

**Human-Asian Wild Elephant (*Elephas maximus*)
conflict: A case study around Bardia National Park,
Bardia, Nepal**

A Dissertation

Submitted for Partial Fulfillment of the Requirement For the

Master Degree of Science

In

Zoology (Ecology)

By

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Exam Roll No.: 1315

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Submitted to

Central Department of Zoology

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Kathmandu, Nepal

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DECLARATION

I hereby declare that the work presented in this dissertation entitled " **Human-Asian Wild Elephant (*Elephas maximus*) conflict: A case study around Bardia National Park, Bardia, Nepal**" has been done by myself and has not been submitted elsewhere for the award of any degree. All sources of information have been specifically acknowledged by reference to authors or institution except personal observation.

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RECOMMENDATION

This is to recommend that the dissertation entitled "**Human-Asian Wild Elephant (*Elephas maximus*) conflict: A case study around Bardia National Park, Bardia, Nepal**" has been carried out by Mr. Sundar Baral for the partial fulfillment of M. Sc. Degree in Zoology (Ecology). This original work was conducted under my supervision. To the best of my knowledge, this dissertation has not been submitted for any other degree in any institution.

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LETTER OF APPROVAL

On the recommendation of supervisor Dr. Mukesh Kumar Chalise this thesis submitted by Mr. **Sundar Baral** entitled "**Human-Asian Wild Elephant (*Elephas maximus*) conflict: A case study around Bardia National Park, Bardia, Nepal**" is approved for further examination and submitted to the Tribhuvan University in the partial fulfillment of the requirements for Master's Degree of Science in Zoology with special paper Ecology.

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CERTIFICATE OF APPROVAL

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ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

BNP	- Bardia National Park
CITES	- Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna
DNPWC	- Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation
BZ	- Buffer Zone
GoN	- Government of Nepal
HMG	- His Majesty's Government
IUCN	- International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources
Kg	- Kilogram
NRS	- Nepalese Rupees
Hh	- Household
NPWC	- National Park and Wildlife Conservation
UG	- User Group
Sq. km/km ²	- Square Kilometer
MFSC	- Ministry of Forest and Soil Conservation

ABSTRACT

Human-elephant conflict poses a serious threat to elephant conservation in many parts of Asia including Nepal. The principal objective of the research was to assess wild elephant conflict with human around the Bardia National Park, western Nepal. The crop-raiding and economic losses by elephant were assessed by household questionnaire survey and interview. Chi-square test was carried out to analyze the data.

The main problems caused by elephants were crop damaged and harassment to people. A total NRs, 5,52,366 of monetary loss was estimated due to crop damage by elephants in 2008 .Paddy accounted 37.7%, wheat 25.2%, Maize 21.6% and Lentil 15.4%. Elephant with calves were more dangerous than other groups. The highest intensity of damage occurred in July-August and November-December. 63% and 65% of farmers has shortage of food due to crop damage by elephant in Shivapur and Thakurdwara VDC respectively. Electric fence and community protection were more effective in preventive measures. The government should provide effective compensation to the affected farmers to deter elephants and formalize transboundary co-operation with India to mitigate human elephant conflict in western Nepal.

The study concluded that to conserve the elephants in western Nepal keep the viable population of elephants and their habitat diversity be increased.