

PROBLEMS AND PROSPECTS OF ECOTOURISM IN NEPAL

(A Case Study of Bandipur, Tanahun)

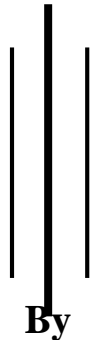


A THESIS

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**In Partial fulfillment of requirement for the Master's
Degree of Arts in Rural Development**



By

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RECOMMENDATION LETTER

I hereby certify the thesis entitled "**Problems and Prospects of Ecotourism in Nepal (A Case Study of Bandipur, Tanahun)**" by **Miss Anamika Malla** submitted to the Central Department of Rural Development, Tribhuvan University, Kathmandu, Nepal in partial fulfillment of the requirement for the Degree of Masters of Arts in Rural Development is carried out under my guidance and supervision. No part of this thesis has been submitted for any degree and I recommended this for final evaluation.

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APPROVAL LETTER

This is to certify that the thesis submitted by Miss Anamika Malla entitled "**Problems and Prospects of Ecotourism in Nepal (A Case Study of Bandipur, Tanahun)**" has been examined. It has been declared successful for the fulfillment of the academic requirements toward the completion of Masters of Arts in Rural Development.

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This study entitled "**Problems and Prospects of Ecotourism in Nepal (A Case Study of Bandipur, Tanahun)**" is carried out for the partial fulfillment of Master degree in Rural Development from the Central Department of Rural Development, Tribhuvan University.

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Anamika Malla

ABSTRACT

The thesis entitled “Problem and Prospect of Eco-tourism in Nepal : A Case Study of Bandipur Area in Tanahun” has been prepared for the fulfillment of Master Degree in Rural Development from the Central Department of Rural Development, T.U., Kirtipur. Its entirely based on the field survey in which researcher has exercised to highlight the eco-tourism is natural environment and cultural richness.

Eco-tourism is a new concept in the tourism sector and operations have been established all over the world particularly is developing countries on the assumption of poverty alleviation and environment conservation as well as minimum impact in environment sector.

The general objective of the study was to identity the problem and prospect of eco-tourism of Bandipur in Tanahun District and used the purposive and Random sampling method is selected areas of Bandipur. The primary data were collected using questionnaire through the field survey in the study area and secondary data from various sources.

Based on the study, it is found that Bandipur located in Tanahun district, southern corner of Gandaki zone is sleepy old Newari village. It was the main link on the ancient trading route between India and Tibet and according to legend was once very assets, mountain and Himalayan scene, river, basin wildlife favourable climate and other attractions which will be of great interest for the tourist. This place is famous for both domestic and international tourism for its peculiar village environment. In the view of its potential for the tourism development, local community is seen to the more interested and aware on the development on this area jointly as tourist destination.

The study identified that there were tremendous prospects of eco-tourism and problems as well. Siddha cave, Rock slopes, Fauna-flora, Scenic view, Historical movement, Local cultures mountain and Himalayan scene, river basin, wildlife and favorable climate. Similarly, the problems were found

mainly about the drinking water, trained manpower, health and sanitation problem, lack of recreational facilities, lack of good quality hotels, public toilet, peace and security and lack of marketing etc. There were absence of well, electricity, sanitation, marketing medical facilities, recreational centre, visitor information center and entry of which were the vital challenging problems.

The research has been conducted on the basis of field survey applying exploratory cum descriptive in which 60 locals, 28 hotels, 20 tourists and 20 key informants were taken as sample and also applied interview, timeline and table as tools.

The study had found animal husbandry almost cover 20-30% and besides, agriculture, seasonal migration and trade are ultimate economy sector. The major issues were poverty, livestock grazing, crop and livestock depredation, high dependency on natural resource and poaching. The species diversity in SPNP areas were forest plant 200, birds 70 and wild animals 35. There were major trekking routes: Bandipur to Ramkot for 1:30 hour long trek, Bandipur to Mukundeshwori for 2 hours long trek, Bandipur to Siddha cave. 1 hours long trek, Bandipur via Hilekhadka to Chhimkeshwori for 4 hours long trek, Bandipur to Saranghat, for 2 days long trek, Bandipur to Dumre for 1 hour long trek. The best time to visit the area was September to October months.

Hence, the future of eco-tourism in Bandipur area is found to be very optimistic and relies heavily on who is responsible for marketing, eco-tourism, planning, modifying entry fee, establishing infrastructure, making aware to locals and tourists regarding to eco-tourism in the study area (Bandipur area). Apart this, eco-tourism provides a high level of education on ecology and environment, which has positive impact upon the protection of environment and culture and brings about economic benefits for the host communities and contributes to conservation activities efforts.

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ABBREVIATION

ACAP	Annapurna Conservation Area Project
BDC	Bandipur Development Committee
MOCTCA	Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation
R&D	Research and Development
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
CBT	Community Based Tourism
PGS	Paying Guest System
PGH	Paying Guest House
NGOS	Non Government Organizations
INGOS	International Non Government Organizations
TMC	Tourism Management Committee
TDMC	Tourism Development Management Committee
NTB	Nepal Tourism Board
NPC	National Planning, Commission
TU	Tribhuvan University
NATHM	Nepal Academy of Tourism and Hotel Management
WTO	World Tourism Organization
ECTP	Eco cultural Tourism Project
CCODER	Centre for Community Development and Research
MOF	Ministry of Finance
WTO	World Trade Organization
WB	World Bank