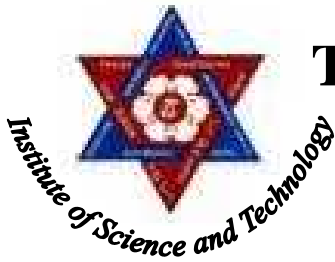


**STUDY OF THE POTENTIALITY OF ECOTOURISM IN CHHEKAMPAR  
VDC OF GORKHA DISTRICT, NEPAL**

**A Dissertation Submitted To  
THE CENTRAL DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE,  
TRIBHUVAN UNIVERSITY, KIRTIPUR, KATHMANDU, NEPAL**

**For the partial fulfillment of the requirement for the Master's Degree in  
Environmental Science**

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Nepal  
2007**



# TRIBHUVAN UNIVERSITY

CENTRAL DEPARTMENT OF  
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Kirtipur, Kathmandu,  
Nepal

Ref:

Date: 30<sup>th</sup> August, 2007

## LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION

This is to certify that **Mr. Keshab Raj Khanal** has completed the dissertation entitled "Study of the Potentiality of Ecotourism in Chhekampar VDC of Gorkha District, Nepal" under my supervision and guidance for the partial fulfillment of the requirements for Master's Degree of Science in Environment.

To the best of my knowledge, the study is original and reveals useful information on the status of tourism and potentiality of tourism in Chhekampar VDC of Gorkha District. Therefore, I recommended this dissertation for final evaluation and acceptance.

.....

**Madan Koirala, Ph.D.**

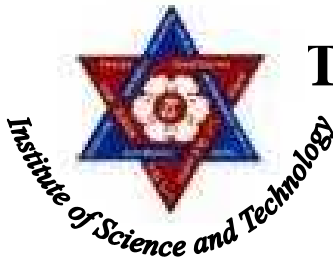
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# **TRIBHUVAN UNIVERSITY**

## **CENTRAL DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE**

**Kirtipur, Kathmandu,  
Nepal**

**Ref:**

**Date: 30<sup>th</sup> August, 2007**

### **LETTER OF APPROVAL**

This dissertation paper entitled “Study of the Potentiality of Ecotourism in Chhekampar VDC of Gorkha District, Nepal” submitted by **Mr. Keshab Raj Khanal** has been accepted as partial fulfillment of Master Degree in Environmental Science.

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**Examination: 5<sup>th</sup> September, 2007**

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**KESHAB RAJ KHANAL**

## **ABSTRACT**

Tourism is the most important component to contribute the economy of many developing countries. Since 1953, Nepal was opened for international tourist. Nepal government has given more emphasis on the tourism development in the part of the country. Most of the tourism activities were concentrated to the remote areas for the natural and cultural beauties.

The study area “Chhekampar” is located within the Manaslu conservation Area, Gorkha, situated at an elevation of 2959m. Study on **Potentiality of Ecotourism in Chhekampar VDC of Gorkha** was carried out by field observation and questionnaire survey. The main question addressed is whether the area can be the potential area for ecotourism and the evaluation of the carrying capacity for tourism so that promotion of the area for ecotourism can be better integrated for enhanced livelihood opportunities and for reduced vulnerability of the rural poor.

The results of this study showed that the area had high potential to be the hotspot for tourism sector. The socio cultural uniqueness, sacred landscapes, past and present religious monuments in addition to the outstanding scenic beauty had increased the tourism potential of the area. The legal restriction of the area for tourism had shadowed the development of the area. Thus, the area should be promoted as the tourism destination.

The carrying capacity of the area is one of the important aspects that should be looked into for the tourism development of any area. The carrying capacity of the area had been assessed through minimum data set for natural system, human system and tourism activities. The large influx of tourists should be checked so as to conserve the pristine environment of the area.

The Chhekampar area also had the sound potential for tourism. The increased attention should be paid by the government organization and related agencies to the area. We should look forward to derestricted area for tourism and promote the tourism in the area for the economic development of the area and people.

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## ACRONYMS

ACA	Annapurna Conservation Area
ADB	Asian Development Bank
CBS	Central Bureau of Statistics
CCA	Carrying Capacity Analysis
DFID	Department for International Development
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
ICIMOD	International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development
IUCN	The World Conservation Union
MCAP	Manaslu Conservation Area Project
MOCTCA	Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation
MoF	Ministry of Finance
MOPE	Ministry of Population and Environment
NG	Nepal Government
NGO	Non – Government Organization
NPC	National Planning Commission
NTB	Nepal Tourism Board
SNV	Netherlands Development Organization
SoE	State of Environment
STN	Sustainable Tourism Network
TIES	The International Ecotourism Society
TRPAP	Tourism for Rural Poverty Alleviation Program
UNDP	United Nations Development Program
UNEP	United Nations Environment Program
VDC	Village Development Committee
WTO	World Tourism Organization