

***Biodiversity of Fish and Fishery resources
Of
Mahakali River***

**A
Dissertation**

**Submitted
By**

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**for the partial fulfillment of M.Sc. Degree in Zoology
(Fish and fisheries)**

To

**Central Department of Zoology
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CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that Mrs. *Mahima Kumari Chataut "Joshi"* has completed dissertation work entitled '***Biodiversity of Fish and Fishery resources of Mahakali River***' for the partial fulfillment of M. Sc. Degree in Zoology under my supervision. This is his original work and has not been submitted for any degree earlier. I recommend this dissertation for approval.

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EVALUATION

We, all the members of the evaluation committee, went through the dissertation entitled '***Biodiversity of Fish and Fishery resources of Mahakali River***' and found satisfactory to recommend qualified for awarding Mrs. *Mahima Kumari Chataut "Joshi* M.Sc. Degree in Zoology with Fish and Fisheries as special paper.

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Abstract

The present work was conducted in Mahakali River in Mahendra Nagar close to bridge. The study was focused in the study of fish biodiversity and fishery resources of Mahakali River of Nepal, different implements/techniques used in fishing in this area and to assess the impact of irrigational dam on fish diversity/population.

Altogether 21 fish species belonging to 15 genera and 7 families were recorded. Fish composition and frequency distribution study in fish catches revealed cyprinids as major fishes and *Chrossocheilus latius* and *Oxygaster bacaila* as most dominant species. The sampling record showed fish diversity was high close to bridge near Nepal and India border but low in other stations.

Local fishermen around Mahakalli River were found to be involved in fishing as part time fisherman; but, Bengali fishermen from India were found to be involved in fishing throughout the year. Both conventional and non-conventional fishing methods were noted to be used in Mahakali River. Fish diversity and population is decreasing due to the impact of levees, irrigation dam, non-conventional fishing methods, pollution and natural calamities like heavy flood and erosion.

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