

Editor's Note

Is the COVID-19 pandemic receding in Nepal? The question still remains doubtful as the neighboring countries, India and China, struggle with a surge in the COVID-19 cases. The cases in India, China and other countries around the world indicate that we have to live with it. Its impact has greatly challenged the academic publishing. The researchers who did not go to the field have to mostly depend on the secondary data for their work. This is one of the biggest challenges during the pandemic. For instance, submissions for the journal were mostly based on the data obtained via online tools. This issue of the journal includes this type of articles. However, there are a few cases, which are against this type.

The article entitled "The Invasion of Water Hyacinth and Its Impact on Diversity of Macro-Invertebrates in the Lake Cluster of Pokhara Valley, Nepal" by Rajendra Basaula, Hari Prasad Sharma and Kumar Sapkota explores the invasion of water hyacinth has impacted the wetland ecosystem degradation and aquatic biodiversity loss. This study was conducted in the lake cluster of the Pokhara valley. Similarly, in the article entitled "An Assessment of Water Quality in Ramsar Convention Listed Neureni Lake in Pokhara, Nepal," Raju Kumar Poudel has assessed the quality of water of Neureni Lake, which is located in Pokhara, Nepal. The study suggested that the physical and chemical components of water should be checked frequently to maintain the water quality of the lake.

Om Prasad Dwa in his article "Ethno-Medicinal Uses of Wild Edible Fruits in Pokhara Valley, Nepal" and Ananta Raj Dhungana, Bishwa Prakash Bhattarai in their article "Differential in Utilization of Forest Products among the Users of Community Forest in Kaski District" discuss the utilization of plants for human survival. For instance, Dwa studied about the wild fruits available in Pokhara Metropolitan City in Kaski, Nepal. These wild fruits have phytochemicals that can be used as herbal medicine to cure many kinds of health problems of human beings. But Dhungana and Bhattarai studied the preference of the forest products such as timber, fuel wood, tree fodder/grass, non-timber forest products and leaf litter among the users of community forest. The study found that the use of forest products depends on different economic classes of the users.

Er. Bal Ram Khadka has explored the problems of automated generation and understanding of natural human languages in his article entitled "The Use of N-Gram Language Model in Predicting Nepali Words." The article is related to computer and information technology that deals with the word prediction and completion from a tab-complete in Nepali language typing that is useful to minimize typographic errors.

The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic is the most burning issue of research for all researchers from different disciplines because it has affected all walks of life. The authors Gita Devi Ghimire, Kamala Gharti and Anju Poudel in their article "COVID-19 Pandemic and the Impact of Quarantine on Mental Health of Adult Population," Santosh Kumar Gurung, Ramkrishna Chapagain, Sunil Datta Baral and Jeevan Bhandari in the article " Teachers' Perception of Online Teaching and Factors Influencing Intention to Use Online Platforms during COVID-19" and Rohit Baral in his article " The Digital Divide in Online Learning: A Case Study of University Students in

Nepal" discuss the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on different personal and professional life.

This issue of this journal includes an article that deals with the banking system in Nepal. Jas Bahadur Gurung and Nirmal Gurung in their article "Factors Determining Profitability of Commercial Banks: Evidence from Nepali Banking Sector" discuss the various aspects that shape commercial banks' profitability in Nepal.

Krishna Prasad Tripathi in his article "Promoting Child-Friendly School Policies in Pokhara Metropolitan City: A Children's Rights Approach," Yadav Raj Adhikari in his article "Students' Perceptions towards Motivational and De-motivational Factors for Health and Physical Education," and Khagendra Baraily and Dawa Sherpa in their article "Teachers' Perception on Identity Construction: Lived Experience of Community School Teachers in Nepal" discuss the issues related to teaching learning environment, school policies and the children's rights in schools. They are more concerned about the quality of education in schools.

In the article entitled "Familiarizing Typical Nepali Terms in English," Dr. Nabaraj Neuapane investigates the culture-specific terms of Nepali language, including words and phrases which are compared and contrasted with the English language. According to him, the study contributes to the linguists, translators and pedagogues for the frame of reference for further research in this field.

In the article entitled "Homi K. Bhabha's Third Space Theory and Cultural Identity Today: A Critical Review," Dr. Nagendra Bahadur Bhandari reviews Homi K. Bhabha's notion of third space in relation to its limitations in resisting colonial domination in the third world countries. He argues that the third space is the meeting point for the colonizer and the colonized in which they negotiate, creating hybridity in culture.

Dr. Badri Prasad Pokharel, in his article "From Conflict to Peace Building: Transforming Trauma in the Post-Conflict Nepali Narratives," deals with the ten-year long Maoist insurgency in Nepal in the period between 1996 to 2006 that caused more than fifteen thousand innocent people's lives. Many Nepali authors came to write on the very issue, which is popularly known as the post-conflict narratives.

Interestingly, this issue includes an article that is related to the national security issues of Nepal. In the article entitled "A Holistic Approach to National Security Strategy in Nepal: Challenges and Prospects," the author Arjun Basnet discusses the geopolitical situation of Nepal as it has posed critical challenges to the national security of Nepal. He offers a holistic approach to address the challenges related to strengthening national security strategies.

Last but not the least, Dr. Yadav Prasad Sharma (Gaudel) explores the impact of agricultural self-sufficiency that can ensure a sustainable economic development in Nepal in his article entitled "Agricultural Self-Sufficiency: Ensuring Sustainable Economic Development in Nepal." He suggests that Nepal should be self-sufficient in agricultural food grains and drive economic growth by increasing agricultural production and productivity.

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