ETHNOBIOLOGY OF THE PAHARI

(A case study of Badikhel VDC of Lalitpur district)

A Dissertation submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Master's Degree of Science in Zoology

By: Ganesh Singh Dhami Roll No.: 1414 Batch No.: 053/054 TU Regd. No.: 44143-95

То

Central Department of Zoology Institute of Science and Technology Tribhuwan University, Kirtipur, Kathmandu, Nepal. April 2010

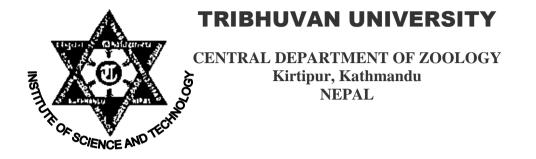
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DECLARATION BY THE CANDIDATE

I hereby declare that work presented in this thesis 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 the authors or institutions.

Date: 9th April 2010

Signature (Ganesh Singh Dhami) Roll No.: 1414 Batch No.: 053/054 TU Regd. No.: 44143-95



LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION

This is to recommend that the dissertation entitled "ETHNOBIOLOGY OF PAHARI" (A case study of Badikhel VDC of Lalitpur district) has been carried out by Mr. Ganesh Singh Dhami for the partial fulfillment of the M.Sc. Degree in Zoology. The original work was conducted under my supervision. To the best of my knowledge this dissertation work has not been submitted for any other degree.

Date: 9th April 2010

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Nanda Bahadur Singh Supervisor Central Department of Zoology T.U., Kirtipur, Kathmandu Nepal



LETTER OF APPROVAL

On the recommendation of Supervisor Dr. Nanda Bahadur Singh this thesis submitted by Ganesh Singh Dhami is approved for examination and submitted to the T.U. in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Master's Degree of Science in Zoology specializing in Ecology.

Date: 9th April 2010

Prof. Dr. Ananda Shova Tamrakar Head of the Department Department of Zoology, T.U.



TRIBHUVAN UNIVERSITY CENTRAL DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY Kirtipur, Kathmandu NEPAL

CERTIFICATE OF APPROVAL

This dissertation work submitted by Mr. Ganesh Singh Dhami entitled "**ETHNOBIOLOGY OF THE PAHARI**" has been approved as a partial fulfillment of the requirement for the Master's Degree of Science in Zoology.

EVALUATION COMMITTEE

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Nanda Bahadur Singh Research Supervisor Prof. Dr. Ananda Shova Tamrakar Head of Department

External Examiner Mr. Gyan Kumar Shrestha Lecturer Central Department of Environment T.U., Kirtipur, Kathmandu, Nepal. Internal Examiner Prof. Dr. Ranjana Gupta Central Department of Zoology T.U., Kirtipur, Kathmandu, Nepal

Date of Examination:

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> Ganesh Singh Dhami Roll No.: 1414 Batch No.: 053/054 T.U. Regd. No.: 44143-95

ABSTRACT

The Pahari are one of the marginalized indigenous groups, spread out in different parts of Nepal but this particular study is on the people inhabiting Badikhel VDC of Lalitpur district. Historically, they make extensive use of locally available plants and animals for fulfilling their basic needs. The study is carried out to document the plants and animals being used in various ways by the Pahari. To meet the intended objectives, field visits were carried out and the ethnobiological data were collected through observation, participation and interviews with the local people and other knowledgeable people.

The study reveals that the Pahari make use of 38 species of animals-both wild and domestic. They use different 284 plants species both wild and cultivated as food, medicines, timber, fuel, wood, fibre and for different rituals. They use 8 different animal species to treat 7 ailments/diseases and 80 different plant species to treat 31 ailments and diseases. Despite their knowledge about local biodiversity, they tend to overexploit the natural resources because of their ignorance and poverty. As such, the local Pahari peoples' activities are responsible for the depletion of the surrounding biodiversity.

Finally some recommendations regarding the conservation of the cultural and biological diversity have been made for relevant individuals and agencies for wise and proper use of resources to encourage sustainable use to meet the national mandate of sustainable development.

Key words: Pahari, indigenous knowledge, Ethnobiology

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

CBS	Central Bureau of Statistics
DDC	District Development Committee
DOHM	Department of Hydrology and Meteorology
GON	Government of Nepal
ICIMOD	International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development
MOLD	Ministry of Local Development
NCDN	National Committee for Development of Nationality
NGO	Non- Governmental Organization
VDC	Village Development Committee
WWF	World Wildlife Fund