DIVERSITY OF MIGRATORY BIRDS AT TAUDAHA LAKE, KATHMANDU, NEPAL

PINKEY SHAH

A THESIS SUBMITTED FOR THE PARTIAL
FULFILLMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS
FOR THE DEGREE OF MASTER IN ZOOLOGY

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RECOMMENDATION

It is my pleasure to mention that Mrs. Pinkey Shah has completed the thesis entitled DIVERSITY OF MIGRATORY BIRDS AT TAUDAHA LAKE, KATHMANDU, NEPAL under my supervision. This research embodies her own work and brings out useful results in the concerned field.

I recommend that this thesis be accepted as a partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Master degree in science specializing in Ecology.

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APPROVAL

This thesis submitted by Mrs. Pinkey Shah entitled "Diversity of Migratory Birds at Taudaha Lake, Kathmandu, Nepal" has been accepted as a partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Degree of Master in Science specializing in Ecology.

EXPERT COMMITTEE

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ABSTRACT

This research was conducted in Taudaha Lake situated in the southern corner of the Kathmandu valley midway to Dakshinakali. I conducted my research from September 2007 to April 2008.

The main objectives of my study were to asses the diversity of migratory birds and seasonal change, arrival and departure of the migratory birds and lastly the reason of decline of migratory birds and its consequences. Direct observation method was used besides random questionnaire survey and literature review. Observations were done by using binoculars.

A total of forty species of birds were estimated in the study area out of which seventeen were residential, two were summer migrants and twenty one were winter migrants. One of the new species Bar headed goose was observed in the study area. Black crowned night heron was found to be a winter migrant in the present study. The diversity of the winter migrants and summer migrants were 0.753 and 0.178 respectively which showed higher diversity in winter season and least diversity in summer season. The birds visited the lake in September and left it by the third week of April. The decline in the birds were due to the exploitation of natural habitat, increasing urbanization and several other human activities. The specific adaptional features of the different migratory birds to feed in different trophic niches of the Lake and due to their different feeding habits the total flora and fauna (food of the birds) of the Lake are not utilized. The left over flora and fauna of each trophic level of the Lake get the opportunity to continue their life cycle and maintain balance of the Lake ecosystem.

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