

Editor's Note

Prithvi Academic Journal is a multidisciplinary publication intended to further the progress of research in various areas including but not limited to the following: humanities, social sciences, management, education, law and sciences. For instance, there are eleven articles included in this issue that cover management, statistics, health, education, literature, and language. They are categorized into two: the first category relating to the socio-economic development of a country and the second category to the issues of social equality.

In the article “The Role of Education and Training in Entrepreneurship Development in Nepal,” Dr. Sushil Kumar Pant discusses the role of entrepreneurship in the socio-economic development of a country. His study focuses on the impact of education and training on entrepreneurship development and concludes that education and training on various aspects of entrepreneurship should be encouraged by societies for their socio-economic growth. But Deepak Neupane, in his article “The Demand for Money in Nepal: An Analysis Using Vector Error Correction Model,” discusses the demand for money in Nepal that is an important aspect in the socio-economic development of a country. His study results of the Vector Error Correction Model (VECM) show that there exists the long-run causality of the determinants on the money demand function whereas, out of the considered variables, none has the short-run causality on the money demand function. Yet another study on the topic “Performance of Multiple Borrowing Clients in Gandaki Province of Nepal” by Dr. Bharat Ram Dhungana and Ramkrishna Chapagain shows that there are multiple borrowing problems, which are more common in microfinance institutions in Nepal, affecting the socio-economic development of a country. Their study evaluates the performance of multiple borrowing clients in Gandaki province of Nepal with reference to Muktinath Bikas Bank Limited (MBBL).

In the study “Patients’ Satisfaction regarding Treatment and Perceived Barriers: A Study of Social Health Insurance Scheme in Kaski District,” the authors Gita Devi Ghimire and Dr. Suresh Raj Paudel assess the level of patient satisfaction and barriers faced by users of social health insurance during receiving treatment in the hospital. Their study explores the relationship of participants' satisfaction with their selected demographic variables. According to their study, the most common barriers faced by the participants while utilizing the health insurance services are unavailability of necessary drugs, long waiting times, limited opening hours, and complex billing system for insurance patients. Their findings suggest that the service availability time should be extended and availability of health personnel, medicines as well as other services should be improved that can increase satisfaction among users of health insurance.

There are two articles that deal with the climate change issues regarding the trend of temperature and precipitation. The first one is by Rajendra Prasad Upadhyaya on the topic “Temperature Changes in Kaski District of Nepal: A Study of Trends (1970-2018)”. He investigates the maximum temperature trend of Kaski District during 1970-2018, which is based on the data obtained from Pokhara Airport and Lumle stations. His study findings show that there is an increasing trend of maximum temperature in Kaski District, and the trend of maximum temperature is higher and faster after 1998 in Kaski District of Western Nepal during 1970-2018. The second one is by Madhab Prasad Baral on the topic “The Precipitation Trend in Baglung District: A Statistical Analysis.” His

study is based on Baglung District and discusses the climate pattern of Nepal is uncertain regarding the precipitation but the extreme events such as floods and drought are increasing. His study shows that the trend of precipitation is slightly positive but insignificant, showing that the intensity of rainfall is increased, but the number of rainy days is decreasing.

Dr. Uma Nath Baral, in his article “The Role of Library for the Semester System: A Case of Prithvi Narayan Campus,” argues that the library is vital to enhance the knowledge of the students and significantly maintains quality in education. In particular, his study discovers the students’ perceptions towards the role of the library for the effective functioning of the semester system.

The rest of the articles included in this issue deal with the issues of identities, social inclusion, discrimination, and inhuman attitudes of human beings towards nature. In the article entitled “Exploring the Issues of Social Inclusion in Queer Identities,” Dr. Shree Krishna Panthee explores the issue of social inclusion of queer identities such as identities of lesbians, gays, bisexuals, and transgenders. The author claims that the identity issue against relationship is found a major threat for their inclusion. In the article entitled “The Representation of Limbus: A Discourse Analysis of Upendra Subba’s ‘Dumb Hill,’” Jiwan Kumar Rai raises the issue of the representation of marginalized groups in the mainstream Nepali culture. The author has taken the example of Upendra Subba’s story “Dumb Hill” that explores the whole way of life of ethnic Limbu people of Panchthar district, the eastern part of Nepal, including their lifestyles, socio-economic conditions, cultural values, and practices. His study provides a new insight to see and understand Limbu People’s distinctive ways of life that have been ignored and unheard in the dominant literary discourses. But Dr. Bhanu Bhakta Sharma Kandel, in his article “Ethnic Harmony in BP Koirala’s *Sunnima*,” has analyzed BP Koirala’s novel as a projection of binary between Aryan and Kirat cultures highlighting differences in belief systems, rites, rituals, and day to day lifestyle that create misunderstanding, conflict, and problems among the people of different cultural groups. He argues that the novelist offers an opportunity to the readers to realize the ideas and benefits of harmony among the divergent ethnic communities living in Nepal or elsewhere through understanding differences and celebrating the diversity. Finally, in the article entitled “Disregarding the Value of Nonhumans: A Study of Anthropocentrism in Nepali Proverbs,” Yog Raj Lamichhane has discussed Nepali proverbs that portray humans’ chauvinistic attitudes and behavior toward nonhumans. Some selected Nepali proverbs are sampled as texts and analyzed from the perspective anthropocentrism, one of the approaches of ecocriticism that largely discusses human-nonhuman relationships skewing to humans, has been applied as theoretical insight to expose how humans have overlooked the intrinsic values of nonhumans.

Editors
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