

**STUDY OF POPULATION, GENERAL BEHAVIOUR AND HUMAN-
MONKEY CONFLICT
OF ASSAMESE MONKEY (*Macaca assamensis* McClelland, 1840) IN
RAMDI, PALPA, NEPAL**



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RECOMMENDATION

It is my great pleasure to recommend that Mr. Krishna Adhikari has successfully carried out the dissertation entitled “Study of population, general behaviour and human-monkey conflict of Assamese monkey (*Macaca assamensis* McClelland, 1840) in Ramdi, Palpa, Nepal” under my supervision and guidance for the partial fulfillment of Master’s Degree of Science in Zoology with special paper ecology. This is the candidate's original work, which brings out important findings in the concerned field. To the best of my knowledge, this work has not been submitted for any other degree in any institution.

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ABSTRACT

The study entitled as “Study of population, general behaviour and human-monkey conflict of Assamese monkey (*Macaca assamensis* McClelland, 1840) in Ramdi, Palpa, Nepal” was carried with the major objective of analyzing Population, Behaviours and human- monkey conflict in Ramdi Area. The study site covers the total area of ward no. 2 and 9 in Khanichhap VDC in Palpa, Ward No. 2 and 6 in Darlamdanda VDC in Palpa and Ward No. 6 in Malunga VDC in Syangja Districts. Two troops of Assamese monkey with total population of 48 were recorded in study area. The mean troop size was found to be 24 individuals. The group density was 0.33 groups / km² with a population density of 6 individuals/ km². Age-sex composition of macaque comprised 12.5% infants, 27.08% juvenile, 37.5% young, 8.33% adult male and 14.58% adult females. The adult sex ratio and birth rate were 0.57 and 0.85 respectively. Five major behaviors were recorded from the selected two troops for behavior study and found that macaques spent 43.96 % of time on feeding, 26.24% of time on resting, 21.99% on grooming, 4.14% on foraging, and 3.65% on moving behavior. According to the vegetation study, 5 major tree plant species contributed 64.81% of the total plant density. Out of total 91 trees of different 16 species, these 5 major species consists a total of 59 trees. Only 1 major tree plant species were food plants of Assamese monkey. It indicates that scarcity of food plants. There for level of Human-Monkey Conflict is high in Ramdi area because of scarcity of food. Crop damage (reported by 69% respondents, N = 100), grabbing/taking of food materials and clothes (reported by 47 % respondents), damaging electric cables moving over it (reported by 1 % respondents); biting/scratching (reported by 1% respondents) and others were the monkey related problems in the study area. Crop mostly eaten includes maize (35%), Vegetables (20%), pulses (13%), fruits (13%), Wheat (11%), potato (6%), Rice (2%) were found to be damaged by the monkey in the study site. However crops like lady’s finger, peas, soya beans, coriander, ginger, turmeric and chilly were less preferred by the monkey. Catapult (reported by 97% respondents; N = 100); scolding and charging (reported by 1% respondents); etc. were the common deterrent methods against monkeys. Food scarcity (reported by 78% respondents; N = 100); increasing population of monkey (reported by 33% respondents); monkey habitat loss (reported by 3% respondents) were reported as the causes of increasing monkey problems. Most respondents i.e. 60% (N = 100) said that their compound is invaded by monkey 2-3 days, followed by daily, weekly etc. According to 59% respondent monkey are mostly active in morning time i.e. 5am-11am and they create great problem to local people. Artificial provisioning by other, 37% respondent reported that they had seen the artificial provisioning by other people like Tourists, pilgrims, local visitors. In Ramdi area monkey are habituate by provisioning of waste foods therefore they come and create conflict. Due to this their diet, home range, habitat and behavior were also change.

CONTENTS

	Pages
DECLARATION	i
RECOMMENDATION	ii
LETTER OF APPROVAL	iii
CERTIFICATE OF ACCEPTANCE	iv
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	v
CONTENTS	vi
LIST OF TABLES	viii
LIST OF FIGURES	viii
LIST OF PHOTOGRAPHS	viii
ABBREVIATION	ix
ABSTRACT	x
1. INTRODUCTION	1-4
1.1. General Background	1
1.1.1 Taxonomy	1
1.1.2 Distribution	2
1.1.3 Habit and Habitat	2
1.1.4 Population	3
1.1.5 General Behavior	3
1.1.6 Conservation Status	3
1.1.7 Threats	4
1.2. Objectives of the study	4
1.3. Rational of the study	4
1.4. Limitations of the Study	4
2. LITERATURE REVIEW	5-6
3. MATERIALS AND METHODS	7-14
3.1 Study Area	7
3.1.1 Location	7
3.1.2 GPS Location and Elevation of Study area	8
3.1.3 Climate	9
3.1.4 Biodiversity	10
3.1.4.1 Flora	10
3.1.4.2 Fauna	11
3.2 Methods	11
3.2.1 Preliminary Survey	11
3.2.2 Data Collection	11
3.2.3 Population Count	11
3.2.4 Behavioral Observations	13
3.2.4.1 Continuous Scan Sampling	13
3.2.4.2 Ad-libitum sampling	13
3.2.5 Human-Monkey conflict	13

3.2.5.1 Questionnaire Survey	13
3.2.6 Vegetation Sampling	13
3.3 Data Analysis	14
4. RESULTS	15-25
4.1 Population	15
4.1.1 Group and Population density	15
4.1.2 Age – Sex Composition	15
4.1.3 Adult Sex Ratio	16
4.1.4 Female to Infant Ratio	16
4.2 General behavior	16
4.2.1 Some behavioral records from Ad-libitum sampling	17
4.3 Human- Monkey conflict	18
4.3.1 Monkey Damaging	18
4.3.2 Monkey Problem	18
4.3.3 Crop damaging	19
4.3.4 Harassment	20
4.3.5 Monkey prevention Strategies	20
4.3.6 Causes of Monkey Destruction	21
4.3.7 Frequency of Monkeys Entering Compounds	22
4.3.8 Provisioning	22
4.3.9 Monkey Problematic Time	23
5. DISCUSSION	26-29
5.1 Population	26
5.2 General behavior	26
5.3 Human-monkey conflict	28
6. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION	30-31
7. REFERENCES	32-34
8. PHOTOGRAPHS	35-38
9. APPENDICES	39-44
Appendix I: Data sheet used to count Population	39
Appendix II: Data Sheet used for behavioral observations.	39
Appendix III Survey Questionnaire on Human-Assamese Monkey Conflict	39
Appendix IV: Plant species found in Habitat of Monkey in Ramdi	43

LIST OF TABLES

Table	Title of tables	Pages
Table 1:	GPS Location of Study Area.	8
Table 2:	GPS Location of Highest Elevation of Study Area	8
Table 3:	GPS Location of Lowest Elevation of Study Area	9
Table 4:	Population of Assamese Monkey in Ramdi Area.	15
Table 5:	Tree Species Found in Habitat of Monkey in Ramdi Area.	24

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure	Title of figures	Pages
Figure 1:	Location of Ramdi area.	7
Figure 2:	Monthly average rainfall of Ramdi Area from 2014 A.D.	9
Figure 3:	Monthly average Temperature of Ramdi in 2014 A.D.	10
Figure 4:	Monthly average Relative Humidity (RH) % of Ramdi in 2014 A.D.	10
Figure 5:	Age-Sex composition of monkey in Ramdi area in 2014.	16
Figure 6:	Percentage of time spent in major activities by monkey in Ramdi area in 2014.	17
Figure 7:	Monkey Related Problems (N = 100)	19
Figure 8:	Percentage of Crop Damage by Monkey in Ramdi Area.	20
Figure 9:	various preventive Methods against Monkeys (N =100)	21
Figure 10:	Categories of Causes of Monkey Being Destructive	22
Figure 11:	Frequency of Monkey Entering the House Compound (N = 100)	22
Figure 12:	Percentage of Respondents Knowing Provisioning by other People	23
Figure 13:	Percentages of Reasons for Provisioning	23
Figure 14:	Monkey Problematic Time	24

LIST OF PHOTOGRAPHS

Photograph	Title of photograph	Pages
Photo-1:	Monkeys feeding waste food at dumping side in Ramdi	35
Photo-2:	Female monkey clean orange cover for feeding it	.35
Photo 3:	Female having sub caudal sexual swelling.	35
Photo 4:	Adult males showing aggressive behavior and attention.	36
Photo 5:	Adult male resting.	36
Photo 6:	Monkey entering into houses.	36
Photo 7:	Crop raid by monkey in the rice and vegetables field.	37
Photo 8:	Monkey eating manmade food.	37
Photo 9:	Monkey moving on roof of houses.	37
Photo 10:	At Ramdi for the field work.	38

ABBREVIATIONS

Abbreviated form	Details of abbreviations
asl	above sea level
BCN	Bird Conservation Nepal
CAMP	Conservation Assessment and Management plan
CITES	Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora
DBH	Diameter at Breast Height
DNPWC	Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation
GoN	Government of Nepal
GPS	Global Positioning System
IUCN	International Union for the Conservation of nature and Natural Resources
LNP	Langtang National Park
MBCA	Makalu Barun Conservation Area
RH	Relative Humidity
T/HB	Tail to Head Body Ratio
VDC	Village Development Committee