

# **PROBLEMS AND PROSPECTS OF RURAL TOURISM**

**A Case Study of Rara Lake Mugu**

**A Thesis Submitted to  
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of the Master of Arts  
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Rural Development**

**Submitted by**

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## **RECOMMENDATION LETTER**

The thesis entitled “**PROBLEMS AND PROSPECTS OF RURAL TOURISM A Case Study of Rara Lake Mugu**” has been completed by **Mr. Tejendra Kumar Budha** under my guidance and supervision. I hereby forward this thesis to evaluation committee for final evaluation and approval.

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## APPROVAL LETTER

The thesis entitled " **PROBLEMS AND PROSPECTS OF RURAL TOURISM A Case Study of Rara Lake Mugu**" written and submitted by **Mr. Tejenda Kumar Budha** in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Master's degree (M.A.) in Rural Development has been approved by the evaluation committee.

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## **DECLARATION**

I hereby declare that the thesis entitled "**PROBLEMS AND PROSPECTS OF RURAL TOURISM A Case Study of Rara Lake Mugu**" submitted to the Central Department of Rural Development, Tribhuvan University. It is entirely my original work prepared under the guidance and supervision of my supervisor. I have made due acknowledgements to all ideas and information borrowed from different sources during writing this thesis. The result of this thesis has not been presented or submitted anywhere else for the award of any degree or for any other purpose and I would like to assure that no part of the content of this thesis has been published anywhere.

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## **Abstract**

The research “**Problems and Prospects of Rural Tourism a Case Study of Rara lake Mugu**” has been carried out in Rara national park area mainly situated in Hutu Rara VDC and touched by adjoining VDCs Pina, Karkiwada and Shreenagar of Mugu District of Mid-Western region of Nepal. The research is primarily focused on to discuss and analyze the present situation of tourism at Rara which is a tourist paradise with infinite variety of interesting to see and do and to provide some curing measures of the problems that are existing and likely to be in the future too. The main objectives of the study are to discuss the present situation, existing problems and possible challenges, to suggest corrective measures to promote tourism in Rara lake of Mugu.

The primary data for this study have been generated by the questionnaire schedule with the local people engaging in various professions, key informant interview, focus group discussion and consultation with the local people and tourists visited at the time of field visit. The secondary data have been obtained from relevant organizations and institutions including research reports, books, journals, booklets, data sheets and publications on websites.

The touristic activities are not as it is expected to be due to the negligence from government and non-government sides, inadequate promotion, difficult travel routes, lack of policy practice, lack of easy access to get to the destination, lack of commitment of local people. However, the major responsibility of the development of touristic area is of government. The recommendations of this study are only for the academic purpose. It is advised to carry out more scientific research on

the use and abuse of precious natural plants available at the periphery of the Rara area. This will help to increase the number of tourists on the one hand and on the other hand will open job opportunities for the local people.

The hotels are facing the electricity problems, some of them use solar for the light. They use fire wood for cooking food and heating water. Sometime they use candle and lamp for the light. There is sufficient source of water but it is not purified. Normally visitors do not prefer to use water from open sources.

Due to the lack of sufficient health care centers around the tourist sites in Rara lake, tourists are afraid of living for a longer time. There is not a single general medical center in Rara lake area. It is essential to have good medicals or health services so that tourists could get proper checkup and medicine if they encountered any misfortunes.

Recreation activities are necessary to develop the tourism development. In the study area, there is inadequate recreational facility. There is no any traditional museum. In fact, recreational activities are necessary to increase quantity of tourist arrival and their length of stay in every tourist area.

During the peak season the hotels cannot supply the shelter and other necessary services to all the tourists. This has become one of the greatest problems for the tourists. Further, there are no such hotels that provide high standard lodging and food facilities to those tourists who want to spend much money for luxurious stay.

It is evident that tourist arrival in Rara has been slowly increasing. The ten-year period from 2006-2016 has increased from 28 to 184 which is 767% increase.

But compared to the overall tourist arrival in Nepal, the tourist flow to Rara is less than 1% every year which indicate that there is no enough Rara tourism promotion which needs to be worked very significantly. Also, internal tourists have been increasing every year but no proper records.



## **ABBREVIATIONS/ACRONYMS**

%	Percentage
CBD	Conservation of Biological Diversity
CBRT	Community Based Rural Tourism
CBS	Central Bureau of Statistics
CNP	Chitwan National Park
DDC	District Development Commi
ETO	Eco Tourism Organization
GDP	Gross Domestic product
GON	Government of Nepal
HDR	Human Development Report
HH	Household
ICIMOD	International Centere for Integrated Mountain Development
INGO	International Non-Government Organization
IUOTO	International Union OF Official Travel Organization
KCDC	Karani community development center
MA	Master of Arts
MOCTCA	Ministry of culture, tourism and civil Aviation
MWDR	Mid-Western Development Region
NGO	Non-Government Organization
NPC	National Planning Commission
NTB	Nepal Tourism Board
RDC	Rara development committee
RPN	Rara National Park

RS.	Nepali Rupees
RSSK	Rinimoksha Sudhar samaj Kendra
S.N	Serial Number
SAARC	South Asian Association for Regional Co- Operation
TU	Tribhuvan University
UN	United Nation
UN	United Nations
UNDB	United Nation Development Programme
UNEP	United Nation Environment Programme
VDC	Village Development Committee
WTO	World Tourism Organization

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