STUDY OF THE DIVERSITY OF BIRDS WITH SEASONAL VARIATION AND HABITAT TYPES OF GODAWARI AND ITS ADJACENT REGIONS

A Dissertation Submitted to Institute of Science and Technology, Tribhuvan University For the Partial Fulfillment of Master's Degree in Science

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LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION

This dissertation work with the title of **Study of the Diversity of Birds with Seasonal Variation and Habitat Types of Godawari and its Adjacent Regions** submitted by Mr. Dinesh Basnet to the Institute of Science and Technology, Central Department of Zoology, Tribhuvan University, Kirtipur has been carried out under my supervision. This entire work is based on the results of his investigation and has not been submitted for any other degree to the best of my knowledge. Hence, I recommend this dissertation work to be accepted for the partial fulfillment of M. Sc. Degree in Zoology (Ecology), Tribhuvan University, Kirtipur, Kathmandu, Nepal.

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This dissertation work with the title of **Study of the Diversity of Birds with Seasonal Variation and Habitat Types of Godawari and its Adjacent Regions** submitted by Mr. Dinesh Basnet, student of this department, has been accepted for the partial fulfillment of M.Sc. Degree in Zoology (Ecology), Tribhuvan University, (Kathmandu), Nepal.

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EVALUATION

We, the members of expert committee went through this dissertation "Study of the Diversity of Birds with Seasonal Variation and Habitat Types of Godawari and its Adjacent Regions" and accept Mr. Dinesh Basnet to be qualified for awarding M.Sc. Degree of Zoology (Ecology), Tribhuvan University, (Kathmandu), Nepal.

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ABSTRACT

This work was carried out in and around Godawari, south east of the capital city, Kathmandu, Nepal with the objectives to assess the species diversity, species-richness and status of birds with seasonal variation and habitat types. For seasonal diversity of bird species four seasons (summer, autumn, winter and spring) were taken while the area was broadly divided into six habitat types (broadleaved subtropical forest, wooded grassland, human habitation edge, agricultural land, wetland and moist broadleaved lower temperate forest), for the assessment of species diversity in the major habitats of the study area. For the whole survey line transect method was adopted. Only primary data were used. Direct count method was applied to census the birds. Species diversity and relative diversity of the birds were calculated by using Shannon-Wiener function and Jacob's coefficient.

Altogether 161 birds species belonging to 11 orders and 36 families were observed in the study area. The highest number of species, one hundred and twenty seven (78.88%) was represented by the order passeriformes while the lowest number of species one (0.62%), was represented by the order apodiformes, upupiformes, coraciformes and ciconiformes each.

Out of 161 species, 109 (67.7%) species were resident species, 30 (18.63%) were winter visitor, 19 species (11.8%) were summer visitor and 3 species (1.86%) were passage migrant. This showed that the area is paradise for the resident birds. Similarly the highest species-richness was in subtropical broadleaved forest 106 species (65.83%) and the lowest in wetland 17 species (10.55%). The highest species diversity index was found in broadleaved subtropical forest (1.9035) and the lowest in human habitation edge (0.9896). Similarly relative diversity index was also found to be highest in broadleaved subtropical forest (0.9398) and the lowest in human habitation (0.7485).

Among the four seasons, the highest species-richness was found in winter 127 species (78.88%) and the lowest in autumn 100 species (62.11%). The highest species diversity index was found in winter (1.9355) and the lowest in autumn (1.8219). Similarly, the relative diversity was found to be highest in spring (0.9274) and the lowest in summer (0.9100). This result showed that the most favourable season was winter and the least favourable was autumn. The above figures of species-richness in different seasons and different habitats of the study area are not a cumulative figure because several birds have been seen in more than one habitat type and season.

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LIST OF ABBREVAITIONS

AGRL - Agricultural Land

BCN - Bird Conservation of Nepal

BLT - Bird Life International

BPP - Biodiversity Profile Project

CITES - Convention on International Trade in Endangered

Species of Wild Fauna and Flora

E - Endangered

FRISPF - Department of Forest Research and Survey, Ministry

of Forest and soil conservation, Finland.

HHE - Human Habitation Edge

ICBP - International Council for Bird Preservation

ICIMOD - International Center for Integrated Mountain

Development.

IUCN - International Union for Conservation of Nature and

Natural Resources

KTWR - Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve

LRMP - Land Resource Mapping Project

NRDB - National Red Data Book

RCNP - Royal Chitwan National Park

S - Susceptible

T.U. - Tribhuvan University

V - Vulnerable

WGL - Wooded grassland

WL - Wetland