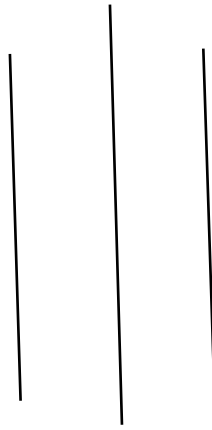


**A PROJECT REPORT ON
EXPLORING THE CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES IN
ATI GHAR HOMESTAY HOST: A QUALITATIVE STUDY**



BY

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for the degree of **Bachelor in Hotel Management**

AT the
Nepal Tourism and Hotel Management college

Pokhara-14, Chhinedanda
July 2026

DECLARATION

I hereby declare that the project work report entitled “Exploring the challenges and opportunities in Ati Ghar home stay host.” Submitted for the BHM is my original work and the Project Work Report has not formed the basis for the award of any degree, diploma, or other similar titles.

Durga Pokhrel
July 2026

CERTIFICATE

I hereby declare that the project work report entitled “an exploration of the lived realities for homestay hosts navigating challenges in Ati Ghar homestay host” submitted by Durga Pokhrel Roll NO- 23150226 for the partial fulfilment of the requirement of BHM embodies the bonafide work done by her under my supervision.

.....
Suresh Raj Adhikari
Project Work Supervisor
July, 2026

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Thank you

Durga Pokhrel
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TABLE OF CONTENTS

DECLARATION	2
CERTIFICATE	3
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS	4
CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION	7
1.1 Background of the Study	7
1.2 Statement of the Problem	9
1.3 Research Questions	10
1.4 Objectives of the Study	10
1.5 Significance of the Study	10
1.6 Literature Review	10
1.6.1 Homestay Tourism in the Nepalese Context	11
1.6.2 Community-Based Tourism and Homestay Development	12
1.6.3 Role of Homestay Hosts in the Hospitality Industry	14
1.6.4 Challenges Faced by Aati Ghar Homestay Hosts	15
1.6.5 Opportunities for Homestay Hosts through Tourism Development ...	16
1.6.6 Research Gap	17
1.6.7 Summary	18
1.7 Research Methodology	18
1.7.1 Research Design	19
1.7.2 Population and Participants	19
1.7.3 Sampling Technique	20
1.7.4 Data Collection Method	20

7.5 Data Analysis Procedure	21
7.6 Ethical Considerations	21
1.7.7 Delimitations and Limitations	21
CHAPTER II FINDING	23
2.1 Opportunities Created by Homestay Tourism	23
2.1.1 Income Generation and Improved Livelihood	23
2.1.2 Cultural Preservation and Promotion	24
2.1.3 Community Development and Employment	25
2.2 Challenges Faced by Aati Ghar Homestay Hosts	26
2.2.1 Seasonal Tourist Arrivals	26
2.2.2 Maintaining and Upgrading Homestay Facilities	27
2.2.3 Managing Tourists and Service Quality	27
2.2.4 Financial and Marketing Challenges	28
2.3 Expected Support and Improvements	29
2.3.1 Government Financial Support	29
2.3.2 Training and Capacity Building	30
2.3.3 Tourism Promotion and Marketing	30
2.3.4 Infrastructure Development	31
CHAPTER III	33
CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS	33
3.1 Conclusion	33
3.2 Recommendations	34
References	36
APPENDIX	38

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Cultural preservation is another important contribution of Aati Ghar Homestay. The surrounding communities possess rich traditions, indigenous knowledge, local festivals, music, dance, and traditional cuisine that reflect the cultural diversity of the Pokhara region. Through homestay tourism, hosts introduce visitors to authentic Nepali hospitality, traditional foods prepared from locally produced ingredients, cultural performances, and rural lifestyles. These activities not only enhance visitors' experiences but also encourage local communities to Aati Ghar Homestay, located in the rural surroundings of Pokhara Metropolitan City, Kaski District, is one of the emerging community-based homestay destinations in Gandaki Province. Surrounded by scenic landscapes, traditional settlements, and the panoramic views of the Annapurna mountain range, Aati Ghar offers visitors an opportunity to experience authentic rural life, local culture, and the renowned hospitality of Nepal. The homestay has become an important part of community-based tourism by promoting sustainable tourism practices, preserving local traditions, and creating economic opportunities for local households. Through its unique hospitality experience, Aati Ghar contributes to the development of rural tourism while encouraging community participation and cultural preservation (Nepal Tourism Board, 2024).

The establishment of Aati Ghar Homestay was motivated by the need to diversify the income sources of local families, many of whom traditionally depended on agriculture and livestock farming for their livelihoods. With the growth of tourism in Pokhara, local residents recognized the potential of welcoming visitors into their homes and providing authentic accommodation, traditional cuisine, and cultural experiences. Unlike commercial hotels, Aati Ghar Homestay emphasizes personalized hospitality, close interaction between hosts and guests, and participation in local daily

activities such as farming, cooking traditional dishes, cultural performances, and village tours. This approach enables visitors to experience the local way of life while generating additional income for host families (UN Tourism, 2023).

Aati Ghar Homestay has contributed significantly to the socio-economic development of the local community. Homestay tourism has created employment opportunities for family members, encouraged local entrepreneurship, and generated income through accommodation, food services, handicrafts, and tourism-related activities. The economic benefits extend beyond individual households by supporting local farmers, transport providers, guides, and small businesses. Furthermore, the homestay has promoted women's participation in tourism and encouraged young people to engage in community-based enterprises, reducing the need for migration in search of employment (Gurung & Shrestha, 2021). Despite these achievements, Aati Ghar Homestay faces several operational and managerial challenges. One of the major challenges is the seasonal nature of tourism, as tourist arrivals vary considerably throughout the year. During peak seasons, the homestay receives a large number of visitors, whereas the off-season often results in reduced occupancy and unstable income. This seasonal fluctuation affects the financial sustainability of homestay operations and creates uncertainty for host families who depend on tourism as an important source of livelihood (Adhikari, 2022).

Another challenge involves maintaining service quality and meeting the changing expectations of tourists. Today's visitors expect comfortable accommodation, high standards of cleanliness, quality food, internet connectivity, and professional hospitality services. However, homestay operators often face financial limitations, inadequate hospitality training, and limited access to modern facilities required to maintain consistent service quality. Continuous training, capacity building, and investment are therefore essential to enhance guest satisfaction and improve the competitiveness of the homestay (Thapa & Lama, 2023). Environmental sustainability has also become an important concern for Aati Ghar Homestay. Increasing tourist activities create pressure on natural resources, waste management, water supply, and the surrounding environment. Since the attractiveness of the homestay depends largely on its natural beauty and peaceful rural setting, effective environmental conservation, proper waste management, and responsible tourism practices are essential for ensuring the long-term sustainability of the destination (Sharma, 2021).

At the same time, Aati Ghar Homestay has considerable opportunities for future growth. The increasing use of digital technology, social media platforms, and online booking systems enables homestay operators to promote their services to domestic and international tourists more effectively. Digital marketing, collaboration with travel agencies, and the diversification of tourism products such as agro-tourism, cultural tourism, wellness tourism, and village experiences can strengthen the competitiveness of the homestay while creating additional income opportunities for local communities (World Bank, 2023).

Government policies and institutional support also play a vital role in strengthening Aati Ghar Homestay. Programs related to infrastructure development, hospitality training, financial assistance, destination marketing, and sustainable tourism management can improve service quality and increase the competitiveness of community-based homestays. Collaboration among local governments, the Nepal Tourism Board, tourism organizations, and local communities is essential for ensuring the sustainable development of Aati Ghar Homestay and similar rural tourism destinations (Nepal Tourism Board, 2024).

1.2 Statement of the Problem

Homestay tourism has become an important part of community-based tourism and rural development in Nepal, contributing to income generation, employment opportunities, and cultural preservation. Pokhara and its surrounding areas have experienced significant growth in homestay tourism due to their natural beauty, cultural diversity, and increasing tourist arrivals. Through homestay programs, local families promote traditional hospitality, local cuisine, and rural lifestyles while benefiting economically from tourism.

Despite these contributions, homestay hosts continue to face various challenges, including seasonal tourist arrivals, financial constraints, increasing competition, changing tourist expectations, limited hospitality training, and marketing difficulties. Although previous studies have focused on the economic and tourism benefits of homestays, limited research has explored the lived realities of homestay hosts in Pokhara and surrounding areas. Therefore, this study aims to explore their lived experiences and understand the challenges they navigate while operating homestays, contributing to the sustainable development of community-based tourism.

1.3 Research Questions

1. What are the lived experiences of homestay hosts at Aati Ghar, Pokhara?
2. What major challenges do Aati Ghar homestay hosts face while managing their homestay businesses?
3. What support and improvements do Aati Ghar homestay hosts expect from the government and tourism organizations?

1.4 Objectives of the Study

- To explore the lived experiences of homestay hosts at Aati Ghar, Pokhara.
- To identify the major challenges faced by homestay hosts while operating homestays at Aati Ghar.
- To examine the support and improvements expected by homestay hosts for the sustainable development of Aati Ghar Homestay.

1.5 Significance of the Study

This study on exploring the lived realities of homestay hosts at Aati Ghar, Pokhara is significant for homestay operators, local communities, policymakers, tourism stakeholders, and future researchers. It provides valuable insights into the everyday experiences of homestay hosts, particularly the operational, financial, social, and managerial challenges they face while managing their homestay businesses. The study also highlights the contributions of homestay tourism to income generation, employment creation, cultural preservation, and sustainable community-based tourism. Furthermore, the findings will help government agencies and tourism organizations develop effective policies, training programs, and support mechanisms to strengthen the sustainable development of Aati Ghar Homestay and similar community-based tourism destinations in Pokhara and surrounding areas.

1.6 Literature Review

Homestay tourism has become an important component of community-based tourism, providing visitors with authentic cultural experiences while creating income and employment opportunities for local communities. In Nepal, homestays have contributed significantly to rural development by promoting local traditions, preserving cultural heritage, and supporting sustainable tourism. In destinations such as Aati Ghar in Pokhara and surrounding areas, homestay tourism has helped local

families improve their livelihoods while offering visitors opportunities to experience traditional hospitality, local cuisine, and rural lifestyles. Previous studies have identified several challenges faced by homestay hosts, including financial constraints, limited hospitality training, seasonal tourist arrivals, increasing competition, and marketing difficulties. At the same time, homestay tourism has created opportunities for income generation, employment, cultural preservation, women's empowerment, and community development.

Many previous studies have focused on the economic contribution of homestay tourism, tourist satisfaction, and the role of community-based tourism in rural development. However, limited research has explored the lived realities of homestay hosts, particularly their personal experiences, perceptions, and challenges while operating homestays. In the context of Aati Ghar Homestay in Pokhara, there is a lack of qualitative research that examines how homestay hosts experience and navigate the operational, financial, social, and cultural challenges of managing their businesses. This research gap supports the use of a phenomenological approach to gain an in-depth understanding of the lived experiences, perspectives, and realities of homestay hosts at Aati Ghar.

1.6.1 Homestay Tourism in the Nepalese Context

Homestay tourism has become one of the most important forms of community-based tourism in Nepal. It provides visitors with opportunities to experience local culture, traditions, lifestyles, and hospitality while creating economic opportunities for rural communities. Since the introduction of the homestay program in Nepal, community homestays have expanded across different districts, including Kaski, Syangja, Lamjung, and Gorkha. Today, homestay tourism is recognized as an effective approach to promoting sustainable tourism, preserving cultural heritage, and improving the livelihoods of local people through community participation and tourism development.

According to Gautam (2024), homestay tourism has generated significant economic, social, cultural, and environmental benefits for rural communities in Nepal. The study found that homestays create employment opportunities, increase household income, preserve traditional customs, and encourage active community participation in tourism development. It also noted that tourists gain authentic cultural experiences by participating in local festivals, enjoying traditional cuisine, and interacting with

local communities. Similarly, Walter, Regmi, and Khanal (2018) explored community-based ecotourism in Nepal and found that homestay hosts continuously develop new knowledge and hospitality skills through their interactions with visitors. Their study reported improvements in communication skills, hospitality practices, environmental awareness, and homestay management, contributing to both personal development and the sustainability of community-based tourism. Likewise, Lamichhane et al. (2024) reported that Nepal's homestay program has contributed significantly to rural development by preserving local culture, improving livelihoods, and strengthening community participation. However, the researchers also identified challenges such as inadequate infrastructure, limited marketing, insufficient hospitality training, and weak institutional support that hinder the sustainable growth of homestay tourism.

In the context of Pokhara and surrounding areas, homestays have become increasingly popular because of the region's natural beauty, cultural diversity, and growing tourism industry. Community homestays, including Aati Ghar Homestay, provide visitors with authentic rural experiences while creating income and employment opportunities for local households. Despite these contributions, homestay hosts continue to face challenges related to seasonal tourist arrivals, financial limitations, service quality, and changing tourist expectations. Overall, the existing literature indicates that homestay tourism is an important strategy for promoting sustainable tourism and community development in Nepal. Although previous studies have examined its economic, social, and cultural contributions, limited research has specifically explored the lived realities of homestay hosts in Aati Ghar, Pokhara, particularly how they experience and navigate the challenges of operating homestays in their daily lives. This research gap provides the foundation for the present phenomenological study.

1.6.2 Community-Based Tourism and Homestay Development

Community-Based Tourism (CBT) is a tourism approach in which local communities actively participate in planning, managing, and benefiting from tourism activities. It aims to improve local livelihoods while preserving cultural heritage, protecting natural resources, and promoting sustainable development. In Nepal, community-based tourism is closely linked with homestay programs, where local families provide accommodation, traditional food, and cultural experiences to visitors.

In destinations such as Aati Ghar, Pokhara, homestay tourism encourages local people to become active participants in tourism development while promoting authentic hospitality and community empowerment.

Kanel (2021), in a qualitative exploratory study conducted in several rural tourism destinations of Nepal, found that community-based homestays contribute significantly to poverty reduction, sustainable rural development, and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The study further emphasized that local participation, capacity building, and supportive government policies are essential for the long-term sustainability of community-based tourism. Similarly, Walter, Regmi, and Khanal (2018) explored community-based ecotourism in Nepal and concluded that active participation in homestay tourism enables hosts to improve their hospitality skills, environmental awareness, communication abilities, and cultural knowledge. The researchers reported that continuous learning and strong community cooperation are important factors in the successful development of community-based tourism. Likewise, Kanel, Bhattarai, and Gnawali (2024), in a qualitative study of community homestay operators in Nepal, reported that homestay development is driven by local entrepreneurship, community cooperation, and cultural values. The study highlighted that homestay operators view their businesses not only as a source of income but also as a means of preserving local traditions, strengthening social relationships, and improving the quality of life within their communities.

Gautam (2025) further stated that community-based tourism supports sustainable development through community participation, collective decision-making, cultural preservation, and responsible management of local resources. The study found that active community involvement enhances authentic visitor experiences while generating economic and social benefits for local people. Although previous studies have discussed the contribution of community-based tourism to rural development, livelihood improvement, and cultural preservation, limited research has specifically explored how Aati Ghar homestay hosts in Pokhara personally experience the opportunities and challenges associated with community-based tourism. Therefore, the present study adopts a phenomenological approach to explore the lived realities of homestay hosts at Aati Ghar, contributing to a deeper understanding of community-based homestay development in Pokhara and surrounding areas.

1.6.3 Role of Homestay Hosts in the Hospitality Industry

Homestay hosts play a central role in the hospitality industry by providing accommodation, traditional food, cultural experiences, and personalized services to visitors. Unlike commercial hotels, homestays allow direct interaction between hosts and guests, enabling visitors to experience local traditions, lifestyles, and authentic Nepali hospitality. In Aati Ghar, Pokhara, homestay hosts not only provide accommodation but also serve as cultural ambassadors, local guides, and representatives of their communities. Their ability to deliver quality hospitality significantly influences guest satisfaction, destination image, and the sustainable development of community-based tourism. Walter, Regmi, and Khanal (2018), in a study of community-based ecotourism in Nepal, found that homestay hosts continuously develop hospitality knowledge and practical skills through their interactions with tourists. The study reported that hosts improve their communication skills, sanitation practices, environmental awareness, cultural presentation, and homestay management, enhancing both their confidence and the quality of services they provide. Similarly, Kanel, Bhattarai, and Gnawali (2024) explored the experiences of community homestay operators in Nepal and concluded that homestay hosts play a vital role in preserving local culture while creating employment and income opportunities for rural communities. The study further emphasized that community participation, institutional support, and continuous capacity-building motivate hosts to improve their hospitality services and expand their homestay enterprises. Subedi (2019) reported that homestay hosts contribute significantly to rural tourism by introducing visitors to local customs, traditional cuisine, cultural festivals, and natural attractions. However, the study also highlighted that limited financial resources, inadequate coordination among tourism stakeholders, and insufficient promotional activities reduce the effectiveness of homestay operations.

A recent qualitative study by Sarma, Kumar, and Kumar (2025) found that quality hospitality extends beyond physical facilities. The researchers emphasized that genuine care, effective communication, personalized service, cultural authenticity, cleanliness, and trust are key factors influencing visitors' overall experiences and satisfaction. Overall, previous studies indicate that homestay hosts play a crucial role in the success of the hospitality industry by enhancing guest satisfaction, preserving local culture, and supporting community development. However, limited research has

specifically explored the lived realities of Aati Ghar homestay hosts in Pokhara, particularly how they balance their hospitality responsibilities with the challenges they encounter in their daily operations. This research gap provides the rationale for the present phenomenological study.

1.6.4 Challenges Faced by Aati Ghar Homestay Hosts

Homestay tourism has become an important source of income and community-based tourism development in Pokhara and surrounding areas. However, homestay hosts at Aati Ghar continue to face various operational, financial, and managerial challenges that affect the sustainability of their businesses. These challenges include seasonal tourist arrivals, limited financial resources, increasing competition from hotels and online accommodation platforms, inadequate hospitality training, changing tourist expectations, and limited marketing opportunities. Such challenges influence service quality and the long-term growth of homestay businesses. Walter, Regmi, and Khanal (2018) found that homestay hosts in Nepal continuously adapt to social, cultural, and economic changes through workplace learning. Their study highlighted that hosts face challenges related to maintaining cleanliness, preserving local culture, improving hospitality services, and managing daily homestay operations. Despite these challenges, continuous learning helps hosts improve their skills and service quality. Similarly, Lamichhane et al. (2024) reported that inadequate infrastructure, limited marketing, financial constraints, and insufficient government support remain major barriers to the sustainable development of homestay tourism in Nepal. The study emphasized that hospitality training, improved infrastructure, and stronger tourism promotion are essential for overcoming these challenges.

Kunwar (2019) found that while homestay tourism creates economic and social benefits, hosts also experience difficulties in balancing traditional lifestyles with the changing expectations of tourists. The study highlighted that active community participation, effective management, and continuous improvement are necessary for sustaining homestay tourism.

Likewise, Pokhrel and Mahat (2025) concluded that homestay operators face practical challenges related to service quality, business management, infrastructure, and changing tourist preferences. However, they also noted that community cooperation, cultural preservation, and local commitment help many homestay hosts overcome these challenges and continue operating successfully. Overall, previous

studies indicate that homestay hosts face financial, operational, infrastructural, and socio-cultural challenges while managing their businesses. However, limited research has specifically explored the lived realities of Aati Ghar homestay hosts in Pokhara, particularly how they experience, interpret, and navigate these challenges in their everyday lives. Therefore, the present study adopts a phenomenological approach to gain a deeper understanding of the lived experiences of homestay hosts at Aati Ghar, Pokhara.

1.6.5 Opportunities for Homestay Hosts through Tourism Development

Tourism development has created significant opportunities for homestay hosts in Aati Ghar, Pokhara, by improving household income, generating employment, preserving local culture, and promoting sustainable community-based tourism. Homestays enable local families to participate directly in the tourism industry while providing visitors with authentic cultural experiences. The growth of homestay tourism has also encouraged local entrepreneurship, strengthened community participation, and supported the conservation of traditional lifestyles and natural resources. Subedi (2019) found that homestay tourism creates employment opportunities, increases household income, and promotes rural tourism destinations in Nepal. The study highlighted that homestays encourage visitors to experience local culture, traditional cuisine, festivals, and village life, thereby contributing to sustainable tourism development. However, the author emphasized that better tourism promotion and stronger coordination among stakeholders are necessary to maximize these opportunities. Similarly, Kanel, Bhattarai, and Gnawali (2024) concluded that homestay tourism provides opportunities for entrepreneurship, capacity building, and community empowerment. Their study found that participation in homestay tourism helps hosts develop hospitality skills, improve leadership abilities, and enhance their standard of living through continuous learning and collaboration with local communities.

Lamichhane et al. (2024) reported that homestay tourism contributes to rural development by preserving cultural heritage, promoting environmental conservation, and improving the livelihoods of local people. The researchers further highlighted that supportive government policies, active community participation, and effective tourism management can enhance the long-term sustainability of homestay enterprises. Likewise, Tiwari and Khatiwada (2025) found that homestay tourism empowers rural

households by diversifying income sources, reducing poverty, and promoting inclusive economic development. The study also emphasized that homestays encourage women's participation, strengthen community relationships, and preserve indigenous culture while creating meaningful interactions between hosts and visitors.

Overall, the existing literature demonstrates that tourism development provides numerous opportunities for homestay hosts, including economic improvement, entrepreneurship, skill development, cultural preservation, and community empowerment. However, limited studies have specifically explored how Aati Ghar homestay hosts in Pokhara personally perceive and experience these opportunities in their everyday lives. Therefore, this study adopts a phenomenological approach to explore the lived realities of homestay hosts at Aati Ghar and understand how tourism development has influenced their personal, social, and economic lives.

1.6.6 Research Gap

Previous studies have examined homestay tourism in Nepal from various perspectives, including community-based tourism, rural development, socio-economic impacts, cultural preservation, and sustainable tourism. Several studies have highlighted the benefits of homestay tourism, such as income generation, employment creation, cultural exchange, and community empowerment, while also identifying challenges including seasonal tourist arrivals, financial constraints, inadequate infrastructure, limited marketing, and insufficient hospitality training. However, despite these valuable contributions, limited research has specifically focused on the lived realities of homestay hosts at Aati Ghar, Pokhara. Most existing studies have examined homestay tourism from the perspectives of tourists, community development, or economic outcomes rather than exploring how individual homestay hosts personally experience, interpret, and navigate the challenges of operating their businesses in their daily lives.

Furthermore, there is a lack of phenomenological research that provides an in-depth understanding of the meanings, perceptions, and everyday experiences of homestay hosts in Aati Ghar and surrounding areas of Pokhara. Therefore, this study seeks to fill this gap by adopting a phenomenological approach to explore the lived realities of homestay hosts and gain a deeper understanding of the challenges they face, the coping strategies they adopt, and the opportunities they experience through homestay tourism.

1.6.7 Summary

This chapter reviewed the existing literature related to homestay tourism in Nepal, community-based tourism, the role of homestay hosts in the hospitality industry, the challenges faced by homestay hosts, and the opportunities created through tourism development. The reviewed studies indicate that homestay tourism has contributed significantly to rural development by generating employment, increasing household income, preserving local culture, promoting community participation, and supporting sustainable tourism. At the same time, homestay hosts continue to face various challenges, including seasonal tourist arrivals, financial constraints, limited marketing, inadequate infrastructure, and insufficient hospitality training.

The literature also highlights the important role of homestay hosts in providing authentic hospitality experiences, preserving local traditions, and contributing to the sustainable development of tourism destinations. Although previous studies have provided valuable insights into homestay tourism in Nepal, there is limited phenomenological research that specifically explores the lived realities of homestay hosts at Aati Ghar, Pokhara. Therefore, this literature review identifies a research gap and establishes the need for the present study. By adopting a phenomenological approach, this research aims to provide an in-depth understanding of the lived experiences, challenges, and opportunities of homestay hosts at Aati Ghar, thereby contributing to the existing body of knowledge on community-based tourism and homestay development in Pokhara and surrounding areas.

1.7 Research Methodology

This chapter describes the research methodology adopted for the study entitled "An Exploration of the Lived Realities for Homestay Hosts Navigating Challenges in Pokhara and Surrounding Areas." It explains the overall research process used to achieve the objectives of the study and answer the research questions. The chapter presents the research design, study population and participants, sampling technique, data collection methods, data analysis procedure, ethical considerations, and the delimitations and limitations of the study. Since the study aims to explore the lived realities of Aati Ghar homestay hosts regarding their everyday experiences, the challenges they face while operating homestay businesses, and the support and improvements they expect from the government and tourism organizations, a

qualitative phenomenological research design was considered the most appropriate. The methodology provides a systematic framework for collecting, analyzing, and interpreting participants' lived experiences to ensure the credibility and trustworthiness of the findings.

1.7.1 Research Design

This study employs a qualitative research approach using a phenomenological research design. A qualitative approach is appropriate because the study seeks to explore the personal experiences, perceptions, and understanding of Aati Ghar homestay hosts regarding the lived realities and challenges of operating homestay businesses rather than collecting numerical data. It enables participants to express their experiences, opinions, emotions, and perceptions in their own words, providing rich, detailed, and meaningful information about the phenomenon under study.

The phenomenological research design is chosen because it focuses on understanding the lived experiences of individuals who have directly experienced a particular phenomenon. In this study, the phenomenon refers to the lived realities of Aati Ghar homestay hosts while operating homestay businesses in Pokhara and surrounding areas within a community-based tourism setting. The study explores how hosts experience and interpret their daily responsibilities, the challenges they encounter while managing guests and providing hospitality services, and the support and improvements they expect from the government and tourism organizations. A phenomenological approach enables the researcher to understand the meanings participants attach to these experiences and how they influence their livelihoods, hospitality practices, and contribution to sustainable community-based tourism. Therefore, this research design is considered the most appropriate for achieving the objectives of the study.

1.7.2 Population and Participants

The population of this study consists of homestay hosts at Aati Ghar Homestay, Pokhara, Kaski District, Gandaki Province, Nepal. Aati Ghar is recognized as a community-based homestay that promotes authentic Nepali hospitality, local culture, and traditional lifestyles while contributing to tourism development in Pokhara and surrounding areas. Since homestay hosts are directly responsible for providing accommodation, food, cultural experiences, and other hospitality services to visitors,

they are considered the most appropriate participants for exploring the lived realities of operating homestay businesses.

Participants were selected from Aati Ghar Homestay. To be included in the study, participants were required to have at least one year of experience operating or managing a homestay, be actively involved in providing hospitality services and interacting with guests, and be willing to participate voluntarily in the research. A total of ten homestay hosts participated in this study.

1.7.3 Sampling Technique

This study uses purposive sampling, a non-probability sampling technique widely used in qualitative research. Purposive sampling allows the researcher to deliberately select participants who possess relevant knowledge and practical experience related to the research topic. The selected Aati Ghar homestay hosts have direct experience in operating homestay businesses, interacting with guests, providing hospitality services, and participating in community-based tourism activities. Their lived experiences provide rich, detailed, and meaningful information that helps answer the research questions. A sample of ten participants is considered appropriate for a phenomenological study because the emphasis is on obtaining in-depth insights into participants' lived experiences rather than achieving statistical generalization.

1.7.4 Data Collection Method

This study uses both primary and secondary sources of data. Primary data are collected through semi-structured face-to-face interviews using an interview guide developed based on the research objectives. Semi-structured interviews provide participants with the opportunity to describe their lived experiences freely while allowing the researcher to ask follow-up questions to obtain more detailed and meaningful information. The interview questions focus on the lived experiences of Aati Ghar homestay hosts, the challenges they face while operating their homestay businesses, and the support and improvements they expect from the government and tourism organizations for the sustainable development of homestay tourism.

With the participants' consent, the interviews are audio-recorded, and field notes are taken to document important observations during the interview process. Secondary data are collected from books, journal articles, previous research studies, government publications, tourism reports, and other relevant literature related to

homestay tourism, community-based tourism, hospitality management, and sustainable tourism development.

7.5 Data Analysis Procedure

The collected data are analyzed using thematic analysis, which is appropriate for qualitative phenomenological research. The analysis begins by transcribing the recorded interviews into written form. The researcher carefully reads the transcripts several times to become familiar with the participants' experiences. Significant statements, phrases, and ideas related to the opportunities, challenges, and expected support of homestay hosts are identified and assigned initial codes. Similar codes are grouped into categories, which are then organized into broader themes and sub-themes.

The identified themes are interpreted in relation to the research objectives and relevant literature. Participants' responses are presented using pseudonyms to maintain confidentiality, and no identifying information is disclosed. Direct quotations from participants are also included to support the interpretation of the findings and accurately represent their lived experiences.

7.6 Ethical Considerations

Ethical principles are maintained throughout the research process. Before conducting the interviews, participants are informed about the purpose, objectives, and procedures of the study. Participation is entirely voluntary, and informed consent is obtained from each participant before data collection begins. Participants are assured that their identities and personal information will remain confidential. Pseudonyms are used instead of participants' real names, and all identifying information is removed from the research report. The information collected is used solely for academic purposes, and interview recordings and transcripts are stored securely. Participants are also informed that they have the right to refuse to answer any question or withdraw from the study at any stage without any negative consequences.

1.7.7 Delimitations and Limitations

Delimitations

This study is limited to homestay hosts at Aati Ghar Homestay, Pokhara, Kaski District, Nepal. It focuses specifically on the lived experiences of homestay hosts regarding their everyday experiences of operating homestay businesses, the challenges they encounter while managing guests and providing hospitality services,

and the support and improvements they expect from the government and tourism organizations. The study does not include tourists, local residents who are not homestay operators, tourism officials, or other tourism entrepreneurs. Furthermore, data are collected only through semi-structured interviews.

Limitations

The study is limited by its relatively small sample size of ten homestay hosts, which may not represent the experiences of all homestay operators in Pokhara and surrounding areas or across Nepal. The findings are based on the participants' personal experiences and perceptions, which may differ from one individual to another. Time constraints, participants' availability, and the focus on a single homestay (Aati Ghar) may also influence the scope and depth of the study. Therefore, the findings are intended to provide an in-depth understanding of the lived realities of Aati Ghar homestay hosts rather than to generalize the results to all homestay operators in Nepal.

CHAPTER II

FINDING

This chapter presents the findings of the study on An Exploration of the Lived Realities for Homestay Hosts Navigating Challenges at Aati Ghar, Pokhara and Surrounding Areas. The findings are based on data collected from Aati Ghar homestay hosts through semi-structured interviews and open-ended interview questions. In line with the phenomenological research design, the chapter focuses on the lived experiences, perceptions, and meanings shared by the participants regarding their daily experiences of managing homestay businesses.

The thematic analysis produced three main themes: Lived Experiences of Aati Ghar Homestay Hosts, Challenges Faced by Aati Ghar Homestay Hosts, and Expected Support and Improvements for Sustainable Homestay Development. Each theme is presented with relevant sub-themes, descriptive narration, and supporting quotations from the participants. To maintain confidentiality, participants are identified using pseudonyms, and any identifying personal information has been anonymized.

2.1 Opportunities Created by Homestay Tourism

The first theme that emerged from the interviews was the opportunities created by homestay tourism. Participants explained that Aati Ghar Homestay has provided various economic, social, and cultural benefits to both homestay hosts and the local community. Although each participant shared different experiences, they commonly highlighted that homestay tourism has increased household income, created employment opportunities, promoted local culture, and strengthened community participation. The participants viewed homestay tourism not only as a source of livelihood but also as an opportunity to preserve their traditions, interact with visitors from different cultural backgrounds, and contribute to the sustainable development of tourism in Pokhara and surrounding areas.

2.1.1 Income Generation and Improved Livelihood

Participants explained that homestay tourism has created opportunities to generate additional income and improve household livelihoods. Before the development of homestays, many families relied mainly on traditional occupations such as agriculture and livestock farming. The arrival of tourists provided new

economic opportunities through accommodation services, food preparation, and the sale of local products.

One participant, Hari, a homestay owner in Sirubari, shared, “Homestay has become an important source of income for our family. Through hosting guests, we can earn money while continuing our traditional work.” Similarly, Maya, a local homestay operator, explained, “Tourists stay in our homes, eat our local food, and pay for the service. This has helped us manage household expenses and improve our living conditions. Likewise, Bishnu, a community member involved in homestay activities, stated, “Homestay has created opportunities for local people to earn without leaving the village. It has encouraged people to use their own resources and skills to generate income. “These experiences indicate that homestay tourism has provided an alternative source of income and contributed to economic improvement among local households. It has reduced dependency on traditional income sources and encouraged communities to participate actively in tourism activities.

2.1.2 Cultural Preservation and Promotion

Participants emphasized that Aati Ghar Homestay has played an important role in preserving and promoting local culture, traditions, and rural lifestyles. They explained that interaction with visitors has encouraged local people to maintain traditional customs, prepare authentic local cuisine, and showcase cultural activities. They believed that homestay tourism has helped strengthen community identity while allowing guests to experience the rich cultural heritage of Pokhara and surrounding areas.

One participant, Suman, a homestay host at Aati Ghar, shared, “Guests are very interested in our local culture, traditional food, and way of life. Their appreciation motivates us to preserve our traditions and proudly share them with visitors.” Similarly, Laxmi, another homestay operator, explained, “Homestay has encouraged younger family members to learn about our customs and traditions because they see tourists enjoying and respecting our culture.” Likewise, Kamal, a homestay host, stated, “Cultural programs, traditional dances, local festivals, and homemade food have become important attractions for our guests. These activities help us preserve our heritage while creating memorable experiences for visitors.” The Participant suggest that Aati Ghar Homestay has contributed to the preservation and promotion of local culture by creating opportunities for community members to share

their traditions, customs, and lifestyles with visitors. Homestay tourism has encouraged the continuation of cultural practices and strengthened the cultural identity of the local community while supporting the sustainable development of tourism in Pokhara and surrounding areas.

2.1.3 Community Development and Employment

Participants also highlighted that Aati Ghar Homestay has contributed to community development by creating employment opportunities and encouraging active community participation. They explained that homestay tourism supports various local businesses and services, including local guides, farmers, transport providers, handicraft producers, food suppliers, and cultural performers. The participants emphasized that tourism has strengthened cooperation among community members while creating additional sources of income for local households. One participant, Suman, a homestay host at Aati Ghar, stated, “Homestay tourism has brought our community closer together. We work collectively to welcome guests, organize cultural programs, and maintain a clean and attractive environment for visitors.” Similarly, Laxmi, another homestay operator, shared, “Homestay has created employment opportunities for local youth. Instead of searching for jobs outside the village, many young people now work as guides, help with hospitality services, and participate in tourism-related activities.” Likewise, Kamal, a homestay host, explained, “The benefits of homestay tourism are shared by the whole community. Local farmers supply fresh vegetables, local shops sell products to visitors, and transport providers also benefit from the increasing number of tourists.”

These responses indicate that Aati Ghar Homestay has contributed to broader community development by promoting local employment, encouraging entrepreneurship, and strengthening community cooperation. The findings also suggest that homestay tourism has helped distribute tourism benefits among different members of the community while supporting the sustainable development of tourism in Pokhara and surrounding areas.

Conclusion

Overall, participants described Aati Ghar Homestay as an important opportunity that has created positive economic, cultural, and social impacts for both homestay hosts and the local community. The findings reveal that homestay tourism has improved household income, promoted the preservation of local traditions, and encouraged active community participation in tourism development. Although the

experiences and benefits varied among participants, they shared a common understanding that homestay tourism has strengthened their livelihoods, enhanced cultural exchange, and increased the recognition of Aati Ghar as a community-based tourism destination in Pokhara and surrounding areas. The findings indicate that homestay tourism has significant potential to contribute to sustainable tourism development by combining economic opportunities with cultural preservation, community empowerment, and responsible hospitality practices.

2.2 Challenges Faced by Aati Ghar Homestay Hosts

The second theme that emerged from the interviews was the challenges faced by Aati Ghar homestay hosts while operating their homestay businesses. Although homestay tourism has created various economic, social, and cultural opportunities for the local community, participants explained that several challenges continue to affect the effective operation and long-term sustainability of their homestays. Participants highlighted issues related to seasonal tourist arrivals, maintaining and upgrading homestay facilities, increasing competition from hotels and other accommodation providers, meeting diverse tourist expectations, and financial and marketing limitations. They explained that addressing these challenges requires continuous improvement, capacity building, and support from government agencies and tourism organizations to ensure the sustainable development of Aati Ghar Homestay and community-based tourism in Pokhara and surrounding areas.

2.2.1 Seasonal Tourist Arrivals

Participants identified seasonal tourist arrivals as one of the major challenges affecting the operation of Aati Ghar Homestay. They explained that the number of visitors varies throughout the year, with high occupancy during peak tourist seasons and significantly fewer guests during off-seasons. This fluctuation creates difficulties in maintaining a stable income, managing daily expenses, and planning long-term business activities.

One participant, Suman, a homestay host at Aati Ghar, shared, “The number of guests changes depending on the season. During peak months, we are very busy, but in the off-season, there are very few visitors, making it difficult to earn a regular income.” Similarly, Laxmi, another homestay operator, explained, “We prepare rooms, food, and other facilities for guests, but when there are no bookings, our efforts and resources go to waste.” Likewise, Kamal, a homestay host, stated, “Most tourists visit

during holidays and trekking seasons. During the remaining months, it is difficult to depend only on homestay income to support our family.”

2.2.2 Maintaining and Upgrading Homestay Facilities

Participants explained that Aati Ghar Homestay has benefited from the tourism development of Pokhara, including improved road access, transportation, and internet connectivity. However, they highlighted that maintaining and continuously upgrading homestay facilities to meet the changing expectations of tourists remains a major challenge. They explained that regular investment is required to improve accommodation, sanitation, food services, and other facilities to provide comfortable and satisfactory experiences for guests. One participant, Suman, a homestay host at Aati Ghar, shared, “Tourists can easily reach our homestay because transportation has improved, but we need to regularly maintain and upgrade our rooms and facilities to meet their expectations.” Similarly, Laxmi, another homestay operator, explained, “Many guests compare our services with hotels and other accommodations. Therefore, maintaining cleanliness, comfort, and quality facilities is very important.” Likewise, Kamal, a homestay host, stated, “Improving our homestay requires continuous investment. Even small improvements in rooms, bathrooms, and dining areas make guests more satisfied and encourage them to visit again.”

These responses indicate that although Aati Ghar Homestay has good accessibility and basic infrastructure, homestay hosts continue to face challenges in maintaining service standards, upgrading facilities, and adapting to the changing needs and expectations of tourists. Continuous investment and regular maintenance are therefore essential for improving guest satisfaction and ensuring the long-term sustainability of homestay tourism in Pokhara and surrounding areas.

2.2.3 Managing Tourists and Service Quality

Participants also discussed the challenges of managing tourists and maintaining consistent service quality at Aati Ghar Homestay. They explained that meeting the expectations of different visitors can be difficult because tourists come from diverse cultural backgrounds and have different preferences regarding accommodation, food, cleanliness, and hospitality services. The participants emphasized that providing personalized services while maintaining high hospitality standards requires continuous learning and improvement. One participant, Suman, a homestay host at Aati Ghar, shared, “Every guest has different expectations. Some

prefer traditional experiences, while others expect facilities similar to hotels, so it is sometimes difficult to satisfy everyone.” Similarly, Laxmi, another homestay operator, stated, “We have practical experience in welcoming guests, but we need more professional hospitality training to improve our guest-handling skills and service standards.” Likewise, Kamal, a homestay host, explained, “Providing quality food, maintaining cleanliness, and ensuring comfortable accommodation require continuous effort. We always try our best, but improving our skills would help us provide better services to our guests.”

These responses indicate that Aati Ghar homestay hosts face challenges in maintaining consistent service quality while meeting the diverse expectations of visitors. Limited formal hospitality training, financial constraints, and changing tourist preferences make it difficult to deliver professional and consistent services. Therefore, continuous skill development and quality improvement are essential for enhancing guest satisfaction and ensuring the sustainable growth of Aati Ghar Homestay.

2.2.4 Financial and Marketing Challenges

Participants identified financial limitations and marketing challenges as major factors affecting the growth and sustainability of Aati Ghar Homestay. They explained that maintaining homestay operations, upgrading facilities, and promoting their businesses require financial resources that are often difficult to obtain. In addition, many participants stated that they have limited knowledge of digital marketing and online booking platforms, making it challenging to attract more domestic and international tourists. One participant, Suman, a homestay host at Aati Ghar, shared, “Improving our homestay requires investment, but arranging enough money is difficult for small homestay owners like us.” Similarly, Laxmi, another homestay operator, explained, “Many tourists are not aware of our homestay because we have limited ways to promote it. We mostly depend on recommendations from previous guests.” Likewise, Kamal, a homestay host, stated, “We need more support in online marketing, social media promotion, and digital booking systems so that more people can easily find and choose our homestay.”

These responses indicate that financial constraints and limited marketing knowledge restrict the growth potential of Aati Ghar Homestay. Participants believed that access to financial support, digital marketing training, and stronger promotion through tourism organizations and online platforms would increase the visibility of

the homestay, attract more visitors, and contribute to the long-term sustainability of community-based tourism in Pokhara and surrounding areas.

Conclusion

Overall, participants identified several challenges affecting the operation and sustainability of Aati Ghar Homestay. Seasonal tourist arrivals, the need for continuous maintenance and upgrading of homestay facilities, managing the diverse expectations of visitors, and financial and marketing limitations were highlighted as the major concerns. Despite these challenges, participants acknowledged that Aati Ghar has benefited from improved road access, transportation services, and internet connectivity, which have supported the growth of homestay tourism. The findings suggest that the sustainable development of Aati Ghar Homestay can be strengthened by improving service quality, enhancing hospitality skills through regular training, expanding digital marketing and promotional activities, and encouraging year-round tourism to attract more domestic and international visitors to Pokhara and surrounding areas.

2.3 Expected Support and Improvements

The third theme that emerged from the interviews was the expected support and improvements required by Aati Ghar homestay hosts for the sustainable development of their homestay businesses. Participants explained that although homestay tourism has created economic, social, and cultural benefits, additional support from government agencies, tourism organizations, and local stakeholders is necessary to strengthen the homestay sector. They emphasized the need for financial assistance, regular hospitality training, effective tourism promotion, digital marketing support, and continuous improvement of tourism-related infrastructure. Participants believed that such support would enhance service quality, increase tourist arrivals, and ensure the long-term sustainability of Aati Ghar Homestay and community-based tourism in Pokhara and surrounding areas.

2.3.1 Government Financial Support

Participants emphasized that government financial support is essential for improving and expanding Aati Ghar Homestay. They explained that financial assistance would enable them to upgrade guest rooms, improve sanitation facilities, maintain service quality, and introduce additional amenities that meet the changing expectations of domestic and international tourists. One participant, Suman, a homestay host at Aati Ghar, shared, “Government support would help us improve our

homestay facilities. Financial assistance would make it easier to renovate rooms and provide better services to our guests.” Similarly, Laxmi, another homestay operator, explained, “Most homestay owners have limited financial resources. If the government provides subsidies or low-interest loans, we can improve our homestays and offer more comfortable accommodation to visitors.” Likewise, Kamal, a homestay host, stated, “Financial support would motivate more local families to continue operating homestays and invest in better facilities, which would benefit both the community and the tourism industry.”

These responses indicate that government financial assistance, such as grants, subsidies, and low-interest loan programs, could play an important role in supporting Aati Ghar homestay hosts. Such support would help improve infrastructure, enhance service quality, and strengthen the long-term sustainability of community-based tourism in Pokhara and surrounding areas.

2.3.2 Training and Capacity Building

Participants highlighted the importance of hospitality training and capacity-building programs for improving the quality of services provided at Aati Ghar Homestay. They explained that training related to guest handling, communication skills, food hygiene, customer service, digital marketing, and homestay management would enhance their knowledge, confidence, and professionalism. Participants believed that continuous learning would help them meet the changing expectations of both domestic and international tourists.

One participant, Suman, a homestay host at Aati Ghar, stated, “We have experience in welcoming guests, but professional hospitality training would help us improve our service quality and better understand the needs of different visitors.” Similarly, Laxmi, another homestay operator, shared, “Training on communication skills, food hygiene, cleanliness, and guest management would help us provide better experiences and increase guest satisfaction.” Likewise, Kamal, a homestay host, explained, “Tourists come from different countries and have different expectations. Learning new hospitality skills and digital marketing techniques would help us improve our homestay and attract more visitors.”

2.3.3 Tourism Promotion and Marketing

Participants identified tourism promotion and marketing as essential for increasing tourist arrivals at Aati Ghar Homestay. They explained that although Aati

Ghar offers authentic cultural experiences, traditional hospitality, local cuisine, and a peaceful natural environment, stronger promotional activities are needed to attract more domestic and international visitors. Participants emphasized the importance of digital marketing, social media, and collaboration with tourism stakeholders to improve the visibility of their homestays.

One participant, Suman, a homestay host at Aati Ghar, stated, “Aati Ghar has many unique attractions, but more promotion is needed so that more people know about our homestay and the experiences we offer.” Similarly, Laxmi, another homestay operator, shared, “Most tourists search for accommodation online. Better promotion through social media and online booking platforms would help us attract more visitors.” Likewise, Kamal, a homestay host, explained, “Working together with travel agencies, the Nepal Tourism Board, and local tourism organizations would help promote Aati Ghar as a community-based tourism destination and increase tourist arrivals.”

2.3.4 Infrastructure Development

Participants explained that Aati Ghar Homestay has benefited from improved road access, transportation services, and internet connectivity, which have supported the growth of tourism in Pokhara and surrounding areas. However, they emphasized that continuous improvement in tourism-related infrastructure is still necessary to enhance visitor experiences. Participants highlighted the need for better visitor facilities, proper sanitation, environmental management, clear directional signage, and the maintenance of public spaces while preserving the natural and cultural environment of the destination.

One participant, Suman, a homestay host at Aati Ghar, stated, “Aati Ghar is now easier to reach because transportation has improved, but we still need better tourism facilities to provide a more comfortable experience for visitors.” Similarly, Laxmi, another homestay operator, explained, “Improving visitor facilities, maintaining cleanliness, and properly managing the surrounding environment would increase tourist satisfaction and encourage repeat visits.” Likewise, Kamal, a homestay host, shared, “Future development should focus on improving tourism infrastructure while protecting the natural beauty and cultural identity of Aati Ghar. This will help attract more visitors without losing the uniqueness of our community.”

Conclusion

Overall, participants emphasized the need for greater support and continuous improvements to strengthen the Aati Ghar Homestay sector. The findings revealed that government financial assistance, regular hospitality training, effective tourism promotion, digital marketing support, and continuous improvement of tourism-related infrastructure are essential for enhancing the quality and sustainability of homestay services. Although Aati Ghar has benefited from improved road access, transportation facilities, and internet connectivity, participants believed that additional support from government agencies, tourism organizations, and local stakeholders is necessary to improve service standards and attract more domestic and international visitors. The findings indicate that collaborative efforts among different stakeholders can help address existing challenges, enhance the competitiveness of Aati Ghar Homestay, increase tourism benefits for the local community, and ensure the long-term sustainable development of community-based tourism in Pokhara and surrounding areas.

CHAPTER III

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 Conclusion

This study explored the lived realities of homestay hosts navigating challenges in Pokhara and the surrounding areas. Using a qualitative phenomenological approach, the study provided an in-depth understanding of how homestay hosts perceive, experience, and interpret the realities of operating homestay businesses while providing authentic hospitality services within a community-based tourism setting.

The findings revealed that operating a homestay is both rewarding and challenging. Participants described their daily experiences as involving multiple responsibilities, including welcoming guests, preparing traditional meals, maintaining cleanliness, preserving local culture, and balancing household responsibilities with tourism-related activities. These experiences contributed to their personal growth by improving communication skills, confidence, problem-solving abilities, and cultural understanding.

The study also found that Nepalese cultural hospitality practices play a significant role in enhancing guests' experiences. Participants emphasized that welcoming guests with warmth, respect, sincerity, and family-based care, along with sharing local traditions, cuisine, and cultural activities, creates memorable experiences and strengthens guest satisfaction. These practices not only preserve local culture but also contribute to the uniqueness and sustainability of homestay tourism.

Despite these positive experiences, the study identified several challenges faced by homestay hosts. Seasonal fluctuations in tourist arrivals, limited marketing and promotional opportunities, inadequate tourism infrastructure, financial constraints, changing guest expectations, and limited access to hospitality training were reported as major difficulties. Participants explained that these challenges influence the quality of hospitality services, business sustainability, and their ability to compete with other accommodation providers.

The findings further indicated that family support, community participation, government assistance, hospitality training, and destination promotion are essential for improving homestay operations. Participants believed that stronger collaboration among local communities, tourism organizations, and government agencies would

enhance service quality, preserve cultural heritage, and strengthen the sustainability of homestay tourism.

Overall, this study concludes that homestay tourism is an important contributor to the economic, social, and cultural development of Pokhara and its surrounding areas. While homestay hosts experience meaningful opportunities through tourism, they also navigate various operational, financial, and cultural challenges. The findings contribute to a deeper understanding of the lived realities of homestay hosts and provide valuable insights for researchers, policymakers, tourism practitioners, and community stakeholders seeking to strengthen community-based homestay tourism in Nepal.

3.2 Recommendations

Based on the findings of this study, the following recommendations are proposed to improve the sustainability and effectiveness of homestay tourism in Pokhara and the surrounding areas.

To the Government:

The government should improve tourism-related infrastructure, including roads, transportation, internet connectivity, water supply, sanitation facilities, and directional signage to homestay destinations. Financial assistance, low-interest loans, and grants should be provided to homestay operators to upgrade their facilities and improve service quality. Furthermore, policies supporting sustainable community-based tourism and cultural heritage conservation should be strengthened.

To Tourism Organizations:

Tourism organizations should increase promotional activities through digital marketing, tourism campaigns, travel fairs, and partnerships with travel agencies and online booking platforms. Regular training programs on hospitality management, customer service, digital marketing, foreign language communication, food safety, sustainable tourism, and business management should also be organized to enhance the capacity of homestay hosts.

To Homestay Hosts:

Homestay hosts should continue improving the quality of hospitality services by maintaining cleanliness, providing authentic cultural experiences, preserving local

traditions, and adapting to the changing needs of domestic and international visitors. They should actively participate in hospitality training, utilize digital marketing and social media for promotion, and strengthen cooperation with other homestay operators to improve destination competitiveness.

To the Local Community:

Community members should actively support tourism development by preserving local culture, traditional lifestyles, natural resources, and community heritage. Strong collaboration among homestay hosts, local residents, tourism committees, and community organizations will help create a sustainable tourism environment and improve visitors' overall experiences.

For Future Researchers:

Future studies may include a larger number of homestay hosts from different municipalities and districts to compare their lived experiences and operational challenges. Researchers may also explore the perspectives of tourists, local government representatives, tourism entrepreneurs, and community leaders to develop a more comprehensive understanding of homestay tourism. Comparative studies between rural and urban homestays, as well as research on the long-term sustainability and resilience of community-based tourism in Nepal, are also recommended.

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APPENDIX

INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

Section A: Background Information

1. Please tell me about yourself and your homestay.
2. How long have you been operating your homestay at Aati Ghar?
3. What motivated you to start a homestay business?
4. How many family members are involved in managing the homestay?
5. Approximately how many guests do you host during the peak tourist season?

Section B: Lived Experiences of Aati Ghar Homestay Hosts

1. Can you describe your overall experience of operating a homestay at Aati Ghar?
2. How has operating a homestay affected your personal life and family?
3. What are the most rewarding experiences you have had as a homestay host?
4. How has interacting with guests influenced your hospitality skills and knowledge?
5. How has operating a homestay contributed to preserving local culture and traditions?

Section C: Challenges Faced by Aati Ghar Homestay Hosts

1. What are the major challenges you face while operating your homestay?
2. What difficulties do you experience in managing guests and providing hospitality services?
3. How do seasonal changes in tourist arrivals affect your homestay business?
4. What challenges do you face regarding marketing, promotion, or attracting tourists?
5. How do you maintain service quality while meeting the different expectations of domestic and international visitors?

Section D: Expected Support and Improvements

1. What kind of support have you received from the government or tourism organizations?
2. What additional support do you expect from the government to improve your homestay business?
3. What types of training or capacity-building programs would help you improve your services?
4. What improvements do you think are needed to promote Aati Ghar as a community-based homestay destination?
5. Is there anything else you would like to share about your lived experience as an Aati Ghar homestay host?