars and the Moon, this is all possible because of technology. Tourism is also referred as a network and information business. The advancement in the technology can both be a blessing or a curse for the tourism industry. For e.g. the global free Wi-Fi/ internet projects, the modern day planes and rockets can help to promote tourism industry at the same time the humanoids, auto robots, AI (Artificial Intelligence) robots and Y2K (Year 2000 problem), can destroy mankind. Future tourism trends are directly related to technology.

### 3.1.3 Demographic Trends

Demography is the study of statics such as births, deaths, income or the incidence of disease which illustrate the changing structure of the human population. (Oxford Dictionaries, 2016) and demographic factors are the socioeconomic characteristic of a population expressed statically such as age, sex, education, level of income, marital status, occupation, religion, birth rate, death rate, the average size of a family, the average age at marriage. A census is a collection of the demographic factors associated with every member of a population. (Business Dictionary, 2016). Demographic analysis can cover whole societies or groups defined by different kinds of criteria such as education, nationality, religion and ethnicity. There are two types of data collection, direct and indirect, where methods may vary in each type. (Preston, Heuveline & Guillot 2000, 10)

**Direct methods:** Direct data is obtained from vital statistics registries that keep the track of all births and deaths as well as some other legal status such as marriage, divorce, and migration. In most of the developed countries where there are good registration systems, i.e. The United States or Europe, registry statistics are the best methods to estimate the number of births and deaths. A census is one of the most common direct methods to collect demographic data. (Preston, Heuveline & Guillot, 2000)

**Indirect Methods:** There indirect methods of collecting data are usually required in countries and periods where full data are not available, for instance in historical demography. Some of the techniques for data collecting in this method is the sister information where survey researchers ask women how many of their sisters have died or had children and what age. By

the use of these surveys, it can be then indirectly estimated birth or death rates for the entire population. (Preston, Heuveline & Guillot, 2000)

The recent research on “Demographic Change and Tourism” by UNWTO/European Travel Commission (ETC) reports that demographic change and tourism provides a comprehensive analysis of the major demographic trends through 2030- by which time the world’s population is forecast to reach 8.3 billion. It projects the impact these trends will have on tourism demand and travel behaviour overall and analyse how destinations and companies can best adapt in order to become increasingly competitive in the market place. (UNWTO)

#### 3.1.4 Urbanization

Urbanization refers to the concentration of human populations into discrete areas, leading to the transformation of land for residential, commercial, industrial and transportation purposes. It can include densely populated centres, as well as their adjacent per urban or suburban fringes. (EPA) It started during the industrial revolution when workers moved towards manufacturing hubs in cities to obtain jobs in factories as agricultural jobs became less common. More people live in urban areas than in rural areas globally, in 2014, 54% of the world population was residing in urban areas while in 1950, 30% of the world’s population was urban and by 2050 the world’s population projected to be urban is 66%. Since 1950, the global rural population of the world has increased slowly and is now close to 3.4 billion and is expected to decline to 3.2 billion by 2050. 90% of the world’s rural population lives in Asia and Africa. India has the largest rural population (857 million), followed by China (635 million). (World Urbanization Prospects, 2014) Urbanization is one of the important parts of megatrend and should be dealt systematically and scientifically to balance the density/volume of tourist/population under the available space to minimize the future risk of the tourism industry as well as to understand the flow of tourism in relation with destinations.

#### 3.1.5 Climate Change

The changes in the earth’s weather, including changes in temperature, wind patterns, and rainfall, especially the increase in the temperature of the earth’s atmosphere that is caused by the increase of particular gasses, especially carbon dioxide is called climate change. (Oxford Dictionaries, 2016) National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) is a world leader in climate studies and earth science. It provides robust scientific data needed to understand climate change. Today, climate change is one of the most complex issues we are facing. It involves many dimensions-science, economics, society, politics and moral and ethical questions and is a global problem felt on local scales that will be around for decades

and centuries to come. In 2013, the daily level of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere surpassed 400 parts per million for the first time in human history. The last levels were that high was about three to five million years ago, during the Pliocene era. (NASA)

In the context of tourism, climate change affects certain destinations particularly mountain regions and coastal destinations among others. The tourism industry is contributing to emissions of (GHG) Greenhouse Gas emissions through the transport of tourists. As climate is an important resource for the tourism industry, especially for nature, beach and winter sports tourism, changing climate and weather patterns at tourist destinations and tourist generating countries can significantly affect the tourist's comfort and their travel decisions. Tourism stands as major economic activity in most of the developing countries and the decrement in tourist inflow will have the negative impact on employment opportunities as well as it generates further poverty. (Sustainable Development of Tourism, UNWTO)

### 3.1.6 Weak Signals and Wild Cards

Weak signals are the past or current developments/issues with ambiguous interpretations of their origin, meaning or implications. They are unclear observables warning us about the probability of future events. It reveals the identification of not necessarily important things that do not seem to have a strong impact in present but which could be the trigger for major future events. For e.g. changes in public attitudes to one or another and an emerging pattern of concern about emerging health problems. Locating relevant weak signals can be a challenge in future research and often their analysis leads to the identification of potential wild cards. Weak signals lie in the eye of the observer, practically anything could be weak signal: (I Know)

1. Current Drivers, Trends, and Challenges can be weak signals
2. Current Strategies and Policies can be weak signals
3. Future drivers, scenarios, threats and opportunities can be weak signals
4. Emerging issues can be weak signals
5. Hidden Issues (secrets and unknowns) can be weak signals
6. Current Strengths and Weaknesses can be weak signals
7. Shared visions megatrends and grand challenges can be weak signals
8. Past wild cards can be weak signals

Weak signals are the most difficult of future prediction signals to find and interpret. They are often confused with wild cards and black swans. Wild cards are very low-probability events, which have a severe impact on life as we know it, and they may or may not be predicted by weak signals. Black swans are events that have occurred in human history, where they have

been unpredictable and unexpected at the time, yet when the occurrence and the events leading to it were analysed afterward, it was clear that this black swan event would have been the end result. The systematic and scientific study of weak signals can help analyse and reduce the risk of future of any businesses' including tourism. (I Know)

#### 4 Nepal

The Federal Democratic Republic Nepal is a small landlocked country also known as the Kingdom of Himalayas which lies between India in the East, West and South and China in the North at latitudes between 26 and 30 degrees north and longitudes between 80 and 88 degrees east. It has an area of 147,181 sq.km and population of 31 million (2016 estimated). Kathmandu is the capital city of Nepal with the population of 2.5 million. Nepali is the national language of Nepal spoken almost by half of the population. Major religion followed are Hinduism, Buddhism, Christianity and Islam. Nepalese currency is known as rupee (1 Nepalese Rupee = 0.0093 US Dollar/as of 13 July 2016). The average life expectancy is 68 years for men and 70 years for women. Bidhya Devi Bhandari is the current and first women president of Nepal with Khadga Prasad Oli the current Prime Minister. (BBC, 2016)



Figure 6. Political Map of Nepal. (Ezilon Maps, 2015)

Nepal is an independent country; it has never been colonized. Nepalese people are also known as “The Gurkhas”. Gurkhas are the brave soldiers of Nepal whose main motto is “Better to die than to be a coward” and are an inspiration to all the brave soldiers in the world. They are an integral part of British Army for about 200 years till date. (BBC) Nepal is

developing the country with its unique culture and traditions. Nepal is a multi-ethnic, multilingual and multicultural country. Although the country is predominantly Hindu, a large population follows Buddhism. (Christie, 2008). About 123 languages are spoken in Nepal, where 44.6% people speak Nepali. (Government of Nepal, 2012) The GDP per capita income of Nepal was last recorded at 426.48 US dollars per person in 2014. (Trading Economics) Nepal covers 0.1% of the earth's total surface but it is the richest countries in the world in terms of bio-diversity and due to its unique geographical position altitudinal variation. The elevation of the country ranges from less than 100 meters above sea level in Terai to the summit of Mt. Everest at 8848 meters, all within the distance of about 150 km, resulting climatic conditions from sub-tropical to Arctic. Nepal is divided into three parts Himalayan (North), Hilly (Central) and Terai (South) regions respectively and further these topographical divisions are divided into 14 zones and 75 districts in which the capital city Kathmandu lies in Bagmati Zone under Kathmandu district. (Geography)

Out of top 10 highest mountain in the world, the Himalayan Region of Nepal consists top 8 mountains where Mt. Everest is the highest mountain ranging 8848 meters. (Info please, 2000-2016). Himalayan region covers 16% of the total land area of Nepal (World Geography). It is one of the most important part of Nepal's GNP (Gross National Product) and tourism industry respectively. (Geography)

The hilly region covering 65% of total land of Nepal is the administrative center of the country where almost 45 % of the total population lives. Kathmandu lies in this region and the climate is really pleasing and also is the home for wildlife reserves and national parks. Kathmandu is the most modern and overpopulated city in the region and also known as the "City of Temples". (Geography)

The Terais are the plain land located in the southern Nepal covering 17% of total land of Nepal. (Geography) Siddhartha Gautama Buddha known as "light of Asia" also the founder of Buddhism was born in Kapilvastu, Lumbini which lies in this region. (UNESCO) The open borders in Terai connect Nepal to India and for that reason, Terai consists of a high security risk for Nepal. It is the largest producer of rice and has the largest industrial site in Nepal.

Nepal is a proud nation in the world with 10 UNESCO world heritage sites. (Earthbound Expeditions). It is a democratic country with a long standing independent history. It's the home of the brave Gurkhas. (BBC) It has the unique biography, geography and political history in the world. The new "Constitution of Nepal-2015" is considered to be one of the best constitutions in the world. (World News Edu, 2016). It is the second richest country in the world in water resources after Brazil. (World Nomads) Though it's a landlocked country it has potential to produce 40,000 megawatts of electricity through the largest hydropower

projects. (Hydropower in Nepal). Nepal has a unique flag (triangular shaped) in the world. (Alexandre, 2011)

It has a great biodiversity. Spiny babbler (scientific name: *Turdoides nipalensis*) or (Local Nepali name: Kande Bhaykur) is the rare species of bird found only in Nepal. Nepal consists of 8% (867) of total bird species found worldwide of which are 35 globally threatened species around the world and 19 proximate threatened species and 15 restricted-range species. Nepal consists of different species of flora and fauna, along with its natural beauty. (Cold Feet, 2013)

#### 4.1 Tourism in Nepal

Nepal officially opened its door for tourism industry after the establishment of democracy in 1951, any official tourism statistics has not been recorded before that time. Nepal was caught in the sight of international visitors after the Late Mr. Edmund Hillary and Tenzing Norgé Sherpa made a historical record of reaching the summit of Mt. Everest officially for the first time on 29th May 1953. In 1955, Nepal issued its first tourist visa on persistent request by Boris Lissanevitch. National Tourist Development board was formed in 1957. Department of Tourism was established in 1996 officially under the act of tourism development and Nepal Tourism Board (NTB). Nepal became the member of UNESCO on 1st May 1953 which lead Nepal to be known internationally.). Later Nepal became the part of UNWTO in the year 1975 and also part of many other tourism associations like South Asian Travel Commission, International Union of Official Travel Organization and SAARC. (Dhakal, 2015)

Nepal with its rich ancient cultures and the most dramatic scenic beauty in the world is the home for discoveries and unique lifetime experiences. With 15 National and Wild Life parks (two are UNESCO Heritage sites) Nepal is the only place in the world where Asiatic rhinoceros and the Royal Bengal Tiger still exists. From the steamy forest of Terai to the world's highest mountains and from remote mountain villages to medieval hill-towns and the ancient cities of Kathmandu Valley, the people of Nepal are always welcoming. Guests are treated as Gods in Nepal. There's an old saying "Aathiti Deva Vawa" which means guests are incarnations of God. For many visitors, Nepalese people are one of the greatest attraction. The customs, traditions and famous hospitality of Nepalese are in fact a major part of what makes Nepal so special. Nepal has its own unique flavors of cuisine and homemade drinks. It has never ending festivals and love and affection for its own people as well as visitors. Natural, adventure, religious and cultural beauty are the key words to define and output different forms of tourism in Nepal. (Government of Nepal) Nepal is ranked 1st out of 10 countries in 2016 as the best place to visit by Rough Guide. (Rough Guide, 2016)

Despite Nepal being a small country it possesses different forms of tourism. Many historically important heritage sites, the antique monuments and statues, the scenic and natural beauty as well as different adventurous activities like cycling, paragliding and mountain climbing makes and takes tourism in Nepal to a next level. The major forms of tourism practiced in Nepal are:

#### 4.1.1 Wilderness Tourism

Major tourist activities in Nepal consists of wilderness and adventure activities such as bungee jumping, rock climbing, mountain biking, mountain climbing, hiking, trekking, bird watching, ultralight aircraft flights, hot air ballooning over the mountains of Himalaya, paragliding, exploring waterways by raft, kayak or canoe, and jungle safaris. (Government of Nepal, 2016) Some of the famous tourist activities in Nepal are presented below.

**Mountain Climbing:** The Himalayas have always been recognized as the roof of the world as it possesses the highest point on earth Mt. Everest 8848 meters and around 1310 famous peaks above 6000 meters. Out of 1310 identified peaks about one-third of the peaks are officially opened for mountaineering activities. It is for both fame and name people take an ultimate challenge to climb theses peaks. Nepal provides the best possible trekking and mountain climbing routes in the world. The Himalayas in Nepal has become the great site of attraction for people all over the world. (Mountain Monarch, 2016)

**Paragliding:** Paragliding in Nepal is really a wonderful and fulfilling adventurous experience. Pokhara of Nepal is one of the top five commercial tandem paragliding location in the world. The takeoff point for paragliding flights lies in Sarangkot, Pokhara which is at the altitude of 1592m above the sea level. November and December are considered as the best time to take this kind of trip since the weather is clear and the view can be felt more deeply. A paragliding trip in Pokhara, consist of the best scenery on earth, sharing airspace with a Himalayan griffin vulture, eagles, kites and float villages, temples, and monasteries, lakes and jungle along with the splendid view of the great Himalayas. The wish to fly like a bird might come true after we happen to experience this trip in Nepal. (Mountain Ram Adventures, 2013)

#### 4.1.2 Religious Tourism

Nepal is a multi-religious country with the majority of people following Hinduism. Pashupatinath Temple located in Kathmandu which attracts thousands of tourists (especially from India) is one of the historical and major Hindu's temple. Lake Gosainkunda, Devghat Temple, Manakamana, Jalpa Devi and Shalinadi Temple, Mahamritunjaya Shivasan (biggest

metallic idol of Lord Shiva) are another major source of attraction for pilgrimage tourists. Buddhism is another main religion. Lumbini (UNESCO world heritage site and the birthplace of Gautama Buddha) is an important pilgrimage site. Swayambhunath (the Monkey Temple), Boudhanath, Malika Devi and Ambekeshwori temple are some of the other religious sites of tourist attraction. (Government of Nepal, 2016) Some of the famous religious tourism sites in Nepal are presented below.

**Lumbini:** Lumbini is the birth place of The Shakya prince “Gautama Buddha”. The main attraction of Lumbini is the sacred garden spreading 8 sq. km, possessing all the treasures of the historic area. The Maya Devi temple is the source of attraction for pilgrimage tourist and archaeologists. The oldest monument in Nepal the “Asoka Pillar” which was erected by Emperor Asoka in the years 249 BC lies to the west of Maya Devi Temple. (Government of Nepal, 2016) The eternal peace flame and the holy Puskirini Lake are the other source of great attractions of Lumbini. The Eternal Peace Flame which keeps glowing 24 hours a day was lighted by former King Gyanendra Shah on 1st November 1986 and it was received from the United States as a part of the celebration of International Peace Year. (Holiday Nepal, 2016) It was recognized as the UNESCO world heritage site in 1997. Lumbini is one of the greatest sacred place for Buddhist people. Millions of visitors visit Lumbini every year. (UNESCO, 2016)

**Pashupatinath Temple:** Pashupatinath Temple is one of the largest sacred Hindu temple on the banks of holy Baghmati River 5 km northeast of Kathmandu. It is regarded as the guardian spirit and the holiest of all Shiva shrines in Nepal. The term Pashu refers to Living Beings and Pati means the Master. Pashupatinath is regarded as the master of all living beings of the universe. It was constructed by Pashupreksha of Somadeva Dynasty in the 3rd century but the historical records date from the 13th century. The square-shaped pagoda temple stands in the middle of an open courtyard measuring 23.6 meters from the ground and consists of four gold gilt doors on all the four sides of the temple. The main attraction of the temple is 108 Shiva Linga, Dharamshala, Chadeshvar, The Holy Baghmati River, Arya Ghat and Pandra Shivalaya. Pashupatinath Temple, with its astonishing architectural beauty stands as the symbol of faith, culture, religion and tradition. It attracts thousands of visitors every year (mainly Hindu pilgrimages from India) and is an integral part of Nepal’s cultural and traditional beauty as well as the economy. (SAARC Tourism Nepal, 2009)

#### 4.1.3 Culture and Heritage Tourism

Kathmandu also known as “City of Temples” is a rich cultural heritage site in Nepal. Within a radius of 7 km, there are 7 world heritage sites (Pashupatinath Temple, Boudhanath Stupa, Swyambhunath Stupa, Changunarayan Temple, and Kathmandu; Bhaktapur and Lalitpur

Durbar squares) respectively which are impossible to find in any other place. A rich collection of archeological, historical and artistic work of the past and present are found in the museums of Kathmandu. Kathmandu valley is the prime destination for visitors where tourist can feel the real meaning of unity in diversity; experiencing how culturally diverse and rich society of Nepal grows in harmony. (Government of Nepal) Kathmandu is also ranked as the top 23rd place in the world to visit according to Trip Advisor 2016. (Republica, 2016) Thousands of tourists visit Kathmandu every year and also the only International Airport of Nepal (TIA) lies in Kathmandu. Some of the famous cultural and heritage sites in Nepal are presented below.

**Swayambhunath:** Swayambhunath temple is the ancient Buddhist stupa located in the western hill station of Kathmandu. It is also called the Monkey Temple by the western travelers. The hill consists of the historical collection of stupas, shrines, chaityas, idols and statues that reflect the ancient work of architecture dating back from 400 AD to 750 AD. The main attraction of the temple is the beautiful stupa of a large hemispherical structure with eyes painted on it. The eyes of the stupa overlook the city of Kathmandu. Though Swayambhunath temple is a Buddhist Temple there also lies a Hindu temple of Harati Devi which signifies the integration of Buddhism and Hinduism in Nepal. Monkeys are found everywhere near the temple because of the small forest in the Swayambhunath hill. The temple lies away from the crowd, pollution and noise of the busy Kathmandu city. (Yalla Book. Com, 2016) A ritual circumnavigation of the stupa, spinning the prayer wheels set into its base by the local mainly in the morning and the evening really gives peace to all the hearts. Also, sunset views over Kathmandu valley can be felt from this hill. Thousands of Buddhist visitors (mainly from China, Japan and Thailand) visit Swayambhunath temple every year and it is one of the major site for pilgrimage tourist visiting Nepal. (Lonely Planet, 2016)

**Changunarayan Temple:** Changunarayan temple is the oldest temple in Kathmandu Valley which was founded in the early 4th century by King Mandev. It is enlisted as one the most important historic temples of Nepal and also lies under UNESCO World Heritage Sites. It is located in Bhaktapur district of Nepal and around 22 Km east of downtown Kathmandu city. The major attraction of the temple is a Vishnu (one of the main god) idol with ten heads and arms with fine examples of stone carving from the 5th century and the major places to be seen are: shrine of King Bhupalendra Malla and his mother, Nateshvara, Krishna, Garuda Narayan Temple, sculpture of Sri Mahadev and Somalingeshvara, Druga Avalokitesvara, Garuda Ganesh, Ganesh shrine, Bhagwat Temple, Vishnu Vikranta, Vishnu Vishvarupa, Lakshmi temple, Shiva Temple and Stone Column. Thousands of tourist visit Changunarayan Temple to see its architectural beauty and study its historic importance every year. It is one of the major tourist destination of Nepal. (SAARC Tourism Nepal, 2009)

## 4.2 Impacts of Tourism in Nepal

Tourism is one of the world's most significant industry and it can have an extreme impact on economic, socio-cultural and environmental aspects of a place or a country. (UNEP) As many other developing countries, tourism is one of the major sources of foreign exchange and income of Nepal. Tourism provides employment opportunities, helps to protect and preserve the environment as well as it enhances the socio-economic standard of Nepalese people through publicity of Nepal around the world as well as through the economic benefits that it receives from tourism or tourism related businesses. Basically, tourism has three major impacts in Nepal and they are shortly described below.

### 4.2.1 Economic Impact

Tourism generates economic benefit to both the host country and the tourist's home country. By virtue of demand for goods and services, communication and transportation, purchase of handicrafts, trekking and mountaineering, sightseeing, rafting, city tours and involving in varied other activities tourism has impacted the Nepalese economy. (Paudyal, 2016) Tourism also has a huge impact on Nepalese economy as it one of the major sources of income and employment. According to WTTC Economic Impact 2016, the total contribution of Nepal's Travel and Tourism Industry to GDP in the year 2015 was NPR 173.7 Billion (8.1% of GDP) and the direct contribution was NPR 85.3 Billion (4 %of total GDP) and it created 918,000 jobs. In the fiscal year 2014/15, the foreign exchange earning of Nepal through tourism was NPR6374.9 million. Tourism helps to protect and promote agriculture, trade, entrepreneurs and other small, medium and large scale industries of Nepal which increase the chain of demand and supply that indirectly uplifts the economic standard of Nepalese society. (Government of Nepal, 2015) In addition, there are many hidden economic disadvantages of tourism such as leakage, increase in prices, infrastructural cost, seasonal character of job and economic dependence of local community on tourism. (UNEP)

### 4.2.2 Socio-Cultural Impact

Socio -cultural impacts of tourism refers to the social effects on the host communities of direct and indirect relations with tourists, and of interaction with the tourism industry. The social, cultural and traditional aspects of a society can be influenced or even can be substituted due to tourism. (Ujjwal, 2010) Thousands of tourists visit Nepal every year and that brings economic as well as social prosperity to Nepal but also it has threatened indigenous identity of Nepalese society. The mass movement of people/ visitors to Nepal somehow have changed the community structure, family relation, traditional life styles, and religious beliefs of Nepalese. Even food habit and cultural identity of Nepal have been

affected by growing tourism. Mostly, youth generation of Nepal are being attracted to western culture and have somehow changed their traditional way of life. In examples: the youngsters of Nepal are more influenced by western music, which have reduced the occurrence of local folk musical programs, early morning breakfast consisting of wheat, maize and soybean are replaced by bread and butter, the heavy meal system of food consisting rice, curry, pickle, meat and curd are being replaced by fast foods like pizza and burgers. Besides these, social challenges like child labor, crime rate, prostitution and sex tourism have been increasing with increasing tourism in Nepal. (UNEP) In addition, since Kathmandu is the capital city of Nepal and possesses the only one international airport of Nepal i.e. TIA airport, tourist inflow is higher in these regions compared to other rural cities of Nepal like Pokhara, Dhahran and Manang which have created many social, economic and environmental imbalances between these places. And, as the result of unmanaged promotion and distribution of tourism social challenges like unemployment, urbanization, deforestation and pollution is increasing. (Gurung, 2015)

#### 4.2.3 Environmental Impact

Tourism and environment have a deep interconnection. The tourism industry is one of the largest industry in the world and a great source of foreign exchange for many developing countries. (Thullen, 1996) Nepal being a naturally gifted country, natural resources are used to their optimal limit to earn income from purchases and sales of tourism and tourism-related goods and services which affect the overall environment of the country. The environmental quality of a place or a country determines the overall success of the tourism industry as it is the basic principal attraction. The tourism industry has played a vital role in protection and promotion of natural resources of Nepal. Most of the wildlife reserves, national parks, conservation areas of Nepal are operated and funded by different foreign originations which are possible only because of tourism. Many curious travelers are keen to visit different national parks, wildlife reserves and conservation areas of Nepal where they can enjoy elephant riding, jungle safari and bird watching for which tourism should be credited. On the other side, due to mass movement of people negative impact tends to prevail on the environment. Nepal receives thousands of tourists every year which have forced Nepal to construct more houses, restaurants, airports, hotels, lodges and many more other infrastructures of development, which have increased the employment ratio and foreign exchange earnings at the same time have increased pollution, urbanization, deforestation, illegal poaching and black marketing. Hence, the quality of environment has depleted. More tourist requires more food and more space to live but earth is inelastic in nature. The negative impacts on environment starts to prevail as people misuse natural resources like land, water, forest and mines which leads to natural disaster like radiation, flood, landslide

and soil erosion and these factors eventually reduces the quality of environment. (Gurung, 2015)

The below-given figure 7 shows the picture of the garbage that was found in the peak of the Everest. The picture can easily reflect the negative impact of Nepal's tourism to the environment. (Grapvine)



Figure 7. How dirty is Everest? (Grapvine)

This rubbish consists of bottles, torn tents, utensils, ropes and gas canisters are left behind by the climbers. According to Sky News, Mount Everest is the world's highest dump, having more than 4,000 climbers since 1953. Though the Government of Nepal have strict rules against such acts still the climbers are not aware of the negative impacts that might rise through such negligence. This garbage not only have polluted the environment's quality of Everest but also have negatively impacted on the overall tourism industry of Nepal. (Grapvine)

#### 4.3 Tourism Statistics

Tourism is the largest revenue generating industry and the main source of foreign exchange in Nepal as well as many other developing countries. Below, some of the key figures and statistics regarding the current and past situation of Nepal's tourism industry reflecting the tourism industry's contribution to GDP, employment, total number of tourist arrivals, purpose of visit, total investment and visitor exports are presented. It also shows the importance as well as economic impact of tourism in Nepal.

As per the record of The Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation of Nepal, which officially keeps the records of the tourism data under Tourism Department which started from the year 1962, there has been growth in the number of tourist's arrival in Nepal from 2000 -

2013. Numbers of tourist visiting Nepal in the year 2014 were lower than that of the previous year (2013). Below some of the key figures reflecting the statistics of tourism in Nepal from the year 2000-2014 are presented in reference to Tourism Department of Nepal.

#### 4.3.1 Total Number of Tourist Arrivals

The below-given figure 8 shows a total number of tourist arrival in Nepal from 2000-2014. The line graph shows that in the year 2000, Nepal received 463,646 tourists which reduced to 275,468 tourist arrival in 2002. From 2003-2006 there has been the significant decrement in tourist arrivals in Nepal. Nepal's tourism industry suffered from different domestic problems in the early 2000s, like Maoist Insurgency and the massacre of royal family 2001(CNN, 2001). After the political peace treaty signed by Government of Nepal and The Maoist in 2006, Nepal started attracting more visitors. In 2007, Nepal received 526,705 tourist visitors making it the highest until the year 2009. In 2010, Nepal received 602,855 tourists. In 2011, which was the Tourism Nepal Year received 736,125 visitors. Nepal received the highest number of international visitors in the year 2012 which was 803,092 tourists is still recorded as the highest in the tourism history of Nepal. 790,118 tourist visited Nepal in 2014 which is (-0.95%) decrease in tourist arrival in Nepal compared to 2013 in which Nepal received 798,000. (Nepal Tourism Statistics, 2014)

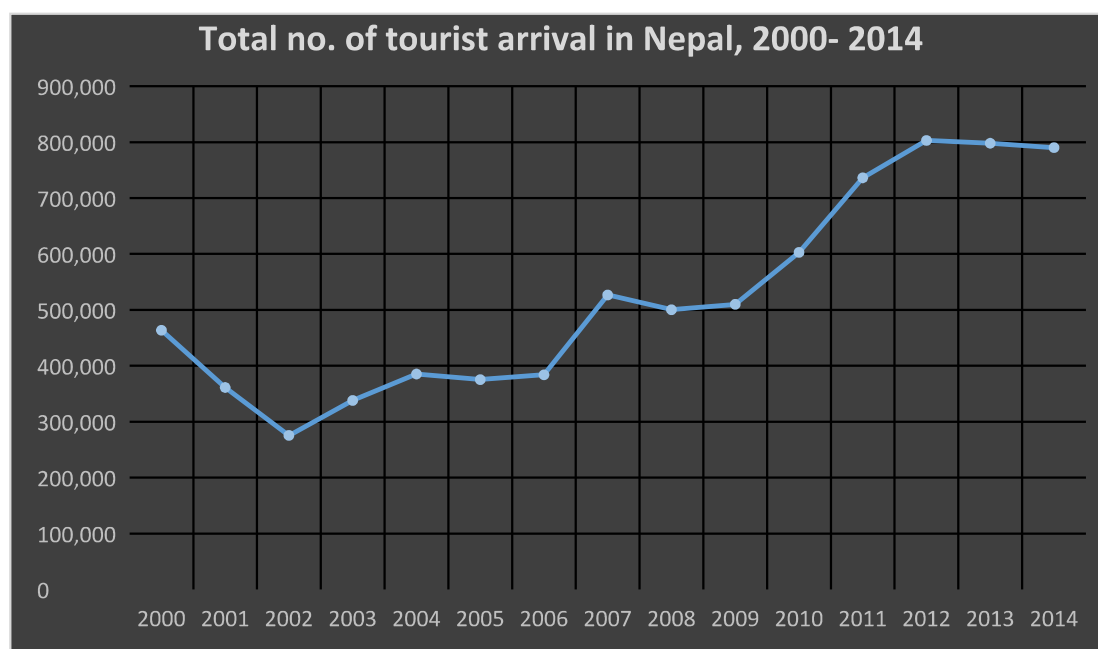


Figure 8. Total number of tourist arrivals in Nepal from 2000-2014. (Nepal Tourism Statistics, 2014).

In 2015, Nepal received 538,970 visitors, which is the least in the past 6 years. There is -32% decrement in the tourist arrivals in Nepal compared to 2014. Nepal's tourism industry was

badly affected by the 2015 earthquakes and also economic crisis imposed by India to Nepal in 2015 has worsen the overall condition of tourism as well as other industries of Nepal. (Prassain, 2016)

#### 4.3.2 Purpose of Visit

The below-given figure 9 shows the purpose of tourist arrival in Nepal in 2014 in accordance with Nepal Tourism Statistics 2014. Out of 790,118 total tourist arrival in Nepal in 2014, almost half (49%) of the tourists visited Nepal for holiday pleasure. 16% of tourist visited Nepal for trekking and mountaineering while 13% of tourist visited Nepal for pilgrimage purpose. 4% of tourist for official reasons and 3% for business purposes. 13% of tourist visited Nepal for unspecified reasons while remaining 2% of tourist visited Nepal for conferences. (Nepal Tourism Statistics, 2014)

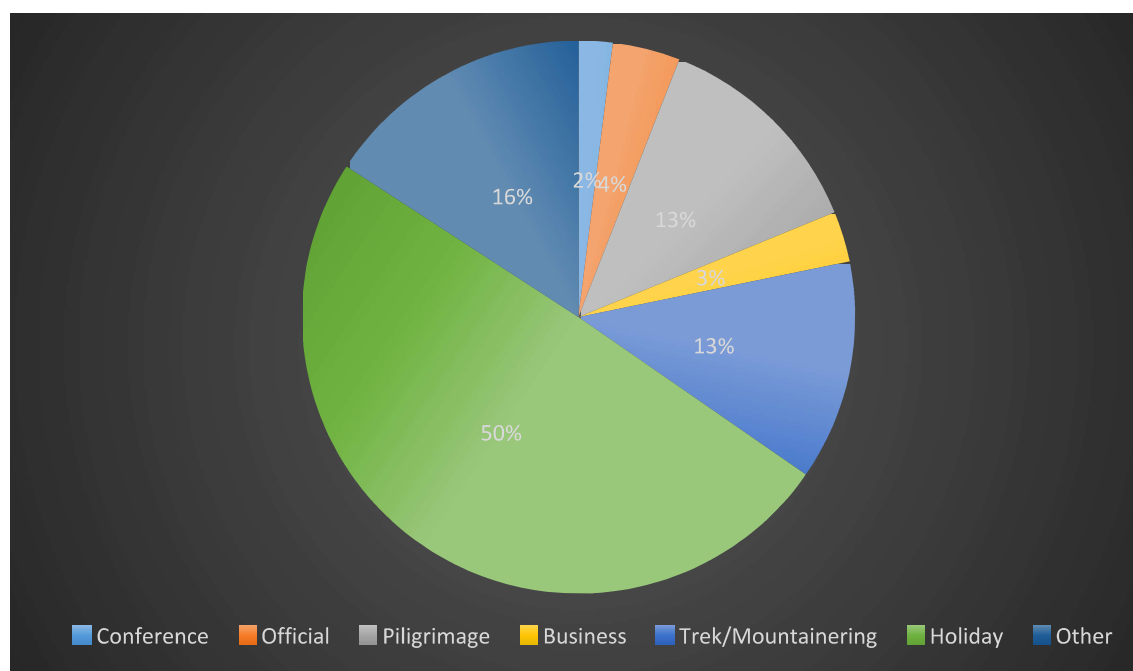


Figure 9. Purpose of Tourist Arrival in 2014. (Nepal Tourism Statistics, 2014)

As per the record of the tourism statics of Nepal 2014 for the period (2001- 2014), Nepal have been receiving almost 50% of the visitors for holiday pleasure purpose. The major activities of the tourist visiting Nepal were mountaineering and trekking. The least number of tourist visited Nepal as business, official and as conference tourism while a considerable number of tourist visited Nepal for pilgrimage and for unspecified purposes. The majority of tourist visiting Nepal as per the record of Tourism Department Nepal 2014 is almost the same in past 15 years. (Nepal Tourism Statistics, 2014)

In 2015 there has been slight change in the purpose of visit of tourist to Nepal, as the mega 2015 earthquake of Nepal has devastated the day to day life of Nepal and its people. Thousands of people visited Nepal as rescue personnel and volunteers which are counted as tourist in the future reports though the purpose of visit will be different.

#### 4.3.3 Foreign Exchange Earnings

The below-given figure 10 shows the total amount of foreign exchange earnings from Nepal's tourism industry from fiscal year 2000/01-2014/15\*. The statistics used for this graph are from fiscal year 2000/01-2014/15, only 1st eight months of data are used to for the fiscal year 2014/15. In the fiscal year 1998/99, Nepal earned NPR 12168 million which was the highest record before fiscal year 2002/03. Nepal's tourism industry suffered in the early 2000s (2000/01-2006/07) as the result of Maoist Insurgency, Political Instability and the massacre of the Royal family. (CNN, 2001) In 2007 after the end of a decade-long Maoist Insurgency, Nepal restarted booming the tourism industry. In fiscal year 2007/08, Nepal earned NPR 18653 Million, recorded as the highest till that period. Nepal's foreign exchange earnings started to rise dramatically from 2008/09 reaching NPR 30703.8 Million in fiscal year 2011/12. In the fiscal year 2013/14, Nepal received the highest foreign exchange earnings till the date, NPR 46374.9 million which grew by NPR12165 Million compared to the previous fiscal year 2012/13. In the first eight months of fiscal year 2014/15, Nepal earned NPR 34313.3 Million. (Nepal Tourism Statistics, 2014)

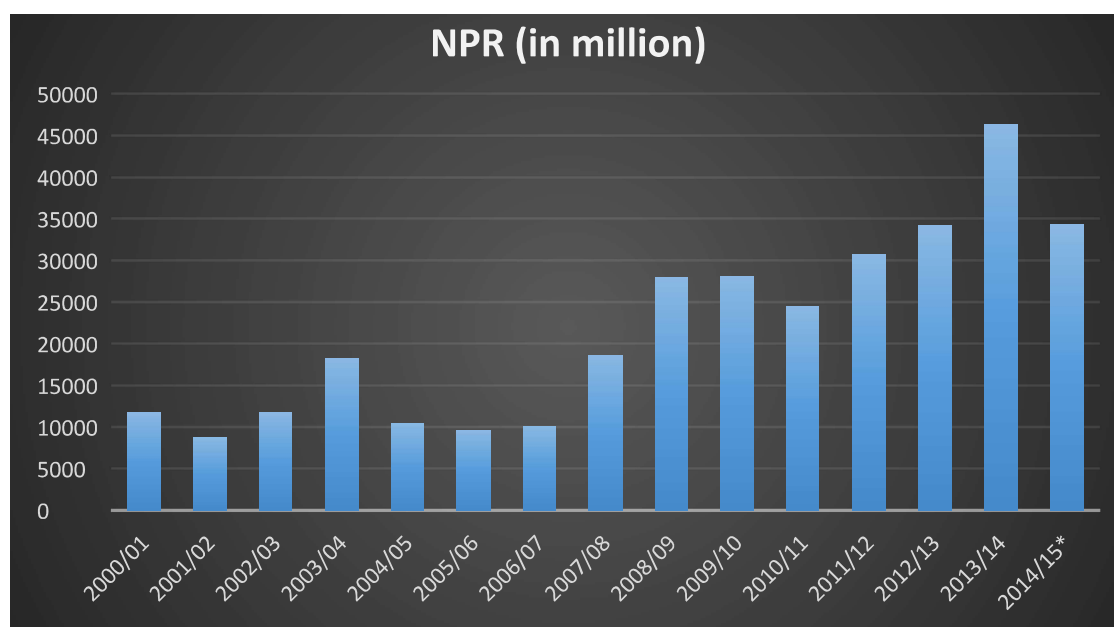


Figure 10. Foreign Exchange Earnings from Tourism, 2001/01-2014/15. (Nepal Tourism Statistics, 2014)

#### 4.3.4 Contribution to GDP

Some of the facts and figures on the basis of March 2016 Report of Travel and Tourism Economic Impact 2016 Nepal by WTTC for the year 2015 are presented below.

The below-given figure 11 shows the contribution of Nepal's Travel and Tourism Industry to GDP in the year 2015. The total contribution of the industry was NPR 173.7 Billion (8.1% of GDP) and the direct contribution was NPR 85.3 Billion (4 %of total GDP). (WTTC, 2016)

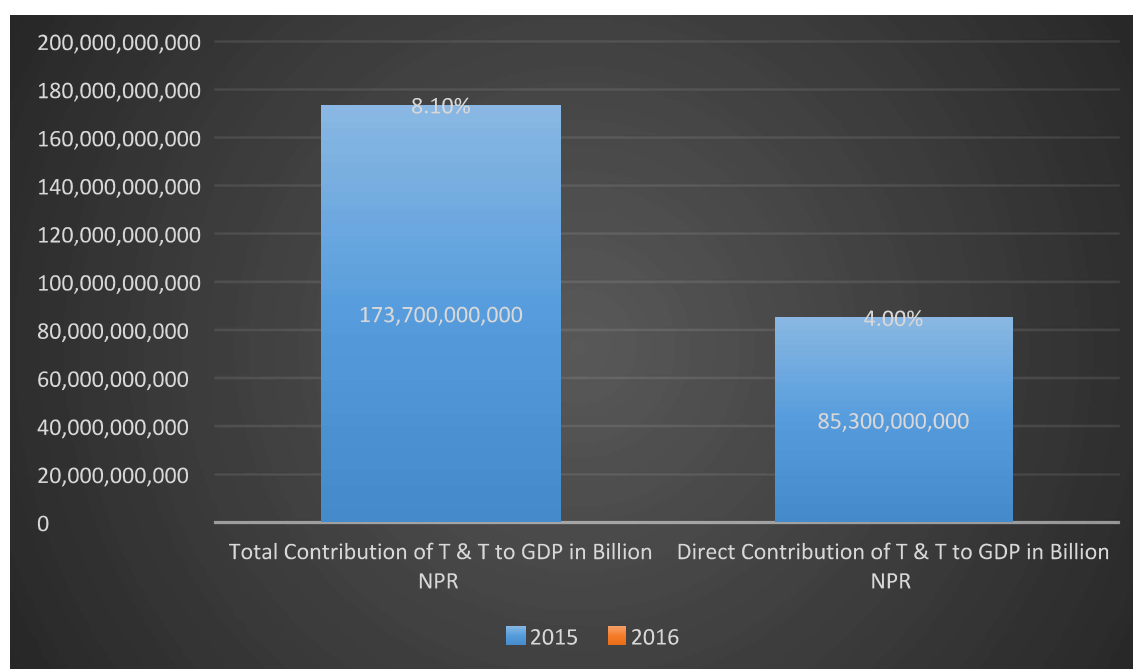


Figure 11. Contribution of Travel and Tourism Industry in 2015 to GDP. (WTTC, 2016)

Also, the total contribution is forecast to rise by 6.5% in 2016, and to rise by 5.0% per annum, from 2016-2026, to NPR 300.7 Billion (9.5% of GDP) in 2026 at the same time the direct contribution is forecast to rise by 7.0%, and to rise by 5.0% per annum, from 2016-2026 to NPR 149.4 Billion (4.7% of total GDP) in 2026. (WTTC, 2016)

#### 4.3.5 Contribution to Employment

The below-given figure 12 shows the contribution of Nepal's Travel and Tourism Industry to employment for the year 2014 and 2015. The total contribution of the industry indirectly supported 7.5% of total employment (1,059,000 jobs) and directly supported 487,500 jobs which are 3.5% of total employment in the year 2014. (WTTC, 2016)

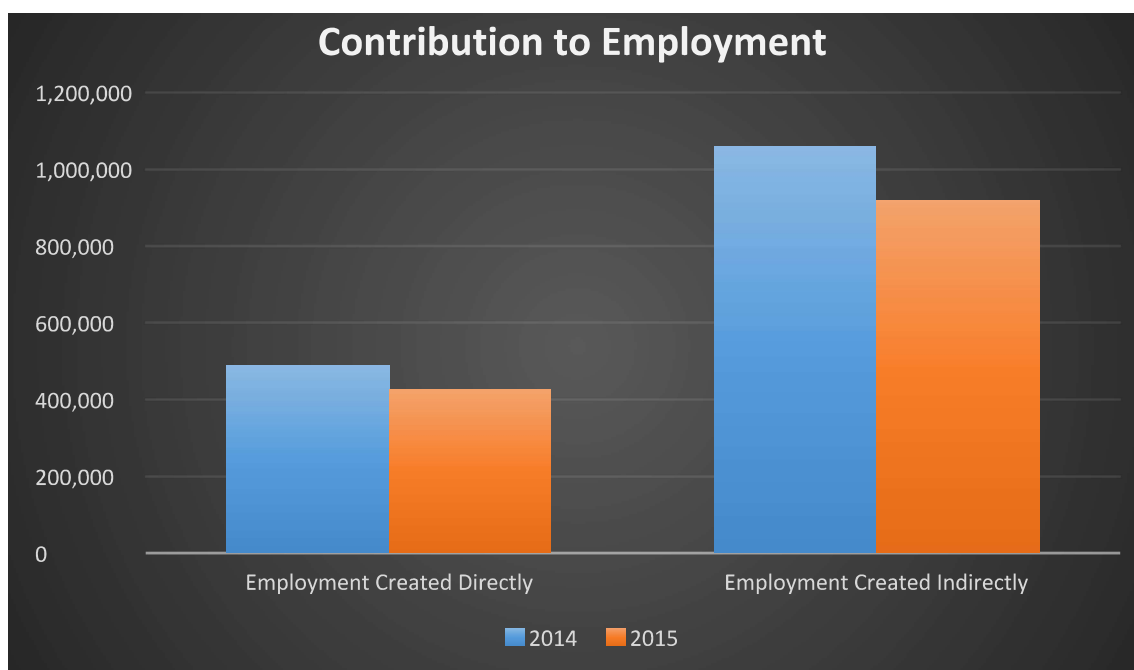


Figure 12. Contribution of Travel and Tourism Industry in 2015 to Employment. (Travel and Tourism Economic Impact, WTTC 2016)

And in 2015, the industry's total contribution to employment was 6.9% of total employment (918,000 jobs) with the indirect contribution of 426,500 jobs which is 3.2% of total employment in Nepal, also the total contribution is expected rise by 5.4% in 2016 to 968,000 jobs and rise by 3.7% per annum to 1,390,000 jobs in 2026 (8.1% of total). The direct contribution is presumed to rise by 6.0% in 2016 and rise by 3.8% per annum to 654,000 jobs (3.8% of total employment) in 2026. (WTTC, 2016)

#### 4.3.6 Visitors Export and Investment

The below-given figure 13 shows the total visitors export and investment of Nepal in Travel and Tourism Industry in the year 2015. Nepal's travel and tourism industry invested NPR 15.2 Billion (3.1 % of total investment) for the tourism industry and also it shows that the industry generated NPR 60.5 Billion from visitors which is 28.6% of total exports. (WTTC, 2016)

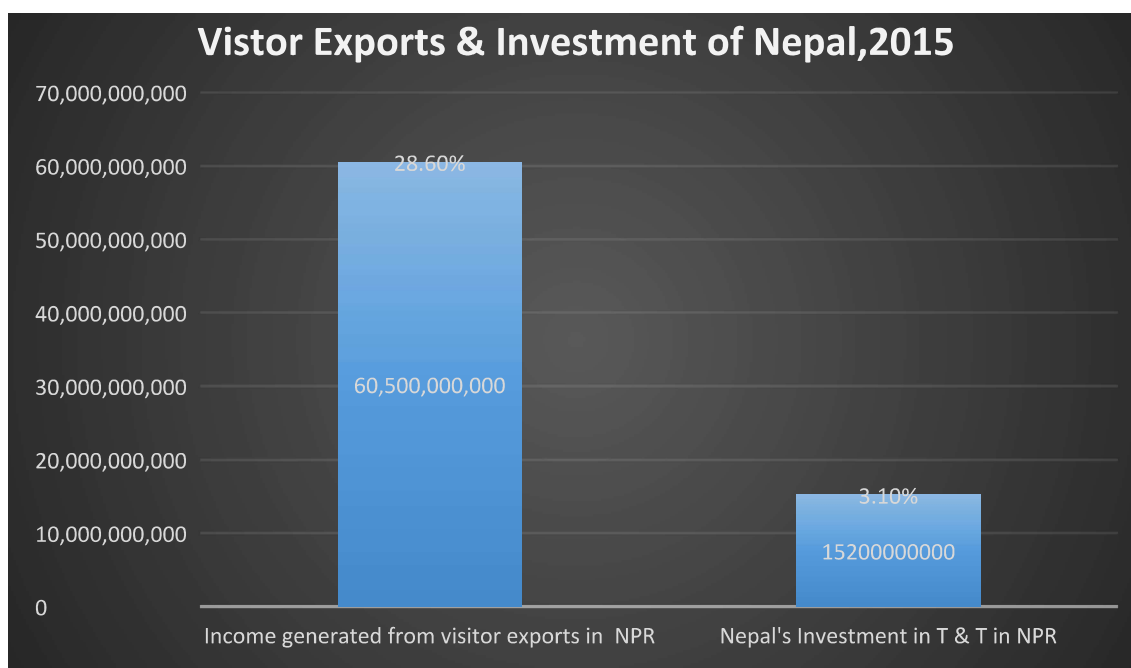


Figure 13. Visitor exports and Nepal's Investment in T & T in 2015. (WTTC, 2016)

And also, income from visitor exports is forecast to grow by 4.1% in 2016, and grow by 7.1% per annum, from 2016-2026, to NPR 125.1 Billion in 2026 (28.2% of total). On the other side, Nepal's investment in travel and tourism industry is forecast to rise by 7.6% in 2016 and rise by 4.4% per annum, from 2016-2026 to NPR 25.1 Billion (3.4% of total). (WTTC, 2016)

## 5 Natural Disaster

A sudden accident or a natural catastrophe that causes great damage or loss of life is called as a disaster and natural events of such phenomenon such as flood, landslide, earthquake and hurricane are known as natural disasters. (Oxford Dictionaries, 2016)

A natural disaster is extreme uncommon events with high risk. Natural hazards cause natural disasters when meeting vulnerability. Without vulnerability, natural disasters are not defined to cause natural disasters. An adverse event is less probable to rise to the level of disaster having low population density while an area having a high population density bears a high risk. The disasters might cause substantial damage, distractions or casualties on the occurring area. (Heikkinen, 2011) As an example, thousands of people lost their lives and thousands more were injured in a 7.8 magnitude earthquake which hit Nepal on 25th April 2015. Out of around 10,000 total deaths in Nepal's 2015 April earthquake around 45% of the people died in Kathmandu valley which is a densely populated area of Nepal compared to other cities of Nepal.

### 5.1 Classification of Disasters

The below presented table 2 shows the classification of disasters. It also shows the subgroup, definition along with examples of both natural and technological disasters. There are two major types of disasters and they are natural and technological. Natural disasters are further classified as geological, meteorological, hydrological, clamatorial, biological and extraterrestrial disasters whereas technological disasters are divided as industrial accident, transport accident and miscellaneous accident respectively. Flood, landslide, earthquakes, hurricane and volcanic eruption are some of the examples of natural disasters while accidents like fire, explosion, radiation and poisoning are some of the examples of technological disasters. (EM-DAT, 2009)

Disaster Group	Disaster Subgroup	Definition	Disaster Main Type
Natural	Geological	A hazard originating from solid earth. This term is used interchangeably with the term geological hazard.	Earthquake
			Mass Movement
			Volcanic Activity
	Meteorological	A hazard caused by short-lived micro-to-meso-scale extreme weather and atmospheric conditions that last from two minutes to days.	Extreme temperature
			Fog
			Storm
	Hydrological	A hazard caused by the occurrence, movement and distribution of surface and subsurface freshwater and salt water.	Flood
			Landslide
			Wave Action
	Clamatorial	A hazard caused by long lived meso-to macro-scale atmospheric process ranging from intra-seasonal to multi-decadal climate variability.	Drought
			Glacial Lake Outburst

			Wildfire
	Biological	A hazard caused by the exposure to living organisms and their toxic substances (e.g. venom, mold) or vector-borne diseases that they may carry. Examples are venomous wildlife and insects, poisonous plants and mosquitoes carrying disease-causing agents such as parasites, bacteria or viruses (e.g. malaria).	Epidemic
			Insect infestation
			Animal Accident
	Extraterrestrial	A hazard caused by asteroids, meteoroids and comets as they pass near earth, enter the Earth's atmosphere and/or strike the Earth, and by changes in interplanetary conditions that effects the Earth's magnetosphere, ionosphere, and thermosphere.	Impact
			Space Weather
Technological	Industrial accident		Chemical Spill
			Collapse
			Explosion
			Fire
			Gas Leak
			Poisoning
			Radiation
			Other
	Transport accident		Air
			Road
			Rail
			Water
	Miscellaneous accident		Collapse
			Explosion
			Fire

			Other
--	--	--	-------

Table 2. Classification of disasters. (EM-DAT, 2009)

Disasters both natural and technological affects the tourism industry in a negative manner as the willingness of the people visiting such hazardous places are highly inclined to decline.

## 5.2 Impacts of Natural Disasters

Natural disasters' vulnerability depends on upon multiple factors of a specific place. World Risk Index of natural disasters is calculated depending on four main factors which are exposure, susceptibility, coping capacities and adaptive capacities. Exposure is a number of natural hazards an area is exposed to while susceptibility refers to the level of infrastructure, poverty, and nutrition. Coping capacity is the ability to resist the impact of natural disasters through preparedness and adaptive capacity is the capacity to make structural changes to lower the impact of natural disasters in the future. Exposure factor of natural disaster is out of control while the other factors are exacerbated by poverty. Developed countries can recover from the hazards faster as they are prepared for such events whereas developing countries are affected more by such hazards which increase the poverty and converts natural hazards to disaster. (Child Fund International, 2016) For example, Nepal being a poor country: lost around 10,000 people's life in a 7.8 magnitude earthquake in 2015 which increased further poverty and epidemic diseases in Nepal while Japan a developed country in Asia: with its efficient coping capacity to disasters have stood up against all the big disasters like earthquakes and Tsunami.

The impact of natural disasters is classified depending on the disaster event and disaster event is of two types physical and environmental. Both physical and environmental aspects of disaster events affect the social, environmental and economic status of the victim place or country. (Gupta)

**Economic Impact:** From an economic perspective, disasters results in losses and reductions. Losses occur in the human, physical and financial capital. Reductions might occur in income generation, investments, production and employment in the economy. Severe impacts might occur in financial flows such as revenue and expenditure of private and public bodies. Basically, the economic impacts of natural disasters are viewed as short term and long terms impacts respectively. (Heikkinen, 2011)

**Short Term Impacts of Natural Disasters:** Disasters causes a decline in GDP growth. Each country and disaster are different and the growth of GDP is affected by various factors such as exposure, susceptibility, coping and adaptive capacity. This phenomenon can be different

when investigating larger geographical countries. For instance, the Philippines, which is located in natural hazard-prone zone, the impact of natural hazards might vary according to the nature of the hazard. In the case of drought, which is affected by special region, might not affect the national economy. (Heikkinen, 2011)

**Long Term Impacts of Natural Disasters:** In the long term impacts; capital, labor growth and productivity might be affected by the disasters. Disasters might negatively affect the capital assets and other resources because of the destruction and disruption of infrastructures and markets. Direct capital losses can occur and government expenditure might increase. For e.g. Government can divert the resources from planned investments into relief and rehabilitation, or social reconstruction. (Heikkinen, 2011)

**Environmental Impact:** Natural resources like water, land, land use, landscape, lakes, rivers, forests, animals, wildlife, atmosphere and energy are directly affected by disasters. Air, water and land pollution increase with increasing occurrence of natural disasters. Unmanaged urbanization, migration and destruction of natural resources such as land and forest directly affects the ecosystem which degrades the quality of the environment. (UNEP)

**Social Impact:** People will have both psychological and physical effects from the untimely or unexpected natural disasters. Loss of lives, loss of property or lives of relatives, uncontrollable stress and anxiety, loss of documents and loss of conscience might affect the social life of people negatively. (Child Fund International, 2016)

### 5.3 Key Figures

The below-given figure 14 shows the level of natural disaster risk of certain major cities of the world. The red spots on figure indicates the list of 23 most prone cities to natural disasters and each city consist of the population not less than 10 million. And the combined population of these 23 large cities is around 280 million people which are 5 % of the world population as of 14th March 2013. (Epstein, 2016)

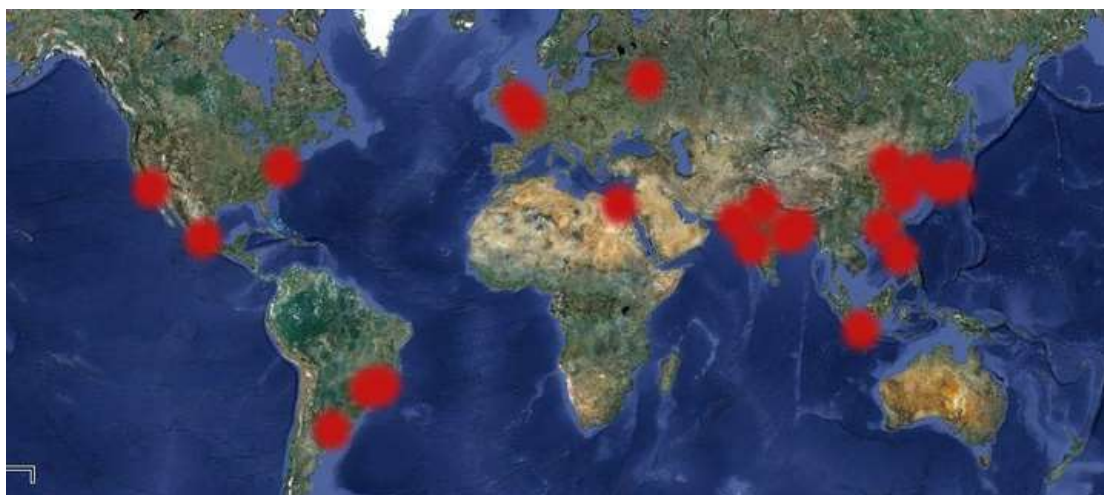


Figure 14. Level of Natural Disaster Risk. (Epstein, 2016)

Tokyo (Japan) consist of the highest number of population (32.45 million) out of these 23 larger cities and is very well prepared for the high risk of natural disasters like flooding, storms and earthquakes and also Osaka (Japan) consisting of 17.38 million populations is well prepared for such natural events. Moscow (Russia) consisting of 15 million people bears no risk of these natural events and Hong Kong-Shenzhen (China) consisting of 15.8 million people is very well prepared for the high risk of storms. Sao Paulo (Brazil), London (United Kingdom), Buenos Aires (Argentina), Rio de Janerio (Brazil) and Paris (France) are classified as cities which can better prepare for the high risk of floods. Seoul (South Korea) and New York (United States) consists of 25.62 and 19.75 million populations respectively and both bears a risk of flooding and storms and are classified as cities which can better prepare for the high risk of floods and storms. Mexico City (Mexico) which consists of 20.45 million people is classified as the city which can better prepare for natural disaster events like flooding, earthquakes and drought. Los Angeles (United States) is classified as a city which can better prepare for the risk of fire, earthquake and drought and Cairo (Egypt) for risk of drought. Delhi, Mumbai, Karachi (cities of India) and Dhaka (Bangladesh) which bears high risk of flooding, storms and droughts are classified as critically unprepared for these kind of natural disasters while Beijing (China), Kolkata (India), Manila (Philippines), Shanghai (China) and Jakarta (Indonesia) are categorized as critically unprepared for high risk of flooding and storms. (Epstein, 2016)

In addition, Nepal is also considered as the country prone to the natural disaster such as earthquakes, flooding and landslide. Nepal is less prepared for such kind of disaster as the result, the social, economic and environmental aspects of development have been highly compromised in Nepal.

The below-given points show some of the impacts of the natural disaster on the global scale depending on the 2014 report of Child Forum International 2014.

1. 4.4 Billion People have been affected by disasters (1994-2014) which claimed 1.3 million lives and cost US\$ 2trillion in economic losses.
2. 33% of countries that experienced disasters were low-to-lower middle income and 81% of people who died in the disasters belonged to these countries (1994-2014).
3. 8 out of 10 of the world's cities most at risk to disasters are in the Philippines.
4. Children and women of developing countries are the most vulnerable demographic group after the natural disasters.
5. Natural disasters affect the number of people below the poverty line, increasing their number by more than 50%.
6. Up to 325 million poor people are expected to live in the 49 most hazard-prone countries by 2030. (Child Forum International, 2016)

#### 5.4 Impact of Natural Disasters in Tourism

Today, tourism industry lies as one of the largest commercial sector industry in the world. Being the industry, there are several factors that affect tourism business both positively and negatively. Natural disaster and climate change are some best examples of such factors. Natural disaster is unexpected or unpredicted event which affects tourism industry both directly and indirectly. The impact of natural disaster has been powerful and extreme in the past few years and this can be accredited to the changing weather figure as well as increased number of tourist destinations. In the present context, new tourism destinations are emerging which helps to promote the economic, social and environmental standard of a place or a country at the same time it can also increase the probability of natural disasters. Natural disaster is also among the reasons which deplete the beauty, culture and economy of a place or a country for a temporary or increased period of time. The scale of damage depends to a large extent on the fury of the natural disaster. For e.g. the Andaman and Nicobar Island of India were worst hit by Tsunami in 2004 which brought halt in tourism business of the India. These islands were attracting thousands of tourist every year because of its untouched natural beauty. (Tourism Embassy, 2014)

Tourism industry must be aware of the possibilities of the natural disaster that might occur in the future to ensure its business sustainability. It is to better have knowledge about the geographic location of a place before commencing tourism related activities which can reduce the risk of future loss that might occur due to disaster events. Low-lying islands of the Pacific Ocean are best examples of such places. Tsunamis, high tides, and other oceanic disturbances are highly possible in these areas which can cause extreme damages to the area

and also to the local people and visitors. Emergency plans against natural disasters can help reduce the probable risk that might hit tourism businesses in the future and for that reason, tourism industry should apply such strategies for the industry's sound future. (Tourism embassy, 2014)

The positive impact of the natural disaster is very limited however it has increased tourism in some places. Cornish village of Boscastle can be a good example of such phenomena. In 2004, this place was worst hit by a flash flood which destroyed almost everything in this area however no human casualties were recorded. After the event, the central government of Boscastle invested a huge amount of money to reconstruct the area which created more employment and business opportunities. Also the publicity of the area done by the media showing the images and videos of the disaster helped Boscastle to attract more tourists which eventually expanded tourism. (Tourism embassy, 2014)

Nevertheless, such phenomenon is very rare and few. The impact of natural disaster for tourism industry are mostly negative therefore tourism industry should have proper disaster plan to survive the cruelty of nature as well as it should learn to adapt with the changes that might occur as a consequence of natural disasters. (Tourism embassy, 2014)

## 6 An Earthquake

Oxford Dictionary defines earthquake as a sudden violent shaking of the ground, typically causing great destruction, as a result of movements within the earth's crust or volcanic action. (Oxford Dictionaries, 2016) An earthquake occurs when tension is released from inside the crust. Tectonic plates do not always move alongside each other smoothly and sometimes get stuck and these movements create pressure and eventually the pressure is released as an earthquake. (BBC, 2014)

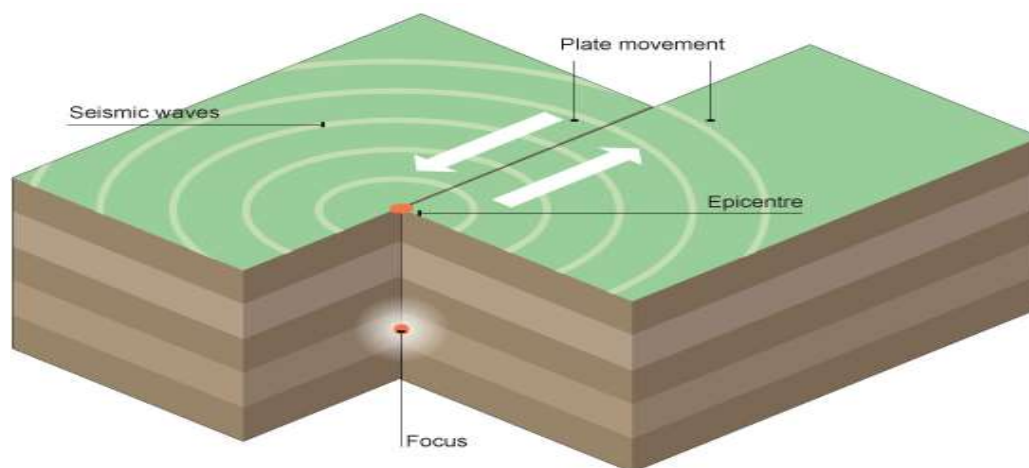


Figure 15. Diagram of an earthquake. (BBC, 2014).

The pressure point inside the earth's crust is called focus and the point about the pressure point (focus) is called epicenter. The energy of an earthquake is released in seismic waves and is measured in Richter scale with an instrument called seismometer. The waves spread out from the focus and are felt strongly at the epicenter becoming less strong as they travel further. The maximum damage from the earthquake will happen close to the epicenter. (BBC, 2014)

The magnitude of an earthquake is determined from the logarithm of the amplitude of the waves recorded by seismographs. Magnitude is expressed in whole numbers and a decimal fraction on the Richter scale from 0-10. An earthquake with the magnitude of about 2.0 are called micro earthquakes and they are not commonly felt by the people and are recorded on local seismographs whereas earthquakes of magnitudes about 4.5 or higher are recorded on a sensitive seismograph and are felt strongly by general people. (USGS, 2016). The highest recorded earthquake till the date is "The Great Chilean Earthquake" which hit Chilly on 22nd May 1960 near Valdivia, Southern Chilly with the magnitude of 9.5 Richter scale as recorded by United States Geological Survey. (USGS, 2016)

#### 6.1 Earthquake in Nepal

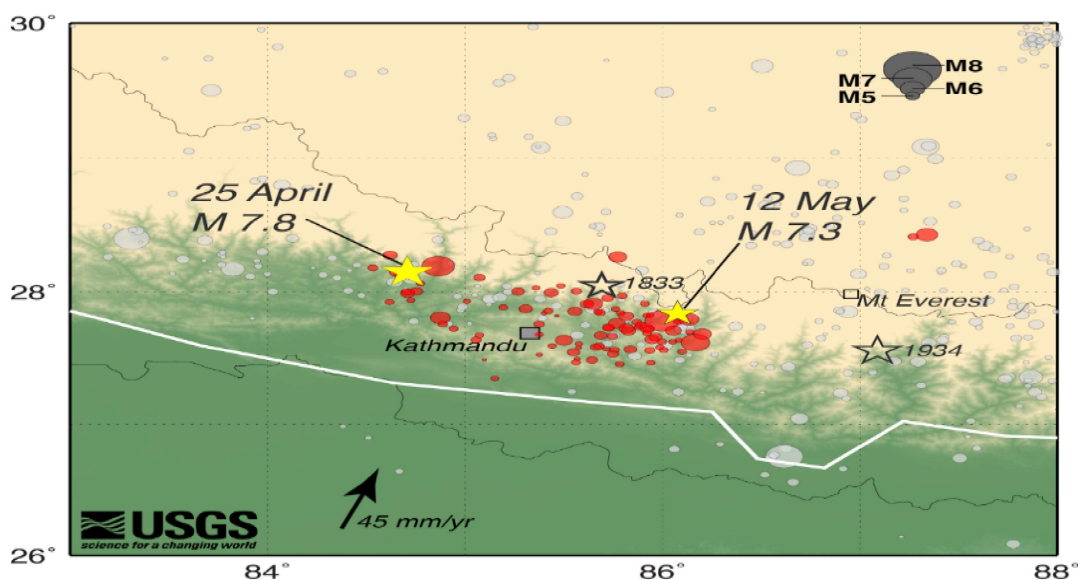


Figure 16. Map of the 25<sup>th</sup> April and 12<sup>th</sup> May Earthquakes in Nepal. (USGS, 2015)

After two weeks of the major magnitude 7.8 earthquake, on 12th May 2015, 07: 05 UTC (12:50 pm Local Time) with a moment magnitude of 7.3 an earthquake struck Nepal again, 18 Km southeast of Kodari. The epicenter was Dolkha and Sindhupalchowk districts of eastern

Nepal. (USGS, 2015) Hundreds of lives were lost and hundreds more were injured. (BBC, 2015). The earthquake has very strong negative impacts on social, political, economic, environmental, infrastructural and psychological aspects of Nepal and its people.

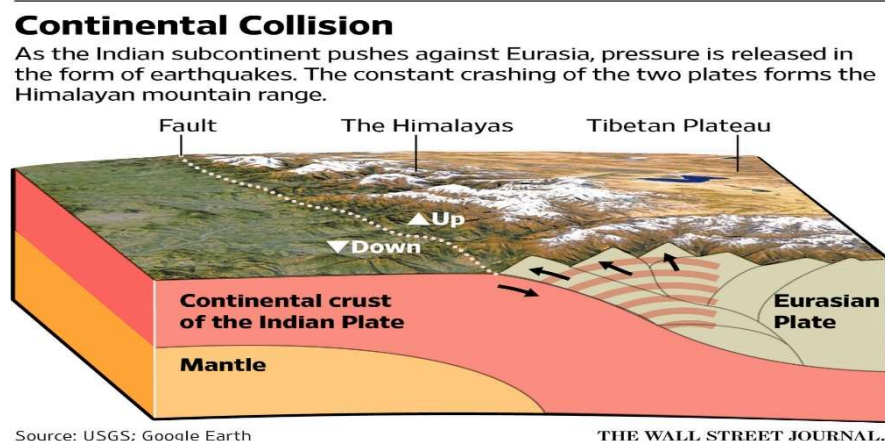


Figure 17. Continental collision of Indian and Eurasian Plate. (USGS, 2015)

The above figure 17 shows the continental collision of Indian and Eurasian Plate. Eurasian Plates are moving upwards because of the pressure of the Indian Plates moving downwards which creates a fault below the Himalayan Range which eventually results as an earthquake. Mount Everest and the Himalayas were created as a result of movement of these continental plates. Many Asian countries like India, China, Nepal, Afghanistan, Japan, Bangladesh and Bhutan are prone to an earthquake because of the long history of the movement of these continental plates. (TCT, 2004)

## 6.2 Negative Effects of Earthquake in Nepal

The facts and figures can really describe the destruction and depth of the disaster better so here by I have presented some of the major key facts and figures of 2015 Gorkha-Earthquake of Nepal in reference with Nepal Earthquake Event Recap Report, September 2015.



Figure 18. Buddha statue surrounded by debris. (Powerful earthquake hits Nepal, 2015)

#### 6.2.1 Human Casualties

The below-given figure 19 shows the total human casualty in 2015 Nepal's earthquake. The aggregated deaths from both (25th April & 12th May 2015) Nepal's earthquake is estimated to be 9,126 and hundreds are still missing officially and are presumed to be dead. The exact figures are expected to be around 10,000. Before the 12th May earthquake, 8,674 people were officially listed as dead in which 8,510 were from Nepal and 164 in other countries (India, China, Bangladesh and Mount Everest). An estimated additional 400 deaths occurred in Nepal and 65 more deaths in other countries from the 12th May earthquake. (Nepal Earthquake Event Recap Report, 2015)

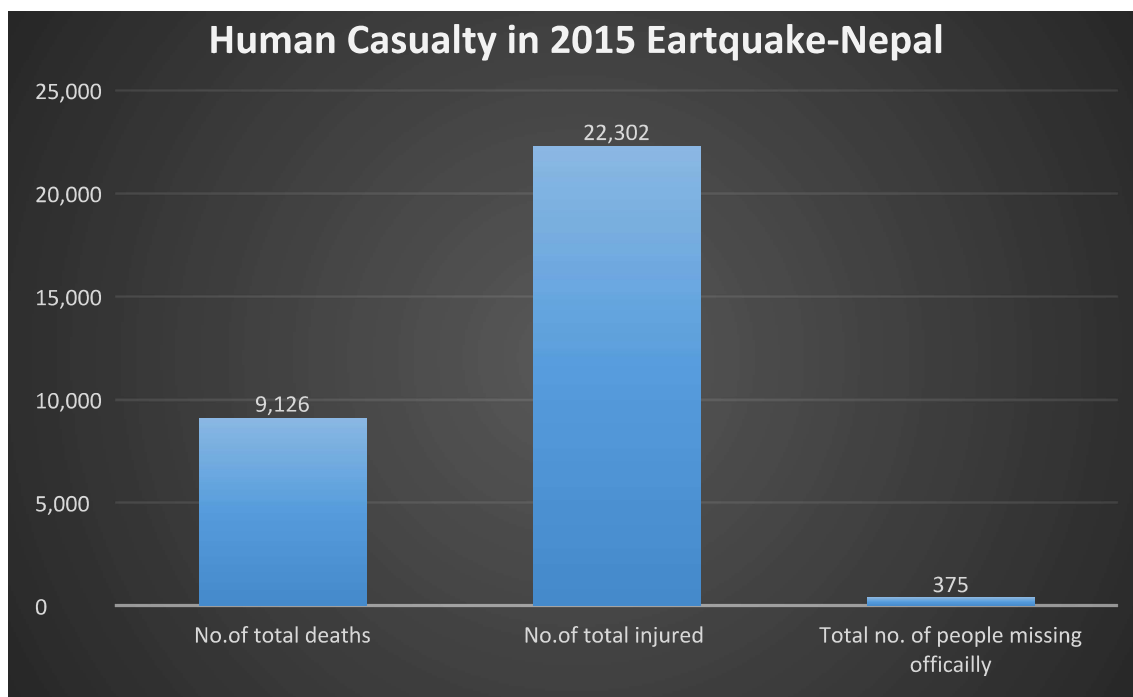


Figure 19. Human casualty in 2015 Earthquake-Nepal. (Nepal Earthquake Event Recap Report, 2015)

The combined total death toll in Nepal stood 8,891 (3,969 male fatalities, 4,916 female fatalities, and 6 genders were unidentifiable). 22,302 people were injured and 375 were missing officially. Sindhupalchowk district recorded 3,557 deaths, Katmandu 1,233 deaths, and Nuwakot 1,109 deaths which were the highest to record human deaths. Kathmandu Valley recorded the highest number of injured casualties where 7950 people were injured followed by Lalitpur 7,950 and 2,101 in Bhaktapur respectively. 62 out of 75 districts of Nepal recorded human casualties as a result of earthquakes. Casualties were also recorded in Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, West Bengal and Dhaka. (Nepal Earthquake Event Recap Report, 2015)

Nepal has been suffering from such tragic calamities from the past too. But the 2015 earthquake of Nepal has really pushed Nepal to the tragic life. 10,000 of people died, thousands were injured, and hundreds are missing. Nepal has not been anywhere near this cruelty of nature in past 8 decades. The figures and the statistics are not just able to shows the pain of Nepalese people. Nepalese people are having a tragic time and yet they are trying to survive. Nepalese people are hoping that things will be fine no matter what they have been through.

#### 6.2.2 Residential Effects

The below-given figure 20 shows the residential effects of 2015 earthquake in Nepal. Thousands of houses were destroyed and damaged as the result of the earthquake. The hilly

region including Kathmandu valley suffered from the high catastrophic damage of the earthquake. A total of 605,254 houses were destroyed completely and 288,255 were damaged severely. The collapsing houses caused many human casualties as well as loss of animal livestock. 81,406 houses were destroyed in Dhading district of Nepal recording the highest number of destroyed houses in the 2015 earthquake. Nuwakot stood second recording 75,577 houses being completely destroyed followed by Sindhupalchowk which recorded of 64,595 houses. Kavrepalanchowk and Makwanpur district of Nepal recorded 23,745 and 17,560 destructed houses respectively. Kathmandu valley recorded the fewer number of destroyed houses (43,587) and a high number of damaged houses. Kathmandu, Bhaktapur and Lalitpur districts under Kathmandu valley suffered a huge loss of lives as well as cultural heritages sites, monuments and temples. In addition, major economic and political constructions and other major infrastructures of development were destructed in the Kathmandu valley by the earthquake as it is the capital and administrative center of Nepal. (Nepal Earthquake Event Recap Report, 2015)

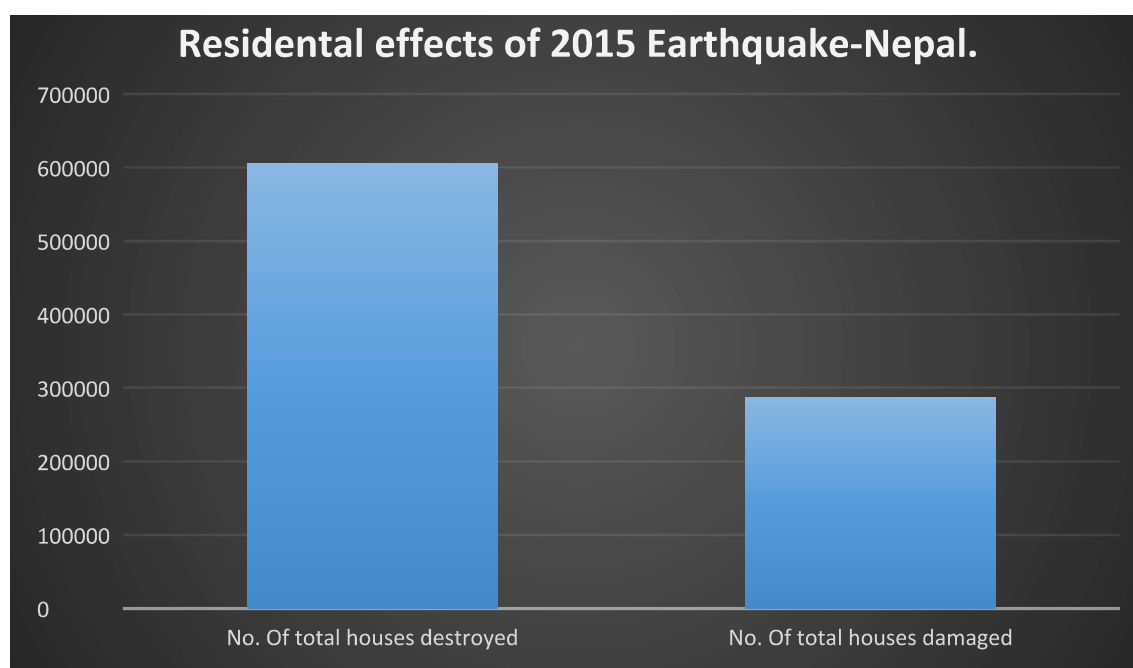


Figure 20. Residential Effects of 2015 Earthquake in Nepal. (Nepal Earthquake Event Recap Report, 2015)

The everyday life of Nepalese has been negatively affected by the earthquake. People do not have a roof over their head. They are sleeping in the public parks, roads, temporary tents, under bridges. They don't have anything called the luxury items. Their situation is getting worse every day. Rich are being poor and poor are dying and yet the Government of Nepal is still not able to address the problems of the earthquake victims.

### 6.2.3 Educational Effects

The below-given table 3 shows the total number of destructed and affected educational institutes of Nepal by the 2015 Aprils' earthquake. A total of 8,308 (42%) schools were affected by the 2015 earthquake of Nepal which means 47,557 classrooms being damaged or destroyed out of 216,810 classrooms. 19,708 (9.1%) classrooms were destroyed completely, 11,046 (5.1%) classroom sustains major damages and 16,803 (7.8%) sustains minor damages as the result of 2015 earthquake in Nepal. (Nepal Earthquake Event Recap Report, 2015)

S.N.	Particulars	Total in %	Total
1.	Total no. of schools affected	42%	8,308
2.	Total no. of classrooms	100%	216,810
3.	Total no. of classrooms destroyed	9.1%	19,708
4.	Total no. of classrooms sustaining major damage	5.1%	11,046
5.	Total no. of classrooms sustaining minor damage	7.8%	16,803

Table 3. Educational effects of 2015 earthquake of Nepal. (Nepal Earthquake Event Recap Report, 2015)

Dolakha, Lalitpur, Sindupalchowk and Gorkha districts of Nepal were highly affected by the earthquake. Around 98% of schools were destroyed or damaged and 99% of all classrooms were affected by the earthquake in Sindhupalchowk district of Nepal which affected 546 schools and 76,422 students respectively. In Lalitpur, a total of 189 schools and 31,822 students were affected respectively by the earthquake. One-third of schools in Lalitpur were affected and the 100 schools untouched by the earthquake were used as the emergency shelter. More than two-third (362) schools were destroyed or sustained major damages in Dolakha district of Nepal and the remaining 522 schools are used as temporary shelters. More than 85% of classrooms were completely destroyed by the earthquake in Gorkha. Only 7% of the classroom were untouched by the earthquake in Gorkha. Around 475 schools and 68,210 students were affected by the earthquake. (Nepal Earthquake Event Recap Report, 2015)

The educational damage done by 2015 earthquake of Nepal have affected the daily life of Nepalese people, especially the students. The academic year 2015 was significantly compromised as the result of the earthquake which will have an adverse impact on the future results of the affected students.

#### 6.2.4 Medical Effects

The below-given figure 21 shows the effects of Nepal's 2015 earthquake on health facilities. A total of 963 public health facilities were affected by the 2015 earthquake of Nepal of which 503 public health facilities were completely destroyed and 460 public health facilities were highly damaged. 374 health posts, 6 hospitals and 12 primary health care (PHC) were damaged among the damaged facilities. An additional 531 public health facilities and 102 birthing centers were partially damaged and 130 birthing centers were totally destructed. Nepal's Ministry of Health and Population had spent NPRS 67 million as an action of responding to the earthquake. (Nepal Earthquake Event Recap Report, 2015)

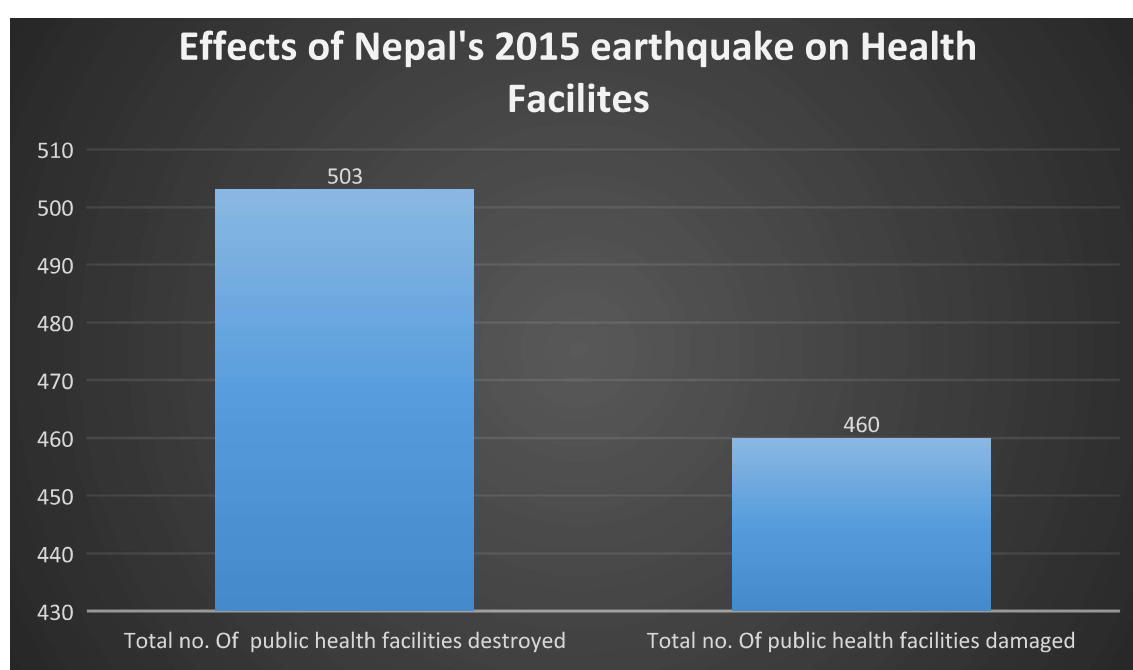


Figure 21. Effects of Nepal's 2015 earthquake on Health Facilities. (Nepal Earthquake Event Recap Report, 2015).

Several national and international health organizations have been donating and helping Nepal since the earthquake. Rural parts of Nepal are beyond the reach of even primary health care centers. Nepal ranks 133 out of 190 in terms of its health capacity, based on a number of physicians, nurses and hospital beds. (WHO, 2015) The immediate medical response to the injured victims of the earthquake was a challenging job. More the 1.5 million people are living outside their home only in Kathmandu valley which not only have increased the risk of epidemic diseases but also has increased the speed at which they spread. (Emspak, 2015)

#### 6.2.5 Effects in Agriculture

Nepal is an agricultural country. About One-third of Nepal's GDP is earned through agriculture. Around two-thirds of Nepalese people rely on agriculture which is also their major source of employment and income. Before the 2015 earthquake in Nepal, around 50% of the household kept cattle, 52% kept goats or sheep, 44% kept poultry (ducks or fowls), 38% kept minimum one buffalo and 10% kept pigs. Thousands of livestock were dead and thousands more were severely injured by the earthquake which has deducted the overall agricultural income of Nepal. 58,832 heads of livestock including buffalo, cow, goats, sheep and pigs were killed in the highly affected 14 districts of Nepal. 629,362 poultry farm were destroyed in total in the worst affected 14 districts. Lalitpur recorded 88,829 destroyed poultry making it the highest while Sindhuli stood second with 88,228 poultry farms being completely destroyed. 7,662 heads of livestock were killed in Nuwakot and Kavrepalanchowk recorded 629,362 dead livestock. A total 91,679 metric tons of food stock were destroyed in the worst affected 14 districts of Nepal. According to Nepal's Ministry of Agriculture, the total loss of livestock and poultry resulted in an economic loss of USD 135 million (NPR 14 billion). (Nepal Earthquake Event Recap Report, 2015)

The devastating 2015 Nepal's earthquake have pushed back the agriculture industry of Nepal towards its downfall. Farmers are being demotivated towards agriculture and the youths moving abroad in search of employment which has severely affected the economy of Nepal and have raised the level of poverty.

#### 6.2.6 Effects in Industry

All of the major industries in Nepal were severely affected by the 2015 earthquake. Agriculture, tourism and commercial industries are facing a tough time because of the destruction caused by the earthquake. Conglomerate, consumer goods, oil and gas and pharmaceuticals are the major commercial industries of Nepal. Both production and distribution of products are being affected because of the damaged infrastructures like roads and broken commutation networks. Brick production is one of the major industry of Nepal and before the earthquake an estimated 100 brick clinks were operating in Kathmandu valley only: 15 in Kathmandu, 32 in Lalitpur and 62 in Bhaktapur. Brick production industries were worst hit by the 2015 earthquake in Nepal in comparison with the other small scale industries of Nepal. All 15 brick clinks of Kathmandu and 32 brick clinks of Lalitpur were completely destroyed as the result of the earthquake: Bhaktapur standing as the one of the worst

affected districts out of 14 worst affected district is believed to have been affected but the exact data are yet unknown. (Nepal Earthquake Event Recap Report, 2015)

#### 6.2.7 Utility Effects

Nepal Electricity Authority (NEA) reported that 16 out of 23 hydropower facilities in Nepal which were operational were damaged by the earthquake and among those 16 facilities, one facility which was under construction was severely damaged. Only three of those affected hydropower facilities were operational after the first earthquake. Sunkoshi Khola, Upper Bhotekoshi, Indrawati -3, Chaku Khola, Barmachi Khola, Middle Chaku, Sipring Khola, Ankhu Khola, Trishuli, Bhairab Kunda, Sunkoshi, Devi Ghat, Kulekhani, Sunkoshi, Chilime, Upper Trishuli-3 (under construction) were among the affected 16 hydropower facilities. One-fifth of country's total power supply was affected. The shutdown of the hydro power facilities resulted in a loss of 150 megawatts from Nepal's power grid. In addition, 239 Micro Hydropower (MH) facilities were damaged which affected 60,713 households in Nepal mostly in Dhading, Okhuldhunga and Gorkha districts. (Nepal Earthquake Event Recap Report, 2015)

#### 6.2.8 Infrastructural Effects

The earthquake heavily affected the transportation networks of Nepal which, in Nepal, mainly comprise roads. The TIA airport was closed shortly following both the 25th May and 12th April earthquakes. The runways sustained cracks and damaged but the airport's authority utilized the runway fully to operate the possible flights. The runway was damaged severely as the airport was receiving, even more, planes which were carrying relief workers and other basic earthquake relief inventories. 1,242 miles (13%) of Nepal's road and highway network have been badly damaged by the earthquake. Road and highway networks of Nuwakot, Dolakha and Sidhupalchowk districts of Nepal were worst affected by the earthquake. As indicated by the Nepal's Road Department, Nepal has 15,000 kilometers (9,320 miles) of "strategic roads" which consists of 21 highways and 208 feeder roads. (Nepal Earthquake Event Recap Report, 2015)

#### 6.2.9 Effects in Tourism

The tourism industry of Nepal has been severely affected by the earthquake and is still going through a difficult phase as Nepal is receiving a fewer number of tourists compared to the past. Nepal received 538,970 visitors in the year 2015 which is the least in the past 6 years. There is (-32%) decrement in the tourist arrivals in Nepal compared to 2014. (Prassain, 2016) The international media coverage on 2015 Nepal's earthquake somewhat supported Nepal to

be known all over the world but have affected negatively for the tourism industry of Nepal as thousands of visitors canceled already booked holiday packages to Nepal. (Giri, 2015)

Many important historical buildings in Kathmandu, as well as Nepal, sustained major damages as the result of the earthquake. According to UNESCO, around 30 historically important monuments under UNESCO world heritage sites of Kathmandu collapsed and 120 incurred partial damage. More than 1,000 temples, monasteries, shrines and historic houses were damaged or destroyed in Nepal. The total repair cost of these historically important sites was estimated to be around USD 160 million and besides the indirect economic loss that Nepal has faced from loss of tourism. (Nepal Earthquake Event Recap Report, 2015)

The 25th April which occurred in the middle of Nepal's spring trekking season brought the season to an abrupt halt. The seven UNESCO world heritage site of Kathmandu: Kathmandu Durbar Square, Bhaktapur Durbar Square, Patan Durbar Square, Swyambhunath, BuddhaNath, Changunarayan Temple and Pashupatinath Temple which were Nepal's key tourism products sustained extensive and irreversible damages as the result of the earthquake. Furthermore, trekking regions such as Manaslu, Ganesh Himal, Langtang, Ruby Valley and Rowling were severely affected by the earthquake and threats of landslide and floods worsened the tourism business in these areas. (Nepal Economic Forum, 2015)



Figure 22. Dharahara Before and After Earthquake. (ABC News, 2016)

The nine-story Dharahara (Bhimsen Tower) that once stood more than 60 meters (200 feet) was fully destroyed by the earthquake. The tower was built in 1832 and had a viewing deck on the 8th floor. It was reconstructed following the earthquake that hit Nepal in 1934. (Nepal Earthquake Event Recap Report, 2015). Around 200 people were trapped inside the tower at the time of the earthquake and were listed dead later. Dharahara was opened to the public before 10 years and was an important part of Nepal's tourism industry. (Dileda, 2015)

Many hotels, restaurants, travel agencies and both private and governmental tourism and tourism related organizations have been damaged which have affected the tourism industry of Nepal negatively. Besides the presented effects, other factors like bankruptcy risk have increased as the many hoteliers and tourism industry firms have taken out big government loans survive such tragic action of nature which can affect the future tourism industry of Nepal as well. (Wearn, 2016)

## 7 Research Methodology and Conduction

The systematic investigation into and study of material and sources in order to establish facts and reach new conclusions is called research and methodology is a system of methods used in a particular area of study or activity. (Oxford Dictionaries, 2016) In short, research methodology is the way to find out the result of a given problem on a specific matter or problem also referred as the research problem. Different sources use different types of methods to solve problems. (Industrial Research Institute, 2010)

Out of many research methodologies, “Qualitative Research Methodology” for the primary data collection of the case study and “Quantitative Research Methodology” for collecting secondary data for this research has been used. Direct observation and interviews were used to collect the data for qualitative research and statistical, mathematical or numeric analysis of data were collected for quantitative research of the case study.

The quantitative method of data collection focuses on the measurements and the statistical, mathematical, or numerical analysis of data collected through questionnaires and surveys, polls, or by manipulating pre-existing statistical data using computational techniques. It emphasizes on collecting numerical data and discovering it across groups of people or to explain a particular phenomenon. (USC Libraries, 2016) For the quantitative research of this report, pre-existing statistical data collected by Nagarkot Municipality- 11 have been used which later were studied and executed systematically and scientifically. In addition, online books and newspapers were used for extracting the authentic, solid and valid data needed for the quantitative research.

The qualitative method of data collection is the primary exploratory research method which is used to understand the underlying reasons, opinions and motivations of people using the semi-structured or unstructured techniques for data collection. It provides the deeper and detailed picture of an analysis. (Learn Higher & MMU, 2008) There are various methods of data collection in this type of research which in fact is largely limited by the imagination of the researcher. Basically, qualitative data are collected in four major methods which are interviews, focus group, observation and action research. (University of Surrey)

The interview is the most common art of collecting data in qualitative research. As the primary method used in this thesis report for data collection is qualitative research method, all the required data were collected through the interview in person-to- person format. Interview's questions were created before the interview in the semi-structured style where questions were formed in open-ended question's format. Open-ended questions were used to conduct the interview as it allows the interviewee to be more open to the essence of the question as well as the interviewer has better access to the true feeling of the respondent on an issue. Since, semi-structured questions are also known as focus questions and its provides the detailed picture of an issue being discussed freely without distracting the comfort zone of both parties, (University of Surrey) it was used. In addition, being the student of Degree Program in Tourism at Laurea University, the competence of the author was used to conduct interview. Besides the person-to-person interview, personal observation was also used to conduct the research.

### 7.1 Data Collection

The Earthquake Survey Report -2015 conducted by Nagarkot Municipality-11 was mainly used as the secondary data source for quantitative research of the case study and these data were easily available under request from the office of Nagarkot Municipality-11, Bhaktapur. Being the native resident of Nagarkot has made the data collection easier and also has helped to seize and present the real situation of Nagarkot. In addition, different websites, national newspapers, online articles and surveys were used to collect the quantitative data to make the research more convenient, scientific and understandable.

**Advantages of Secondary Data:** One of the primary advantages of secondary data is saving of time. The researcher might not need to visit the research area personally which saves time and money. The researcher can access data which can't be collected physically that makes secondary data easily accessible. It also provides a basis for comparison for the data is collected by the researcher and helps improve understanding of the problem. And also it makes primary data more specific since with the help of secondary data the researcher can find out the missing information or new results. (MSG)

**The disadvantage of Secondary Data:** As for the disadvantage of secondary data, sometimes the accuracy of secondary might be unknown. Since the research are done to find out new current or future results the data source used from the secondary database might be outdated and also the data and information obtained might be non-authentic and unreliable. (MSG) Sometimes the available data are not specific to researcher's need and also incomplete information on the related topic of research is possible. (Know This LLC, 2016) For qualitative

research data collection which is the primary research method used in the case study, an interview with President of Nagarkot Community Homestay, Mr. Suraj Bastola had been conducted in personal as well as through email questionnaires and live chats. In addition, personal observation was also used.

Using Qualitative and Quantitative Research Together: Both qualitative and quantitative research when combined together in a research can output extremely effective result. Qualitative research can be used to identify the factors that affect the areas of investigation then that information can be used to devise quantitative research that assesses how these factors would affect user preferences. The combination of both qualitative and quantitative data can improve an evaluation by ensuring the limitations of one type of data which are balanced by the strengths of another. However, it is important to have enough knowledge beforehand to combine both the data together. (Better Evaluation)

Differences between Qualitative and Quantitative Research:

S. N	Qualitative Research	Quantitative Research	
1.	It is the primary exploratory research.	It is the way of generating numerical data or data that can be transformed into useable statistics.	
2.	It is used to understand the underlying reasons, opinions and motivations.	It is used to quantify opinions, attitudes, behaviors and other defined variables.	
3.	It uses semi structured or unstructured techniques for data collection.	It uses more structured and organized techniques for data collection.	

Table 4. Differences between Qualitative and Quantitative Research. (Wyse, 2011)

Advantages and Disadvantages of Qualitative Research method: Qualitative data analysis provides deeper and detailed picture of an analysis by recording attitudes, feelings and behaviors of the respondents while in the other hand it studies limited number of people and generally is more time consuming than quantitative data analysis process. It creates openness among the people respondents encouraging them to expand on their responses which can

open up new topic areas not initially considered and also it stimulates people's individual experiences. On the disadvantage side, since fewer people are studied it is not possible to generalize results to that of the population which makes it difficult to make systematic comparisons. (Learn Higher & MMU, 2008) In qualitative research, the quality of research is totally dependent on the competency of the researcher and can be easily influenced by idiosyncrasies and biases of the researchers and also rigidity is more difficult to judge, demonstrate and maintain. Data gathered in qualitative research depends on human experience and is more compelling and powerful than that of quantitative research. The researcher can have a clear picture of what to expect about the result of the research in the qualitative process but it can be more time consuming and difficult to present in visual ways as in quantitative process. (Occupy Theory, 2014)

## 7.2 Validity and Reliability

Validity and reliability must be addressed in all studies. The accuracy, dependability, and credibility of the information depend on it. Validity refers to how well a test measures what it is purported to measure and reliability is the degree to which an assessment tool produces stable and consistent results. (Phelan & Wren, 2005)

Validity and reliability are concepts that capture the measurement properties of a survey, questionnaire or another type of measure and are important concepts in research. The accurate use of these concepts provides the sense of what they mean, however, their use is more complex. Face validity, content validity, construct validity and criterion validity are considered as the standard procedures to ensure the validity of measurement of research while test-retest reliability, parallel forms reliability, inter-rater reliability and internal consistency reliability are considered as standard procedures to ensure the reliability of measurement of topic and research. (Institute for Work and Health)

The data used for this thesis are considered to be valid and reliable since the data used and presented are best projected in a systematical and chronological order and are sourced from authentic and trustworthy resources. Both concepts of standard measurement of validity and reliability are used to extract the accurate result of the research. All the acquired information through the research are not presented here to make the research more solid and valid and also for some parts of the research data were collected via personal observation which makes it more reliable. The validity and reliability of data depend on upon the competency of its reader.

## 8 Findings and Analysis

This topic of the research covers the outcomes and analysis of the results. The first section of this chapter shows the results of the quantitative research where the Earthquake -Survey Report-2015 conducted by Nagarkot Municipality-11 and other reliable sources were used. The second section of this chapter shows the results of the qualitative research based on the interview with President of Nagarkot Community Homestay. This chapter's main objective is to ascertain and project and the negative effects of 2015 Nepal's Earthquake for the tourism industry and the local community of Nagarkot as well as to find solutions to these sort of problems for sound future tourism in Nagarkot.

### 8.1 Human Casualties

The below-given figure 23 shows the total human casualties by the 2015 Nepal's Earthquake in Nagarkot. The total population of Nagarkot before the 2015 earthquake was 2,442. A total of 3 people died and 14 people were injured because of the earthquake. 1227 (50.2%) of people were female and 1215(49.8%) were male. 1 female and 2 male died in the earthquake which makes current population total 1226 female and 1213 male. A total of 14 people were injured of which 6 were male and 8 were female. And around 419 families presented themselves as single family and the rest 96 family were living as a joint family. 9 houses were listed as other than residential property. (Government of Nepal, 2015)

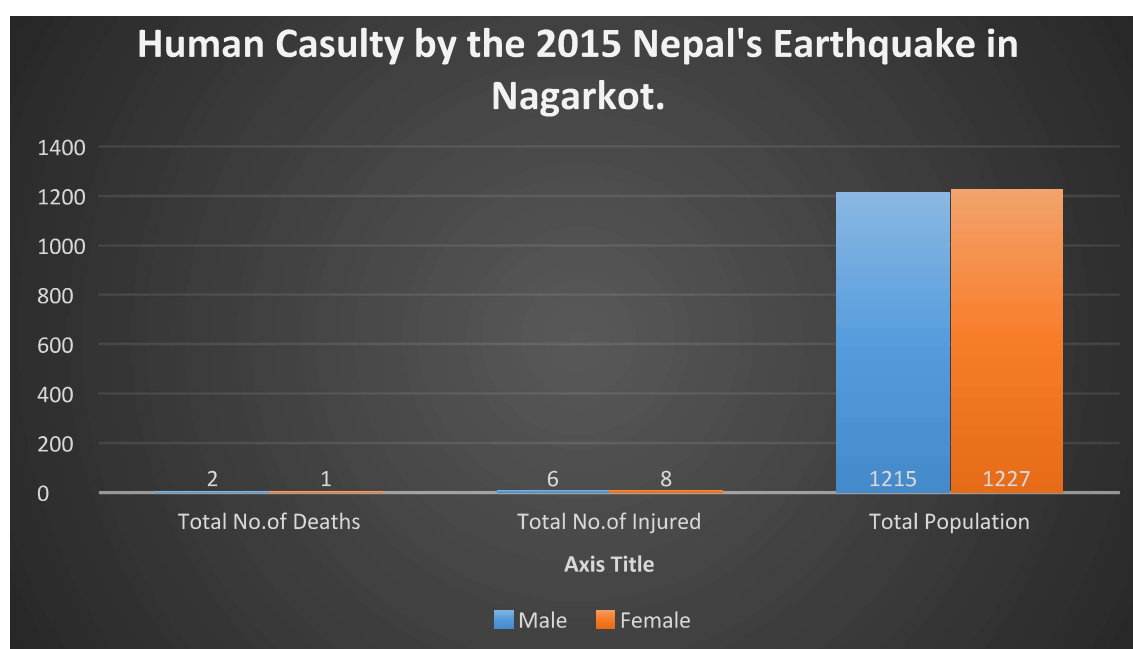


Figure 23. Human Casualty by the 2015 Nepal's Earthquake in Nagarkot. (Government of Nepal, 2015)

The earthquake has affected the daily life of people of Nagarkot negatively. Increased tensions, depressions, and other psychological disorders in people of this area, especially children, pregnant women and restaurant entrepreneurs were observed.

## 8.2 Property Effects

The below-given figure 24 shows the property effects of 2015 Nepal's earthquake in Nagarkot. Out of 524 houses in Nagarkot Municipality, 451 (86%) houses were fully damaged, 39 (7%) houses were partially damaged and 34 (6%) houses were listed as ordinarily damaged as the result of 2015 Nepal's earthquake. 125 (24%) of the houses damaged were concrete houses and 399 (76%) of the houses were mud houses. This shows that all of the houses in Nagarkot Municipality was affected in total. Jalpa Devi Temple, Geeta Temple, Lamichhane Kul Devata Temple and Basuki Temple, as well as other industrial, educational and miscellaneous institutions located in this area, were partially damaged as the result of the earthquake. (Government of Nepal, 2015)

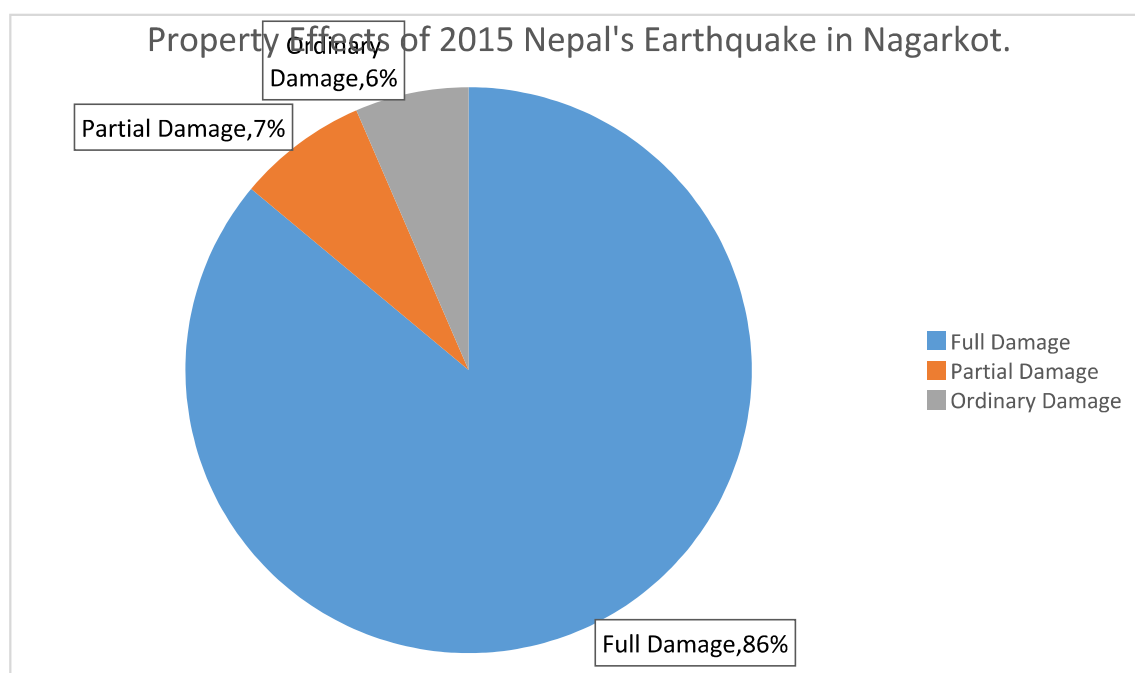


Figure 24. Property Effects of 2015 Nepal's Earthquake in Nagarkot. (Government of Nepal, 2015)

As the result of the earthquake hundreds of people lost their houses and are forced to live in the temporary tents and in the open places fighting with viral diseases and heat and cold. People of Nagarkot are going through harsh time as Nagarkot is listed under one of the worst affected areas of Bhaktapur which is listed among the worst affected 14 districts of Nepal.

## 8.3 Agricultural Effects

The below-given table 5 shows the total loss of livestock in Nagarkot by the 2015 Nepal's earthquake. A total of 4131 animals were dead i.e. 4106 hen, 13 goats, 8 cows, 2 rabbits, 1 buffalo and an ox were dead as the result of the earthquake. Also, 2 animal sheds were listed as fully damaged. 1 irrigation canal (Raj Kulo) also suffered partial damage and also because of the fully damaged houses people were not able to find tools for agriculture. Irregular rainfall and scarcity of water for irrigation have created the tough challenge for farmers to rise against nature. Jalpa Devi Dairy also have been partially damaged which have caused the waste of local milk and milk products that have also negatively affected the economic status of farmers of Nagarkot. (Government of Nepal, 2015)

S. N	Animals	Dead
1.	Cow	8
2.	Buffalo	1
3.	Hen	4106
4.	Goat	13
5.	Rabbit	2
6.	Ox	1

Table 5. Total loss of livestock in Nagarkot by the 2015 Nepal's Earthquake. (Government of Nepal, 2015)

People of Nagarkot earn their livelihood through tourism business and agriculture. In fact, agriculture is the one of the main sources of income for people of their area. The loss they suffer as the result of the earthquake have increased poverty and also have demotivated people to carry on their traditional occupation and have forced the least youths to fly foreign lands to earn their living.

#### 8.4 Educational Effects

Garima Library, the only library located in Nagarkot and many other secondary and lower secondary governmental as well as private schools have been partially damaged as the result of the earthquake. (Government of Nepal, 2015)

According to the author's observation, students being afraid of the aftershocks of the earthquake and the poor physical status of the school buildings are not attending schools in regular basis as before. On the other side, teachers are not able to provide lessons because of the loss and lack of stationary materials needed. Overall the earthquake has negatively affected the educational environment of Nagarkot.

### 8.5 Health Effects

The building of Nepal Red Cross Society has been partially damaged and Nagarkot Public Health post has been severely damaged as the result of the earthquake. Currently, operations and other treatments are carried out in huts and tents. Because of the unhygienic environment after the earthquake, several epidemic diseases have evolved and is spreading instantly which have risked the life of people in this area. People are forced to go to hospitals in the nearest town Bhaktapur which has increased the physical labor of people as well as emergency health services are not available in this area which has also risked the life of local people. (Government of Nepal, 2015)

### 8.6 Environmental Effects

The scenically beautiful and peaceful environment of Nagarkot has changed into chaos as the result of the earthquake. Destroyed houses, fallen trees, collapsed bridges and roads have affected the ecosystem as well as tourism business of Nagarkot. The unwanted sound pollution created by dozers and cranes as well as traffic have even worsened the touristic environment of Nagarkot.

### 8.7 Effects in Tourism

More than 60 big hotels and 150 restaurants have been affected by the 2015 Nepal's earthquake. Roj Hill Farm, Bhangeri Durbar Hotel, Country Villa, New Dragon, Hotel Nagarkot Hillside, Eco Home Hotel Sunshine Hotel and other 15 hotels have been resumed since the 15th May 2015. The earthquake has caused losses amounting to billions Nepalese rupees for hotel and restaurant entrepreneurs. Around NRS 50 million to NRS 200 million have been invested by investors for each big hotel in Nagarkot. (Adhikari, 2015)

Total 17 houses of Nagarkot's Bastola Village were providing Nagarkot Community Home Stay Program and packages of which only 1 house is operational at the moment and remaining 16 houses were fully damaged as the result of the earthquake. Initially, 13 houses were registered as community homestay houses and later it was increased to 17 houses. The home stay program was started in Nagarkot with the capital of NPR 4,000,000 and the damaged caused by the earthquake was around NPR 3,000,00 which shows that tourism business of Nagarkot has been severely affected by the earthquake. Single house registered as the service provider for Nagarkot's homestay used to generate around NPR 7,000,000 annually and because of the damage caused by the earthquake employment sector in this area have been severely affected. Nagarkot home stay community used to receive around 70% national tourists and 30% international tourists before the earthquake mostly the Chinese visitors.

Each house of this community village have the capacity to accommodate 24-28 people per week but as the result of the earthquake the community is receiving only around 10-12 people per week which are around 50% less compared to the period before the earthquake. The appeal for reconstruction of the Nagarkot community home stay village have been registered to the Government of Nepal yet the aid has not been received which have even depleted the overall touristic environment of Nagarkot. (Sakhakarmi, 2016)

Many religious sites in Nagarkot have been partially damaged which were the center of attraction and pilgrimage for national and international tourists. Jalpa Devi Temple located in this area have been partially damaged and is one of the major sites of attraction for religious tourists. Because of the damage by the earthquake, the temple's casual visitors, as well as new comers, have been decreased. The lesser the number of visitors the lesser the income and lesser social and economic progress. Geeta Temple, Basuki Temple, Lamichhane Kul Devta Temple and many other important religious sites in Nagarkot have been affected by the earthquake which has also affected the tourism industry of Nagarkot. In addition, because of the earthquake both the tourism service providers and the receivers are affected. Hotels and restaurants are closing day by day and people are pushed towards poverty. As the result of unemployment, local food and its market have fallen which have not only affected the fall in food prices but also depleted the price of tourism services. Local art and handicraft's artist are having a tough time as their business have been severely affected due to the lesser number of visitors in this area. Tourist visiting in this area are having problems in food and accommodation. The transportation and communication services are lesser than before and come with the higher price. Also, because of the imbalance in production and distribution of goods and services the overall touristic environment of Nagarkot have been hugely affected. (Government of Nepal, 2015)

## 8.8 Other Effects

Many infrastructures of development have been damaged as the result of the earthquake. Roads have been damaged which have caused transportation difficulties to local people as well as visitors. The infrastructure of communication like telephone, internet has been hugely affected. The administration center of Nagarkot Municipality has also suffered partial damage which has caused the governmental works delays and difficult as important documents have been destroyed by the earthquake. People are forced to live in the dark because of lack of electricity supply. (Government of Nepal, 2015) The economic, socio-cultural and environmental impact of the 2015 Nepal's earthquake are unexplainable. The negative effects of the earthquake for Nagarkot are deeper and bigger than it can be seen from outside. Overall, the report shows that the tourism industry in Nepal has been negatively affected by

the 2015 Nepal's earthquake which has brought the development and prosperity of Nagarkot to an abrupt halt.

### 8.9 Case Study of Nagarkot Municipality

Nagarkot is located 32 kilometers north-east of Kathmandu at the altitude of 7200 ft. from the sea level. It is the most popular hill station in the Kathmandu Valley with the magnificent view of sunrise and sunset in the Himalayas. The breathtaking view of Himalaya, the cool weather, the rich natural beauty and the traditional customs and traditions of the people living here adds life this beautiful village. The cheapest and easiest way to get here from Kathmandu is to take the bus from the Bhaktapur Bus Terminal which is around 10 kilometers north-east from the international TIA airport of Kathmandu. Many tourist buses run directly from Kathmandu to Nagarkot which are operated by travel agencies and hoteliers for the ease of internal as well as international tourists. Normally, a trip to Nagarkot from Kathmandu cost around NRS 400. There are also many packages available for visitors through travel agencies and hoteliers with affordable prices and the packages include services like food and accommodation, trekking, mountain climbing, bike riding, hiking, paragliding and jungle safari.

Many hotels and restaurants are located in here to ease the stay of visitors. Hotels vary from 5 stars to non-star hotels. (Golden Gate Holidays, 2016). Club Himalayan is rated as the 5-star hotel by Trip Advisor's websites as it offers the best quality services to its visitors with reasonable price. Hotel Country Villa (3 stars), Bhangeri Durbar Resort (3 stars) and Nagarkot Sunshine Hotel (3 stars) are some of the other best hotels in Nagarkot. (Booking.com, 2016)

The hotel establishment in Nagarkot has been seriously affected by the earthquake. Many hotels have been forced to close down for lack of customers. Nevertheless, the tourism industry in Nagarkot has been seriously affected by the earthquake. At the moment, Nagarkot is bouncing back as guests are coming back in here and also the local people and the hoteliers are putting their effort together for sound tourism and future of Nagarkot. (Adhikari, 2015)

### 8.10 Analysis of the interview

To find out more about the negative effects of the 2015 Nepal's earthquake for Nagarkot's tourism industry, Mr. Suraj Bastola who is the current President of Nagarkot Home Stay Community had been interviewed personally as well as through email.

"Tourism is the process of people's movement from one place to another for different purposes for not more than one year," said Mr. Bastola. He also added that tourism is the

transaction between visitors and the service providers for both tangible and intangible benefits.

He stated that tourism is the most important industry in Nagarkot as the day to day life of people of Nagarkot rely on tourism business. Almost half of the population living in Nagarkot are benefited from tourism or tourism related services directly or indirectly. Besides agriculture, tourism is the main source of income for people of Nagarkot. He also said that the tourism is the most important industry in Nagarkot as Nagarkot is a naturally gifted place where even a small amount of effort for development and promotion of tourism industry can reveal significant economic, social and other miscellaneous benefits. The present and the future of Nagarkot depends on tourism as tourism is the globally largest and fastest growing industry which applies to Nagarkot too. He added, Nagarkot have the potential to establish as one of the major tourism destination in Nepal as it possesses required resources, local manpower as well as government policy for the sound touristic future of Nagarkot.

He said that Nagarkot Community Homestay was established in 2014 in Bastola Village, Nagarkot with the aim of providing quality food and accommodation services to its clients in reasonable price. The main motto of this organization is “Tourism for prosperity and prosperity for stability”. Since tourism industry is closely linked to development and prosperity of Nagarkot, hence the organization was formed. Local organic food and other agricultural products produced in Nagarkot are referred and preferred to its customers which to encourages the farmers as well as it utilizes and maintains the balance between environment and population. The visitors are also offered several other recreational services like hiking, mountain biking, sightseeing, tours to nearby places and visits to Jalpa Devi Temple. According to him, the main objectives of the organization is to protect and promote the economic and social standard of people of Nagarkot through tourism and also to reduce poverty, unemployment and other social and economic challenges of Nagarkot. He added, protecting and promoting traditional customs and heritages of Nagarkot are among the other major objectives of this community.

“Yes, of course, the tourism industry of Nagarkot is affected by the 2015 earthquake,” said Mr. Bastol. He added that tourism in Nagarkot have been severely affected by the earthquake and the day to day aftershocks of the quake have even worsened the touristic environment of Nagarkot which has negatively impacted the tourism as well as other businesses in Nagarkot. Nagarkot homestay community have been suffering badly since the earthquake as the hotels and community houses are receiving fewest number of visitors. Around 60% of the tourism and tourism related service providers are affected by the earthquake in Nagarkot in whole. Almost all Homestay’s houses are fully damaged and the homestay community is receiving around 70% less tourist than before.

Religious sites like Jalpa Devi Temple and Geeta Temple have been partially damaged by the earthquake which led to the decrease in the number of pilgrimage tourist visiting this area. Also, the destruction of the administrative building run by the government has made the local and international legal procedures of documents slow, costly and time-consuming which have created difficulties for both domestic and international tourists to reach this destination. Restaurant entrepreneurs, travel agencies, hoteliers and local retailers are directly affected by the earthquake which has negatively affected the tourism industry in the area. The tourism industry and industry related workers are being demotivated to continue with tourism business as well as Nagarkot is receiving the fewer number of investors for tourism and tourism related services or businesses. "I see no more tourist coach buses running on the hills of Nagarkot," he said. As the result of the earthquake, the busy road of Nagarkot receives lesser traffic which before the quake used to be filled with tourist coach buses and student's picnic buses. Infrastructures of development such as roads, bridges, health centers, educational and political institution have been severely damaged by the earthquake which has caused an interruption on supply and demand of tourism and tourism-related goods and services. The physical, economic, social and environmental effects of earthquake overall have negatively affected the tourism industry of Nagarkot as well as Nepal.

When asked about the future of tourism in Nagarkot he said that Nagarkot will bounce back again for its sound future. The local people of Nagarkot, the restaurant entrepreneurs and different NGOs and INGOs are putting their effort together to uplift the tourism as well as other industries of Nagarkot which will definitely help for the development of tourism industry. Many damaged hotels are being reopened and people are doing their best to protect the tourism industry of Nagarkot. Advertisements and other promotional activities like television advertisements, posters, radio and campaigns are being organized to let the world know that Nagarkot is once again opened for its customers. Awareness programs against the earthquake and disasters are being organized by the both local and governmental organization to avoid and to reduce the future loss by such disasters. Government's policy for housing and restaurant entrepreneurs are being modified to ease and to secure the future of tourism not only in Nagarkot but also for Nepal. Last but not the least, he added that in the future when the effort of the people of Nagarkot and the Nepal's government acts accordingly, it will definitely result in the sound future tourism industry in Nagarkot. "We are hoping that the nation and international monetary and other aid that was announced to be provided by the government will be utilized and the act of reconstruction will be dealt immediately. Strict laws for construction of infrastructures should be formed and implemented along with policies to support the tourism service provider and receivers. The concept of sustainability should be kept in mind while dealing with reconstruction and reformation." says Mr. Bastola when asked about the future of Tourism in Nagarkot.

In addition, Mr. Bastola said that the natural means and resources of Nagarkot such as forests, rivers, mountains and scenic beauty should be utilized fully with cautions so that the tourism-related goods and services can be produced in local level with low investment and can earn a higher profit. He added, Nagarkot Naldum Tourism Board, as well as the Government of Nepal, should provide basic to advanced level tourism related training to local people of Nagarkot for producing skilled manpower which can not only promote tourism in Nagarkot but also can contribute to overall tourism development around the globe.

#### 8.11 SWOT Analysis

SWOT stands for Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats. It is the basic way of analyzing strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats or challenges of any businesses or organizations. Below the data of SWOTs of Nagarkot depending on the data acquired through the interview as well as the data obtained through personal observation have been presented.

**Strengths:** The natural beauty of Nagarkot is one of the main strength which attracts thousands of tourists every year. The customs, traditions, people, food, culture and location are other factors that strengthen tourism in Nagarkot. The view of sunrise and sunset in the Himalayas, the view of Kathmandu valley from view tower, the view of flowing Indrawati River and the quality services and packages attracts thousands of tourist to come and visit this place.

**Weaknesses:** The main weakness of Nagarkot is it lacks anti-earthquake or earthquake resistant infrastructures of development. The recent 2015 earthquake led to the destruction of hundreds of houses and families. Nagarkot is least prepared for future disasters that might strike this place. In addition, lack of transportation facilities is among other weaknesses of this place. Though, Nagarkot is easily accessible and lies just 32 Km North-East from central Kathmandu, the lack of transportation facilities like cars, buses, cable cars and unmanaged bus schedules have made difficulties get to this place which has negatively impacted tourism business of Nagarkot. And also, the promotional activities done to the market tourism industry of Nagarkot are not as effective as other similar places which have also decreased tourist inflow of Nagarkot.

**Opportunities:** Since Nagarkot is famous for its natural beauty and culture and tradition of its people, tourism and tourism-related businesses in Nagarkot is the best opportunity for people of Nagarkot which can not only provide employment opportunities but also can help preserve the environment through sustainable tourism. The promotion of local art and architecture along with agriculture can be a boom for the overall development of Nagarkot which can help

alleviate poverty and uplift economic, environmental as well as the social standard of people of Nagarkot.

Threats: Natural disasters like earthquake, flash flooding and landslide can be considered as the major threat that Nagarkot possesses. The recent 2015 earthquake in Nepal turned the calm and the naturally beautiful Nagarkot into chaos. In addition, the unmanaged migration of people from nearby villages like Deaupur, Halayday and Kartikay has resulted in unmanaged urbanization in Nagarkot which has depleted the hygienic and peaceful environment of Nagarkot. Because of the increasing number of foreign tourist, foreign elements are being introduced the local community which has negatively affected the socio-cultural environment of Nagarkot. The number of tourist means the higher number of threats. And the unmanaged distribution of population and tourist inflow have threatened the peace and security of Nagarkot. For instance, recently a group of domestic visitors was accused of lighting fire in the nearby forest of Nagarkot.

## 9 Conclusion

The main objective of this thesis is to output the current scenario of Nepal after the massive 2015 Nepal's earthquake which negatively affected tourism industry as well as the local community of Nepal. Nepal being a naturally gifted country, where the highlands of the Himalayas are standing as the roof for Nepalese and where the symbol of peace in the world "Lord Gautama Buddha" was born is a country of great significance to the world. The tourism industry of Nepal is of great importance and have a huge impact on the economic, socio-cultural and environmental aspects of Nepal and its people.

According to the author's experience, the 2015 Nepal's earthquake have severely reduced the tourist inflow in Nepal which have created social, economic and environmental problems in Nepal such as increasing poverty ratio, the decrease in foreign exchange and revenue and loss of biodiversity as well as loss environmental sanitation respectively. Tourism industry acts as the key for the overall development of Nepal as it is one of the major industry of Nepal. The after effects of the earthquake have severely destroyed Nepal and its tourism industry. The government and the local community are not able to rebuild or reconstruct the country immediately which have halted the overall development of Nepal. It is said that Nepal has been pushed 50 years back in terms of development. Nepal being a country prone to the natural disaster like an earthquake and floods is not well prepared for such events which result as a massively destructive event that has been destroying the peace, prosperity and development of Nepal. It's been more than a year, still, the government of Nepal is unprepared for such disastrous events that might strike Nepal again in the near future. One of the main reason behind the economic, socio-cultural and environmental backwardness of

Nepal is the unstable politics. For e.g. when the 2015 earthquake hit Nepal on 25 April 2015, the prime Minister or ruling the government was Nepal was Nepali Congress Party and the monetary as well as other physical and social aid provided to the country were handled by Nepali Congress but later after the formation of Nepal's new constitution the new ruling party became Naykapa Amalay and they brought the changes in the initial aid distribution plan and reconstruction procedures of Nepali congress which halted the overall distribution program and pushed back the reconstruction program even further.

The author of this thesis feels that the tourism industry in Nepal is at risk because of various factors such as natural calamities, political instability and illiteracy. For the betterment of tourism industry in Nepal, the first step to being taken is to utilize the available means and resources fully with the concept of sustainability. The infrastructures of development such as roads, bridges, water supply, communication facilities, sewers, electrical grids and tunnels should be constructed in numerous quantities along with the concept of sustainability to attract more visitors. Since the reports show that the traditional mud houses of Nepal were highly damaged by the earthquake the anti-earthquake houses or infrastructure of development are to be constructed in the future.

Secondly, the government should provide immediate economic as well as other possible aid to the affected people or businesses for reconstruction of Nepal and also to encourage people to fight against such calamities. The political issues of Nepal should be fixed and emergency disaster rescue plans are to be kept in place to avoid or to reduce the future risks. Educational and awareness programs against natural disasters and its negative effects on the economy, environment and socio-cultural aspects of Nepal are to be provided to the local people in grass route level by the government. And also people should be educated about the benefits and possibilities of tourism in Nepal as well as the impact of tourism on the global level.

Mostly secondary data sources are used by for preparing this thesis. Data were easily available through secondary resources such as online books, articles, newspapers, and television. Data regarding the negative effects of 2015 earthquake for Nepal were easily available through online resources though to find such data for the case study "Nagarkot" were bit challenging as there were limited resources. Besides the secondary sources, an interview hand been conducted to find the qualitative data needed for the report as well as the Earthquake Report conducted by Nagarkot Municipality-11 was used for obtaining the true scenario of the study area. In addition, being the local resident of Nagarkot and being the victim of the earthquake during the 25th April earthquake in Nepal, the author was highly motivated to conduct this research. All the acquired data from different sources were analyzed and are presented in

systematic and scientific order to make the report more functional and valid as well as reliable data sources are used to make the report more authentic.

Anyone reading this thesis will be able to easily understand the importance and possibilities of tourism in Nepal as well as the negative effects of 2015 Nepal's earthquake for the tourism industry and the local community of Nepal. Last but not least, the author would like to request each and every individual, communities, societies or country to help Nepal in the time of its difficulty and also is very thankful to all the helping hands that helped Nepalese to recover from the devastating 2015 Nepal's earthquake.

## References

- ABC. 2016. Nepal Earthquake Before and After Photos. Accessed 29.06.2016  
<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2015-04-27/nepal-earthquake-before-after-photos/6424570>
- Adhikari, N. 12.06.2015. The Kathmandu Post: Nagarkot Hotels Bounce Back. Accessed 30.06.2016 <http://kathmandupost.ekantipur.com/printedition/news/2015-06-11/nagarkot-hotels-bounce-back.html>
- Alexandre, R. 19.02.2011. Most Odd: Facts of Interest. Accessed 28.03.2016  
<https://mostodd.wordpress.com/2011/02/19/30-the-most-unique-flag/>
- Antofagasta foresight. Accessed 19.03.2016  
<https://antofagastaforesight.wordpress.com/methods/trends-megatrends-wild-cards-and-weak-signals/>
- BBC. 2014. Geography: Earthquakes. Accessed 01.07.2016  
[http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/geography/natural\\_hazards/earthquakes\\_rev1.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/geography/natural_hazards/earthquakes_rev1.shtml)
- BBC: News: 27.07.2010. UK: Who Are the Gurkhas? Accessed 14.03.2016  
<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-10782099>
- BBC News. 15.05.2015. World: Nepal Earthquake Devastation in Maps and Images. Accessed 01.07.2016. <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-32479909>
- BBC NEWS. 24.02.2016. World: Asia. Accessed 15.03.2016  
<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-south-asia-12511455>
- Benfield, A. September 2015. Nepal Earthquake Event Recap Report 2015. Accessed 16.05.2016. <http://thoughtleadership.aonbenfield.com/documents/201509-nepal-earthquake.pdf>
- Booking.Com. 2016. Nepal: Nagarkot. Accessed 30.06.2016  
[http://www.booking.com/index.html?aid=318615;label=New\\_English\\_EN\\_FI\\_26744765905-KkwcybjVG6f%2AEdc3TBOxUgS100752763225%3Apl%3Ata%3Ap1%3Ap2%3Aac%3Aap1t1%3Aneg%3Afi%3Atidsa66246061305%3Alp%3Ali%3Adec%3Adm;sid=9c43be9ebf43dd64663e421e477a88b0;cid=12;click\\_from\\_logo=1](http://www.booking.com/index.html?aid=318615;label=New_English_EN_FI_26744765905-KkwcybjVG6f%2AEdc3TBOxUgS100752763225%3Apl%3Ata%3Ap1%3Ap2%3Aac%3Aap1t1%3Aneg%3Afi%3Atidsa66246061305%3Alp%3Ali%3Adec%3Adm;sid=9c43be9ebf43dd64663e421e477a88b0;cid=12;click_from_logo=1)
- Better Evaluation. Combine Qualitative and Quantitative Data. Accessed 29.06.2016  
[http://betterevaluation.org/plan/describe/combining\\_qualitative\\_and\\_quantitative\\_data](http://betterevaluation.org/plan/describe/combining_qualitative_and_quantitative_data)
- Buckley, R., Gretzelb, U., Scottc, D., Weaver, D. & Becken, S. Tourism Recreation Research, 2015. Vol. 40, No. 1, 59-70. Taylor and Francis Online.2015. Accessed 12.03.2016.  
<http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/02508281.2015.1005942>
- Chand, S. 2015. Your Article Library Network. 2015. Two Types of Tourism. Accessed 30.06.2016. <http://www.yourarticlelibrary.com/tourism/2-types-of-tourism-international-and-domestic-tourism/14100/>
- Chandana, R. 27.09.2013. The evolution of Tourism in Nepal. Accessed 19.03.2016  
<http://blog.nepaladvisor.com/the-evolution-of-tourism-in-nepal/>
- Change Makers Ashoka. Nagarkot Community Homestay Village Tourism. Accessed 29.06.2016  
<https://www.changemakers.com/sustliving2014/entries/nagarkot-community-homestay-village-tourism-manage>

Child Fund International. 2016. The Devastating Impacts of Natural Disasters. Accessed 01.07.2016 <https://www.childfund.org/Content/NewsDetail/2147489272/>

Christie, J. 07.12.2008. Article Base: Travel. Accessed on 20.03.2016 <http://www.articlesbase.com/travel-articles/nepal-tourism-welcome-to-the-land-of-gorkhas-674561.html>

CNN.01.06.2001. World: Nepal's Royal Family Slain in palace 'Massacre'. Accessed 11.04.2016 <http://edition.cnn.com/2001/WORLD/asiapcf/south/06/01/nepal.palace.shooting.03/>

Cold Feet Blog.08.11.2013. Spiny Babbler. Accessed 12.03.2016 <http://www.coldfeetadventure.com/blog/rare-bird-spiny-babbler/>

Daileda, C. 25.04.2015. Mashable: Nepal's Historic Dharahara Tower Collapses in Massive Earthquake. Accessed 29.06.2016 <http://mashable.com/2015/04/25/dharahara-tower-nepal-earthquake/#XhpdGihrgkqu>

Dhakal, R. 2015. Overview of Tourism Development Prospects in Nepal. Accessed 10.03.2016. <https://www.theseus.fi/bitstream/handle/10024/86903/Thesis%20of%20Ranga%20Nath%20Dhakal.pdf?sequence=1>

Dissertation Help Service.Com. What is Research Methodology and Its Importance? Accessed 01.07.2016 <http://www.howtodo.dissertationhelpservice.com/what-is-research-methodology-and-its-importance/>

Earthbound Expeditions. 2016. World Heritage Sites of Nepal. Accessed 28.03.2016 <http://nepaltrekking.com/package/world-heritage-sites-of-nepal/>

EM-DAT. 2009. CRED: General Classification. Accessed 01.07.2016 <http://www.emdat.be/classification>

Emspak, J. 06.08.2015. Live Science: Nepal quake Could Have Been Much Deadlier. Accessed 01.07.2016 <http://www.livescience.com/51779-nepal-earthquake-could-have-been-deadlier.html>

Ensaa.Com. 25.04.2011. Climate Change. Accessed 12.04.2016 <http://www.ensaa.eu/index.php/climate-change/97-defining-climate-change.html>

EPA. 02.22.2016. CADDIS Volume 2: Stressors & Responses, Urbanization Accessed 12.03.2016 [http://www3.epa.gov/caddis/ssr\\_urb\\_urb1.html](http://www3.epa.gov/caddis/ssr_urb_urb1.html)

Epstein, J. 2016. GreenAsh. 14.03.2013. Thoughts: Natural Disaster Risk Level of the World's Largest Cities. Accessed 01.07.2016 <http://greenash.net.au/thoughts/2013/03/natural-disaster-risk-levels-of-the-worlds-largest-cities/>

Geography. Accessed 10.03.2016 [http://web.gps.caltech.edu/~avouac/nepal\\_trip/geography.htm](http://web.gps.caltech.edu/~avouac/nepal_trip/geography.htm)

Giri, R. 29.05.2015. Online Khabar: The Real Status of Tourism in Nepal after the Earthquake. Accessed 29.06.2016 <http://www.onlinekhabar.com/2015/05/282869/>

Golden Gate Holidays, 2016. Nagarkot Hill Station Tour. Accessed 01.07.2016 <http://www.goldengateholidays.com/?tours=nagarkot-tour-packages>

Government of Nepal. July 2015. Nepal Tourism Statistics 2014. Accessed 01.07.2016 [http://www.tourism.gov.np/images/download/Nepal\\_Tourism\\_Statistics\\_2014\\_Integrated.pdf](http://www.tourism.gov.np/images/download/Nepal_Tourism_Statistics_2014_Integrated.pdf)

Government of Nepal. November 2012. National Population and Housing Census 2011: National Report. Accessed 14.08.2016  
<http://unstats.un.org/unsd/demographic/sources/census/wphc/Nepal/Nepal-Census-2011-Vol1.pdf>

Government of Nepal. 2015. Maha Manjushree Nagarkot Municipality Earthquake-Survey Report, 2015.

Government of Nepal. 2016. Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation: Major Tourism Activities. Accessed 01.07.2016  
[http://www.tourism.gov.np/en/category/tourism/major\\_tourism\\_activities](http://www.tourism.gov.np/en/category/tourism/major_tourism_activities)

Government of Nepal. 2016. Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation: Religious Sites. Accessed 14.08.2016 [http://www.tourism.gov.np/en/category/culture/religious\\_sites](http://www.tourism.gov.np/en/category/culture/religious_sites)

Government of Nepal. Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Accessed 10.03.2016  
<http://www.mofa.gov.np/about-nepal/tourism-in-nepal/>

Grapevine. How dirty is Everest? Everest clean Up Debate. Accessed 01.07.2016  
<http://blog.muchbetteradventures.com/how-dirty-is-everest-the-everest-clean-up-debate/>

Gunn, A. 30.12.2007. Greenwood Publishing: Bihar, India Earthquake.  
[https://books.google.fi/books?id=4YzF-DT\\_\\_aIC&pg=PA337&redir\\_esc=y#v=onepage&q&f=false](https://books.google.fi/books?id=4YzF-DT__aIC&pg=PA337&redir_esc=y#v=onepage&q&f=false)

Gupta, A. Environmental Impact Assessment of Disasters. Accessed 01.07.2016  
<http://www.hrdp-idrm.in/e6547/e32367/e32713/e32820/>

Gurung, S. November 2015. Future Scope of Community Based Tourism in Nepal. Accessed. 15.06.2016  
<https://www.theseus.fi/bitstream/handle/10024/102581/Future%20scope%20of%20CBT%20in%20Nepal.pdf?sequence=1>

Heikkinen, J. 2011. The Impact of the Eyjafjallajökull-Eruption on the Inbound Tourism in Iceland. Accessed 01.07.2016  
[https://www.theseus.fi/bitstream/handle/10024/32887/Heikkinen\\_Jenna.pdf?sequence=1](https://www.theseus.fi/bitstream/handle/10024/32887/Heikkinen_Jenna.pdf?sequence=1)

Holiday Nepal. 2016. Lumbini: Maya Devi Garden. Accessed 11.04.2016  
<http://www.holidaynepal.com/lumbini/lumbini.html>

Holloway 1987, 2. Concept of Tourism and Hospitality. Accessed 11.08.2016  
<http://www.adam-europe.eu/prj/10485/prj/Definition%20of%20Tourism.pdf>

Huang, N. 03.11.2015. Wild Junket: 10 Most Visited Countries in the World 2015. Accessed 01.07.2016 <http://www.wildjunket.com/2015/11/03/most-visited-countries-2015/>

Hydropower in Nepal. Accessed 12.03.2016  
<http://www.ippan.org.np/HPinNepal.html>

ICIMOD. Nepal Earthquake 2015. Accessed 29.06.2016  
<http://drrportal.gov.np/ndrrip/main.html?id=0>

I Know WI-WE Bank: What is weak signal? Accessed 19.03.2016  
<http://wiwe.iknowfutures.eu/what-is-a-weak-signal/>

Industrial Research Institute, 2010. Dissertation Help Service.Com. Accessed 14.08.2016  
<http://www.howtodo.dissertationhelpservice.com/tag/what-is-research-methodology/>

Info please.2016. World Geography. Accessed 12.03.2016  
<http://www.infoplease.com/ipa/A0777280.html>

Institute for Work & Health. What Researcher Mean by Validity and Reliability.  
 Accessed 30.06.2016 <https://www.iwh.on.ca/wrmb/validity-and-reliability>

IPK. 2015/2016. ITB World Travel Trends Report.2015/2016. Accessed 19.03.2016  
[http://www.itb-berlin.de/media/itbk/itbk\\_dl\\_all/itbk\\_dl\\_all\\_itbkongress/itbk\\_dl\\_all\\_itbkongress\\_itbkongress365/itbk\\_dl\\_all\\_itbkongress\\_itbkongress365\\_itblibrary/itbk\\_dl\\_all\\_itbkongress\\_itbkongress365\\_itblibrary\\_studien/ITB\\_World\\_Travel\\_Trends\\_Report\\_2015\\_2016.pdf](http://www.itb-berlin.de/media/itbk/itbk_dl_all/itbk_dl_all_itbkongress/itbk_dl_all_itbkongress_itbkongress365/itbk_dl_all_itbkongress_itbkongress365_itblibrary/itbk_dl_all_itbkongress_itbkongress365_itblibrary_studien/ITB_World_Travel_Trends_Report_2015_2016.pdf)

Know This LLC. 2016. Secondary Research Disadvantages. Accessed 29.06.2016  
<http://www.knowthis.com/data-collection-low-cost-secondary-research/secondary-research-disadvantages>

Learn Higher & MMU, 2008. Learning to Analyse Qualitative Data. Accessed 29.06.2016  
<http://archive.learnhigher.ac.uk/analysethis/main/qualitative1.html>

Lonely Planet. 2016. Kathmandu: Swayambhunath. Accessed 01.07.2016  
<https://www.lonelyplanet.com/nepal/around-the-kathmandu-valley/swayambhunath>

Medlik 2003, 5. Concept of tourism and hospitality. Accessed 12.03.2016  
<http://www.adam-europe.eu/prj/10485/prj/Definition%20of%20Tourism.pdf>

Mountain Monarch. 2016. Activities: Peak Climbing. Accessed 11.04.2016  
<http://www.mountainmonarch.com/activity/peak-climbing/>

Mountain Ram Travels. 2013. Paragliding in Nepal. Accessed 01.07.2016  
<http://www.mountainramadventures.com/nepal/paragliding-in-nepal.html>

MSG.2016. Secondary Data. Accessed 29.06.2016  
[http://www.managementstudyguide.com/secondary\\_data.htm](http://www.managementstudyguide.com/secondary_data.htm)

Much Better. 19.11.2010. How Dirty Is Everest? The Everest Clean Up Debate. Accessed 29.06.2016 <http://blog.muchbetteradventures.com/how-dirty-is-everest-the-everest-clean-up-debate/>

NASA: 16.03.2016. Global Climate Change. Accessed 19.03.2016  
<http://climate.nasa.gov/solutions/adaptation-mitigation/>

NASA. What is NASA? Accessed. 14.03.2016  
<http://www.nasa.gov/audience/forstudents/k-4/stories/nasa-knows/what-is-nasa-k4.html>

Nepal Economic Forum.07.06.2015. Neftake. Accessed 29.06.2016  
<http://www.nepaleconomicforum.org/news/news.php?n=105>

NTB. 2016. Naturally Nepal. Once Is Not Enough: Things to do. Accessed 01.07.2016  
<http://www.welcomenepal.com/>

NIOS. 2013. Forms of Tourism. Accessed 25.06.2016  
[http://oer.nios.ac.in/wiki/index.php/Forms\\_of\\_Tourism](http://oer.nios.ac.in/wiki/index.php/Forms_of_Tourism)

Occupy Theory. 21.04.2014. Advantages and Disadvantages of Qualitative Research. Accessed 01.07.2016 <http://occupytheory.org/advantages-and-disadvantages-of-qualitative-research/>

OSAC. 16.04.2015. India 2015 Crime and Safety Report: New Delhi. Accessed on 07.03.2016

<https://www.osac.gov/pages/ContentReportDetails.aspx?cid=17460>

Oxford Dictionaries. 2016. Definition: Earthquake. Accessed 01.07.2016  
<http://www.oxforddictionaries.com/definition/english/earthquake>

Oxford Dictionaries. 2016. Definition: Future. Accessed 09.03.2016  
<http://www.oxforddictionaries.com/definition/english/future>

Oxford Dictionaries. 2016. Definition: Megatrend. Accessed 11.08.2016  
<http://www.oxforddictionaries.com/definition/english/megatrend>

Oxford Dictionaries. 2016. Definition: Methodology. Accessed 01.07.2016  
<http://www.oxforddictionaries.com/definition/english/methodology>

Oxford Dictionaries. 2016. Definition: Natural Disaster. Accessed 01.07.2016  
<http://www.oxforddictionaries.com/definition/english/natural-disaster?q=+disaster+natural>

Oxford Dictionaries. 2016. Definition: Research. Accessed. 01.07.2016  
<http://www.oxforddictionaries.com/definition/english/research>

Paudyal, S. 2016. Does Tourism Really Matter for Economic Growth? Evidence from Nepal.  
[http://www.academia.edu/3856846/Economic\\_Contribution\\_of\\_Tourism\\_in\\_Nepal\\_revised](http://www.academia.edu/3856846/Economic_Contribution_of_Tourism_in_Nepal_revised)

Phelan, C. & Wren, J. 2005. UNI: Exploring Reliability in Academic Assessment. Accessed 01.07.2016  
<https://www.uni.edu/chfasoa/reliabilityandvalidity.htm>

Prasain, S. 22.01.2016. The Kathmandu Post. Arrivals hit 6-year low as quake, agitation take toll. Accessed 11.04.2016  
<http://kathmandupost.ekantipur.com/news/2016-01-22/arrivals-hit-6-year-low-as-quake-agitation-take-toll.html>

Preston, S., Heuveline, P. & Guillot, M. 2000. Demography: Measuring and Modeling Population Processes. Blackwell Publishing. Accessed 30.06.2016  
<http://eu.wiley.com/WileyCDA/WileyTitle/productCd-1557864519.html>

Republica 23.03.2016. Kathmandu 23<sup>rd</sup> in Trip Advisor's top Destinations List. Accessed 14.08.2016  
<http://admin.myrepublica.com/feature-article/story/39262/kathmandu-23rd-in-tripadvisor-s-top-destinations-list.html>

Rettner, R. 27.05.2015. Live Science. 2016. Nepal Earthquake: Health Threats Loom over Survivors. 01.07.2016  
<http://www.livescience.com/50637-nepal-earthquake-health-concerns.html>

Rough Guides. 2015. Top Ten Countries: Nepal. Accessed 11.04.2016  
<http://www.roughguides.com/best-places/2016/top-10-countries/>

SAARC Tourism in Nepal. 2009. World Heritage Sites. Accessed 01.07.2016  
<http://nepal.saarctourism.org/world-heritage-sites.html>

Sakhakarmi, S. 20.04.2016. Kantipur National Newspaper: Only One House left out of 17 in Nagarkot Community Home Stay.

Samson, E. 21.01.2015. Slide Share. Accessed 25.06.2016  
<http://www.slideshare.net/ejaysamson/sociocultural-impacts-of-tourism.These>

Statista. Statistics and facts on internet usage worldwide. Accessed 12.03.2016  
<http://www.statista.com/topics/1145/internet-usage-worldwide/>

Statistics Finland. Metadata. Accessed 08.03.2016  
[http://www.stat.fi/meta/kas/matkailija\\_en.html](http://www.stat.fi/meta/kas/matkailija_en.html)

TCT. 2004. China Travel Guide: Mount Everest. Accessed 01.06.2016  
<http://www.topchinatravel.com/mount-everest/how-was-mount-everest-formed.htm>

TG Journal's Tourism Place. 01.05.2008. Accessed 27.03.2016  
<http://tourismplace.blogspot.fi/2008/04/tourism-is-not-worlds-largest-industry.html>

The Responsible Traveler Guide, 2010: Green Hotel & Responsible Tourism Initiative.  
 Accessed 08.03.2016 <http://green.hotelscombined.com/Rtg-Benefits-of-Tourism.php>

Trading Economics. 2016. Accessed 15.03.2016  
<http://www.tradingeconomics.com/nepal/gdp-per-capita>

Thullen, S. 28.06.1996. Tourism and Its Impacts on the Environment. Accessed 01.07.2016  
<http://www1.american.edu/ted/projects/tedcross/xtour8.htm>

Tourism Embassy. 01.02.2014. The Impacts of Natural Disasters in the Tourism Industry.  
 Accessed 23.06.2016 <https://tourismembassy.com/en/news/tourismology-by-tourismembassy/impact-of-natural-disasters-on-the-tourism-industry>

Ugurlu, T. 30.03.2010. Bloggy: Definition of tourism. Accessed 05.03.2016  
<http://www.tugberkugurlu.com/archive/definintion-of-tourism-unwto-definition-of-tourism-what-is-tourism>

Ujjwal, 06.26.2010 Tourism in Nepal. Socio-cultural Impact of Tourism. Accessed 01.07.2016  
<http://ujjwal-tourisminnepal.blogspot.fi/2010/06/socio-cultural-impact-of-tourism.html>

UN. World Urbanization Prospects 2014: Highlights. Accessed on 10.03.2016  
<http://esa.un.org/unpd/wup/highlights/wup2014-highlights.pdf>

USC Libraries. 2016. Research Guides. Accessed 11.08.2016  
<http://libguides.usc.edu/writingguide/quantitative>

UNEP. Impacts of Tourism. Accessed 29.06.2016  
<http://www.unep.org/resourceefficiency/Business/SectoralActivities/Tourism/FactsandFigures/aboutTourism/ImpactsofTourism/tabid/78774/Default.aspx>

UNEP. Negative Economic Impacts of Tourism. Accessed 29.06.2016  
<http://www.unep.org/resourceefficiency/Business/SectoralActivities/Tourism/FactsandFigures/aboutTourism/ImpactsofTourism/EconomicImpactsofTourism/NegativeEconomicImpactsofTourism/tabid/78784/Default.aspx>

UNESCO. 07.12.1997. World Heritage Center: News and Events: News. Accessed 11.04.2016  
<http://whc.unesco.org/en/news/180>

UNESCO. 2016. World Heritage Sites. Accessed 15.03.2016  
<http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/666>

University of Surrey. Introduction to Research: Methods of Collecting Qualitative Data.  
 Accessed 11.08.2016  
[http://libweb.surrey.ac.uk/library/skills/Introduction%20to%20Research%20and%20Managing%20Information%20Leicester/page\\_54.htm](http://libweb.surrey.ac.uk/library/skills/Introduction%20to%20Research%20and%20Managing%20Information%20Leicester/page_54.htm)

UNWTO, 2007. Understanding Tourism: Basic Glossary. Accessed 10.08.2016  
<http://statistics.unwto.org/sites/all/files/docpdf/glossaryen.pdf>

UNWTO, 23.09.2010: Highlights Impact of Demographic Change on Tourism. Accessed 12.03.2016 [http://www.freesun.be/news/index.php/new-unwto-report-highlights-impact-of-demographic-change-on-tourism/?upm\\_export=print](http://www.freesun.be/news/index.php/new-unwto-report-highlights-impact-of-demographic-change-on-tourism/?upm_export=print)

UNWTO.18.01.2016. Madrid. International Tourist Arrivals Up 4% Reach a Record 1.2 Billion in 2015. Accessed 11.04.2016 <http://media.unwto.org/press-release/2016-01-18/international-tourist-arrivals-4-reach-record-12-billion-2015>

UNWTO. Sustainable Development of Tourism: Climate Change and Tourism. Accessed 14.08.2016 <http://sdt.unwto.org/en/content/climate-change-tourism>

UNWTO: Why tourism. Accessed 05.03.2016  
<http://www2.unwto.org/content/why-tourism>

USGS. 06.06.2016. Earthquake Hazard Program. Accessed 01.07.2016  
<http://earthquake.usgs.gov/learn/topics/measure.php>

USGS. 06.06.2016. Earthquake Hazard Program: The Largest Earthquake in the World. Accessed 01.07.2016  
[http://earthquake.usgs.gov/earthquakes/world/events/1960\\_05\\_22\\_articles.php](http://earthquake.usgs.gov/earthquakes/world/events/1960_05_22_articles.php)

Wearn, R. 18.04.2016. BBC News: A slow recovery for Nepal's Tourist Industry. Accessed 29.06.2016 <http://www.bbc.com/news/business-35695602>

Web Finance. 2016. Business Dictionary.com. Definition: Demography. Accessed 12.08.2016  
<http://www.businessdictionary.com/definition/demography.html>

WHO. Nepal: Humanitarian Crisis after Nepal Earthquakes 2015. May 2015.  
[http://www.searo.who.int/entity/emergencies/phra\\_nepal\\_may2015.pdf](http://www.searo.who.int/entity/emergencies/phra_nepal_may2015.pdf)

World News Edu.08.01.2016. Featured, National, and News: Nepal's constitution best one in the world-experts. Accessed 28.03.2016 <http://worldnewsedu.xyz/nepals-constitution-best-one-in-the-world-experts/>

World Nomads. Accessed. 28.03.2016  
<https://journals.worldnomads.com/karimsakr/photo/38998/932912/Nepal/Nepal-the-worlds-second-richest-country-in-water-resources-having-numbers-of>

WETFEET.03.12.2012. Industry Overview: Hospitality and Tourism. Accessed 12.03.2016  
<https://www.wetfeet.com/articles/industry-overview-hospitality-and-tourism>

Wild Junket.03.11.2015. 10 Most Visited Countries in the World 2015. Accessed 11.04.2016  
<http://www.wildjunket.com/2015/11/03/most-visited-countries-2015/>

World for Travel. 17.03.2015. Mount Everest: Nepal and China Border. Accessed 10.03.2016  
<http://www.worldfortravel.com/2015/03/17/mount-everest-nepal-and-china-border/>

WTTC. World Travel and Tourism Economic Impact. 2013. Annual Research: Key facts. Accessed 19.03.2016 <http://en.youscribe.com/catalogue/tous/professional-resources/stock-market-and-finance/wttc-travel-tourism-economic-impact-2013-world-2313985>

WTTC. World Travel and Tourism Economic Impact. 2014. Annual Research: Key facts. Accessed 19.03.2016 <http://www.wttc.org/-/media/files/reports/economic%20impact%20research/regional%20reports/world2014.pdf%202013>

WTTC. World Travel and Tourism Economic Impact. 2015. Annual Research: Key facts. Accessed 19.03.2016

<https://www.wttc.org//media/files/reports/economic%20impact%20research/regional%202015/world2015.pdf>

WTTC. World Travel and Tourism Economic Impact. March 2016. Annual Research: Key facts. Accessed 27.03.2016

<http://www.wttc.org//media/files/reports/economic%20impact%20research/regions%202016/world2016.pdf>

WTTC. 2016. World Travel and Tourism Economic Impact 2016 Nepal. Accessed 11.04.2016

<http://www.wttc.org//media/files/reports/economic%20impact%20research/countries%202016/nepal2016.pdf>

Wyse, S. 16.09.2011. Snap Surveys: What Is the Difference Between Qualitative and Quantitative Research. Accessed 25.05.2016 <http://www.snapsurveys.com/blog/what-is-the-difference-between-qualitative-research-and-quantitative-research/>

YallaBook.Com. 2016. Swayambhunath. Accessed 01.07.2016

<http://yallabook.com/guide/en/show.php?nid=146>

## Figures

<a href="#">Figure 1. Forms of tourism by the purpose of visit. (NIOS, 2013)</a>	12
<a href="#">Figure 2. Contribution of T &amp; T to World's GDP in 2015. (WTTC, 2016)</a>	16
<a href="#">Figure 3. Contribution of world's T&amp;T industry to employment for 2015. (WTTC, 2016)</a>	17
<a href="#">Figure 4. Total income from visitor exports and total invest of T&amp;T Industry 2015. (WTTC, 2016)</a>	18
<a href="#">Figure 5. Ten Most Visited Countries in the world 2015. (WTO, 2015)</a>	19
<a href="#">Figure 6. Political Map of Nepal. (Ezilon Maps, 2015)</a>	24
<a href="#">Figure 7. How dirty is Everest? (Grapvine)</a>	32
<a href="#">Figure 8. Total number of tourist arrivals in Nepal from 2000-2014. (Nepal Tourism Statistics, 2014).</a>	33
<a href="#">Figure 9. Purpose of Tourist Arrival in 2014. (Nepal Tourism Statistics, 2014)</a>	34
<a href="#">Figure 10. Foreign Exchange Earnings from Tourism, 2001/01-2014/15. (Nepal Tourism Statistics, 2014)</a>	35
<a href="#">Figure 11. Contribution of Travel and Tourism Industry in 2015 to GDP. (WTTC, 2016)</a>	36
<a href="#">Figure 12. Contribution of Travel and Tourism Industry in 2015 to Employment. (Travel and Tourism Economic Impact, WTTC 2016)</a>	37
<a href="#">Figure 13. Visitor exports and Nepal's Investment in T &amp; T in 2015. (WTTC, 2016)</a>	38
<a href="#">Figure 14. Level of Natural Disaster Risk. (Epstein, 2016)</a>	43
<a href="#">Figure 15. Diagram of an earthquake. (BBC, 2014).</a>	45
<a href="#">Figure 16. Map of the 25<sup>th</sup> April and 12<sup>th</sup> May Earthquakes in Nepal. (USGS, 2015)</a>	46
<a href="#">Figure 17. Continental collision of Indian and Eurasian Plate. (USGS, 2015)</a>	47
<a href="#">Figure 18. Buddha statue surrounded by debris. (Powerful earthquake hits Nepal, 2015)</a>	48
<a href="#">Figure 19. Human casualty in 2015 Earthquake-Nepal. (Nepal Earthquake Event Recap Report, 2015)</a>	49
<a href="#">Figure 20. Residential Effects of 2015 Earthquake in Nepal. (Nepal Earthquake Event Recap Report, 2015)</a>	50
<a href="#">Figure 21. Effects of Nepal's 2015 earthquake on Health Facilities. (Nepal Earthquake Event Recap Report, 2015).</a>	52
<a href="#">Figure 22. Dharahara Before and After Earthquake. (ABC News, 2016)</a>	55
<a href="#">Figure 23. Human Casualty by the 2015 Nepal's Earthquake in Nagarkot. (Government of Nepal, 2015)</a>	60
<a href="#">Figure 24. Property Effects of 2015 Nepal's Earthquake in Nagarkot. (Government of Nepal, 2015)</a>	61

## Tables

<a href="#"><u>Table 1. International Tourist Visitors. (UNWTO, 2016)</u></a>	15
<a href="#"><u>Table 2. Classification of disasters. (EM-DAT, 2009)</u></a>	41
<a href="#"><u>Table 3. Educational effects of 2015 earthquake of Nepal. (Nepal Earthquake Event Recap Report, 2015)</u></a>	51
<a href="#"><u>Table 4. Differences between Qualitative and Quantitative Research. (Wyse, 2011)</u></a>	58
<a href="#"><u>Table 5. Total loss of livestock in Nagarkot by the 2015 Nepal's Earthquake. (Government of Nepal, 2015)</u></a>	62

## Appendixes

### Qualitative Research Questionnaires

The following questions were asked to Mr. Suraj Bastola who is the current President of Nagarkot Community Homestay Committee.

Q.No.1. How do you define tourism?

Q.No.2. Why is tourism important in Nagarkot?

Q.No.3. Why was Nagarkot Community Homestay established and what are its main aims and objectives?

Q.No.4. Do you think tourism industry of Nagarkot is affected by the earthquake? If yes, how?

Q.No.5. What do you have to say about the future of tourism industry of Nagarkot?

Q.No.6. Do you have any suggestions which can help to promote tourism in Nagarkot?



Appendix 1. Mt Everest (World for Travel, 2015)



Appendix 2. Spiny Babbler (Nepal Mountain News, 2015)



Appendix 3. Gautama Buddha. (My God Pictures)



Appendix 4. Nagarkot. (Golden Gate Holidays, 2016)



Appendix 5. Nagarkot Community Homestay before the Earthquake. (Bastola, 2015)



Appendix 6. Nagarkot Home Stay Community after Earthquake. (Adventurous Travels, 2015)



Appendix 7. House of the Author before the Earthquake. (Lamichhane, 2012)



Appendix 8. House of the Author after the earthquake. (Lamichhane, 2015)