

**लाटोकोसेराको तथा हुचील संरक्षणमा हातेमालो गरौं !!!**  
Let's be together to conserve owls !!!



**Nepal Owl Festival 2013**  
Sharanpur, Chitwan, 1-3 March



**नेपाल लाटोकोसेरो तथा हुचील उत्सव २०६९**

आयोजक (Organizers)	अर्थिक सहयोगी (Financial Sponsor)	कार्यक्रम सहकार्य (Program Partners)
 		   
District Forest Office, Chitwan		

Nepal Owl Festival 2013 was celebrated on March 1-3, 2013 at Mangalpur-9, Chitwan district in order to encourage local people take up owl conservation in the area. The festival was organized on the occasion of international festival of owls and included different activities such as powerpoint presentation on owl conservation, bird watching competition, bird conservation bhajan, traditional Gurung dance, posters display, owl photo and sketch exhibition, owl face painting, signature campaign for owl hospital and many more. It is estimated that around 1850 people (including 550 who attained the owl conservation camps) in festival got the message about owl conservation directly by visiting the festival while at least one million people benefited through different medias spreading owl conservation messages.

**Report prepared by: Raju Acharya and Yadav Ghimirey**  
Friends of Nature, Nepal

**Photos by: Ram Lama, Manoj Shakya Panju, Roshan Bhandari and Birendra Khatait**

## Acknowledgement

We would like to acknowledge the different individuals and organizations who supported, in whatever way possible, to organize the Nepal Owl Festival 2013. Firstly the festival would have been next to impossible without the financial support of Accordeos foundation, Switzerland for which we are indebted. Setidevi Community forest users' group, Chitwan provided excellent support by suggesting the venue and by mobilizing volunteers needed to organize the festival. Bird conservation Nepal, Himalayan nature and IUCN Nepal provided partial prizes (books) to the winners which was very important and we are grateful for this. Acknowledgement is also due to Houston Nature Center, World Owl Trust, the Global Owl Project, Nepal Ornithological Union, District Forest Office, Chitwan for encouraging and supporting however they can right from the word go.

We are also grateful to different individuals who played prominent role in conducting the festival. We are most grateful with Karla Bloem, Hein Bloem, Geraldine Werhahn, Tony Warburton MBE, David Jhonson, Prem Raj Neupane for their tireless support. A big vote of gratitude goes to Setidevi Community Forest Users' Group, Chitwan for being a joint organizer with Friends of Nature. Sabita gurung needs special mention by using her spare time to produce excellent owl sketches that were the highlight of the festival. Same appreciation goes to photographers Anusha Shrestha, Bhim Ghimire, Hathan Chaudhary, Hem Bahadur Katuwal, Jyotendra Jyu Thakuri, Kamal Raj Gosai, Krishna Gurung, Manij Pyakurel, Manoj Ghimire, Martti Siponen, Mohan KC, Narayan Prasad Koju, Prithbi Man Thapa, Pushpa Raj Acharya, Raju Acharya, Rakesh Basnett, Rishi Baral, Rishikesh Dhakal, Sandesh Timilsina, Sanej Prasad Suwal, Santa Kumar Maharjan, Santosh Bhattarai, Swagat Nepal, Tashi Ghale, Tulsi Subedi and Yatra Thulung for sending their photos free for owl photo exhibition. We appreciate the effort of Ram Lama, Sewa Tripathi, Mela Aryal Lama, Deepak Adhikari, Som Nath Sharma put for background work, otherwise not seen, that was the backbone of the successful owl festival. We value the contribution of Roshan Bhandari and Manoj Shakya Panju for creative face painting sessions, and are most grateful to our chief guest Krishna Prasad Acharya, head of Planning and Human Resource Development division, Ministry of Forest and Soil Conservation for his chairing of festival session, encouragement and successful completion of the festival.



## Overview of the festival

Nepal has been home to 21 species of owls which is nearly 10 percent of the total owl species found in the world. However none of the species are considered threatened globally while only seven species are classified as nationally threatened. Habitat loss and illegal trade are considered biggest threats to their survival. Also conservation awareness on owls is amazingly low in the country which makes it extremely important for conservationists to make people aware in order to make sure that the anthropogenic threats are reduced. This is exactly why this festival was conceptualized. The owl festival has been celebrated in Nepal since 2012 however this is the first time it has been organized as owl festival (It was organized as owl conservation program in 2012). Setidevi community forest users group was the joint organizer of the festival.

## Venue

The venue for the festival was Sharanpur, Mangalpur-9, Chitwan district. The geographic coordinates of the venue is  $27^{\circ}41'1.21''\text{N}$  and  $84^{\circ}19'39.80''\text{E}$  and is situated at an altitude of 174 meters above sea level.



*Local house at Sharanpur, Chitwan*

## Duration

The festival was conducted on 1-3 march 2013.

## Owl conservation camps (for students)

Owl conservation camps targeted at school students were also carried out. The main objective of these camps was to impart owl conservation concepts in the tender minds of the students. Altogether, two such camps were conducted during which more than 100 students got an opportunity to learn about owls, their status, biology and conservation.



***Mr. Raju Acharya conducting owl conservation camp in the school***



## Owl conservation camp (for public)

Owl conservation camps aimed at local people were also conducted in order to spread the conservation message of owls at the grass root level. A total of 250 and 300 people attended the two programs conducted on 1<sup>st</sup> March and 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2013 respectively.

***Mr. Yadav Ghimirey sharing the owl conservation issues at Sharanpur***

### **The big day celebration**

One day bird watching competition which was popularly termed as "Big Day Celebration" was also conducted during the festival. This was probably the first such competition organized in the country. A total of 15 birders participated in the competition in which Mr. Hem Subedi from Bird Education Society became first while Anil Kumar Gurung and Tulsi Subedi were second and third respectively.



***Bird experts, naturalists and birders looking for birds at Setidevi community forest***

### **Dandibiyo Competition**

Dandibiyo is the national game of Nepal however no formal competitions are organized in the country. This game needs revitalization in the country and this competition during the festival was a great start for this cause. A total of eight teams participated in the event. Sharanpur yuva samuha, Gumba chaur yuva samaj and Jai Buddha ama samuh stood first, second and third respectively.



***Local women team competing with male team which is rare in Nepal***

## Bird watching

Bird watching was a regular feature during the festival. This event was organized in order to elevate the interest of people towards birding which in turn will aid in their conservation. Renowned birder Som GC led the bird watching on the first day while Yadav Ghimirey was the leader on the third day. There was no bird watching on the second day due to the main activities.



*Glimpses of bird watching at Setidevi community forest, Chitwan*

## Owl sketch exhibition

A total of 10 sketches drawn by Ms. Sabita Gurung were kept for display during the festival. The sketches were one of the highlights of the festival as they drew all the visitors towards them. It is hoped that these sketches generated the conservation interest of the local people about the owls.



*Sketches prepared by Sabita Gurung*



## Owl photo exhibition

Photos of owl taken by different photographers were collected and exhibited at the festival. A total of 24 photos were kept for exhibition with the names of the species below the photos. Photos included owls of different species, of different stages and in different situations which makes people aware about the owls of Nepal.

*All photos were voluntarily provided by bird enthusiasts*

## Owl conservation information display

Information about the importance of owls, biology about owls and interesting information of owls was printed and kept for the visitors to see them and keep it on their mind. The posters included each point with related pictures which, we hope, helped people in relating the issues expressed.



*Participants reading information about owl's importance*



### **Owl poem competition**

Owl poem competition was organized for students up to standard five in the schools of Mangalpur Village Development Committee. Master Susan Adhikari and Prabin KC stood the first and second respectively while the third position was jointly taken by Miss Anjila Aryal and Master Kiran Gurung.

### **Owl essay competition**

Owl essay competition was organized for students of standard nine and ten in the schools of Mangalpur Village Development Committee. Master Avatar Gautam stood first, Master Suvash Acharya came second while the third position was shared between Master Ashish Poudel and Master Bijaya Poudel.

### **Owl story competition**

Owl story competition was organized for students of standard five to eight in the schools of Mangalpur Village Development Committee. Miss Suraksha Tiwari came first and Miss Asmita Panta and Miss Sajana Kunwar were second and third respectively.

### **Owl painting competition**

Owl painting competition was organized for students of standard nine and ten in the schools of Mangalpur Village Development Committee. Master Sanam Maharjan stood first, Master Krishna Bahadur Pariyar was second while the third position was shared by Master Mukesh Tamang and Miss Mamata Nepali. However most good painting, other than the awarded were also at display.



*Students observing owls paintings prepared by themselves*

## Owl Bhajan show

This is very important and traditional way of gathering people in the program in good numbers and spreading owl conservation message. The group of people repeatedly sing a song describing both problem and conservation efforts. 'Sharanpur Bhajan Mandali' sang a song related with birds (focusing owls). Here is a translation of the song that might not give original meaning when it is sung in local language.

Only one objective I have, Only one objective I have; my heart is crying to see a forest without birds,  
Only one objective I have, Only one objective I have; my heart is crying to see a forest without birds,  
Long live god..... Hurray!  
Long live Eurasian Eagle owl..... Hurray!!

We made a mistake, We made a mistake; killed birds in their habitats, we made a mistake  
We made a mistake, We made a mistake; killed birds in their habitats, we made a mistake  
Long live God..... Hurray!  
Long live owls..... Hurray!!



*Singers and audiences of Bhajan song*

## Ghatu show

A traditional dance of the ethnic Gurung people was presented on the second day of the festival. The dance is becoming very rare these days as new generation do not get a chance to experience this type of traditional dance environment.



*Local women performing the Ghatu Dance*

## Conservation speech

Representative from Local political parties, government officials and non government officials delivered speeches on the importance of owls and people's role. Mr. Raju Acharya, Country Representative of World Owl Trust and honorary Director of Friends of Nature highlighted the reasons of celebrating Nepal Owl Festival, threats to owls, importance of owls, locals role to conserve it.



*Talking about Owls: Krishna Prasad Acharya, Raju Acharya, Deepak Adhikari Ram Prit Yadav and ( clock wise direction)*

## Nature Conservation Award

This was the most important event of the festival. Five individuals and one organization working in the field of nature conservation (especially wildlife) were felicitated. Each awardee received a bronze certificate and a cash prize of NPR 5000. The recipients (see short profile in appendix) were Bird Education Society in organization category, Mr. Krishna Prasad Acharya in individual governmental service category, Mr. Manoj Gautam in individual non-governmental service category, Mr. Basanta Parajuli, Mr. Shiva Sharma and Mrs. Chandani Hamal in conservation through media category.



*Nature Conservation Award winners*

### **Nature walk**

Nature walk was conducted on the third day of the festival i.e. 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2013. This was conducted for people who were interested to stroll inside the forest and explore the birds, mammals, butterflies and other natural resources. Tiger tracks along the bank of Narayani river and one horned rhinoceros sighting were the highlights of the nature walk.



### ***Looking for Tiger's pugmark***

### **Media coverage**

The festival was exceptionally covered by both print and electronic media. Almost all national newspapers (Kantipur daily, Kantipur weekly, Himal weekly, Nagarik daily, Republica daily, Annapurna daily, Rajdhani daily, The Himalaya Times, onlinekhabar), national Television (i.e. Avenues, Kantipur, Image Channel), local Television channels, FM station ( i.e. Kantipur FM, Synergy FM, Arpan Radio, Sagarmatha FM, Annapurna FM, Radio Chitwan, Radio Arpan, Bijaya FM) and local newspapers covered the news of the festival before, during and after the festival. Special interview related to festival were broadcasted in electronic medias (including in Synergy FM, Kantipur FM) and printed in five paper media. At least one million people were informed with the Nepal Owl Festival news.

# Three-day Owl Festival in Chitwan

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CHITWAN: Festivals so far have been largely organized for promotion of commercial goods and agro-products or publicity of some tourist destinations in Nepal. But, this time, a festival being organized in Chitwan is unique in deed.

First of its kind in Nepal, Owl Festival 2013 is being organized for three days from February 29 at Mangalpur of Chitwan drawing every one's attention.

At a press conference here on Tuesday, Friends of Nature- an organization working in nature conservation, the Setidevi Community Forest and Acordios Foundation said preparation for the festival they were jointly organizing was almost complete.

Owl is one of the birds on the verge of extinct in Nepal



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## लाटोकोसेरो जोगाउन हुचिल उत्सव हुने

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रत्ननगर (चितवन), फागुन १६ - दुर्लभ पक्षी लाटोकोसेरो जोगाउने उद्देश्यले नेपालमै पहिलोपटक चितवनको मङ्गलपुरमा लाटोकोसेरो (हुचिल) उत्सव २०६९ आयोजना हुने भएकको छ। लोपोन्मुख तर संरक्षणका लागि ध्यान नपुगेको लाटोकोसेरोको संरक्षणका लागि यही फागुन १८ गतेदेखि यहाँ तीन दिने उत्सव गर्न लागिएको हो।

मंगलबार चितवनमा पत्रकार सम्मेलन गरी संरक्षण क्षेत्रमा काम गर्दै आएको संस्था प्रकृतिका साथीहरू नामक संस्थाले यस्तो जानकारी दिएको हो।

प्रकृतिका साथीहरू, चितवनको सेतीदेवी सामुदायिक वन र एकोरडियोस् फाउन्डेसनको संयुक्त आयोजनामा उत्सव गर्न लागिएको र उत्सवको सफल अन्तिम चरणमा परेको

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Example of media coverage

## Owl face painting

Owl face painting was one of the important events during the festival. This was an eye catching event that attracted lots of people especially children and teenagers who were very curious to paint owls in their faces.



*A teenager showing owl face painting*

## Bullock cart ride

Bullock cart ride was also organized for the visitors during the festival. The bullock cart ride was initiated for people who would like to experience the rural setting while enjoying the natural wealth of the area.



*Looking for one horned Rhino via bullock cart ride*

## **Owls interesting information exhibition**

Different information on owls such as smallest owl species, largest owl species, traditional beliefs on owls, biology of owls were compiled. These information were prepared in both English and Nepali language so that every type of visitors can read and understand. These information would incite interest on owls thus promoting conservation of the species.

## **Signature campaign**

More than 600 signatures were provided to pressurize government and show solidarity to prohibit the use of catapults in Nepal. A study by Friends of Nature shows that approximately 30 percent of the students in Nepal use the catapult to kill/injure the birds (Including owls). This campaign was also targeted to garner the support of public for establishment of bird rehabilitation center in Nepal. Most of the captive and injured birds (mostly owls) die while trying to release in nature in absence of bird rehabilitation center.



*Local students signing for bird conservation*



## Exhibition of owls poster

One owl conservation poster (first printed in 2008) was printed in flex and placed in the festival site. This poster spoke for the importance of owls and warns people not to be involved in wrong doings such as stealing eggs, destroying the nest of owls, killing and trading them.



## Bird Education Society बर्ड एजुकेशन सोसाईटी

Bird education society, formed in 1994 (2050 B.S.), currently located at Bacchauli-3, Lankhani mainly serves for bird conservation. This society conducts school awareness programmes, green club programmes and green camps. It provides bird education to students as well as to journalists and volunteers. It also provides information on organic farming to local farmers. It has facilitated the formation and orientation of 22 green clubs in schools and communities. It has organized more than 65 bird conservation awareness camps, conducted bird survey in seven community forests, and organized green camps for college students between 2004 to 2009 (2061 B.S to 2066 B.S) in Kathmandu and Pokhara. It has assisted in bird survey and monitoring in Chitwan National Park and buffer zone areas. It provides free participation in Saturday bird watching tour, library facility and facilities of binocular hire and sale encouraging bird watching and hence conservation.

बर्ड एजुकेशन सोसाईटी सन् १९९४ (वि स २०५०) मा स्थापना भएको गैरसरकारी संस्था हो । यसको कार्यालय बख्यौली-३, लौखानीमा पर्दछ । यसले स्थानीय विद्यालयहरूमा हरित क्लबहरू गठन गर्ने, विभिन्न कलेजका विद्यार्थीहरूका लागि हरित क्याम्पहरू सञ्चालन गर्ने, चरा सम्बन्धि अध्ययन अनुसन्धान तथा संरक्षणका विविध कार्यक्रमहरू सञ्चालन गर्ने काम गर्दै आएको छ । यसले पत्रकारहरू, स्थानीय समूहहरू तथा सबै सरोकारवालाहरूका लागि चरा संरक्षणका कार्यक्रम सञ्चालन गर्दछ । हाल सम्म २२ वटा हरित क्लबहरूको गठन, ६५ भन्दा बढि चरा संरक्षण शिविर, ६ वटा भन्दा बढि सामुदायिक वनमा चराको अध्ययन गिरसकेको छ । यसले सन् २००४ देखि २००९ (वि स २०६१ देखि २०६६) सम्म पोखरा र काठमाण्डौका कलेजका विद्यार्थीहरूका लागि हरित क्याम्पहरू सञ्चालन गरिसकेको छ । यसले नियमित रुपमा चरा अवलोकन गराउने तथा चरा अवलोकनका लागि आवश्यक उपकरणहरूसमेत उपलब्ध गराउँदै आएको छ । यस्तै विविध कार्यक्रमहरूद्वारा यस संस्थाले चरा संरक्षणमा टेवा पुऱ्याएको छ ।

## Mr. Krishna Pd. Acharya श्री कृष्ण प्र आचार्य



Born on 1963 (2020 B.S.), Acharya is currently heading the planning and human resource development division of Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservation (MoFSC). He has a master's degree in Forest Science from University of Edinburgh, U.K. During his tenure as the Director General at Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation under MoFSC, Nepal was able to celebrate Zero poaching year for Rhino (2011 A.D.). He represented Nepal in Convention of Biological Diversity and as a chief negotiator for REDD+ under UNFCCC. He has also worked as research officer in Department of Forest Research and Survey . Acharya has published six peer reviewed papers in international journals and five national journals including five working papers/resource books.

सन् १९६३ (वि सं २०२०) सालमा जन्मनु भएका कृष्ण प्रसाद आचार्य हाल वन तथा भू-संरक्षण मन्त्रालयको योजना तथा जनशक्ति महाशाखा प्रमुख हुनुहुन्छ । उहाँले वनको विषयमा बेलायतबाट स्नातकोत्तर गर्नुभएको छ । राष्ट्रिय निकुञ्ज तथा वन्यजन्तु संरक्षण विभागमा महानिदेशक हुँदा सन् २०११ लाई शून्य गैँडा चोरी शिकार वर्ष मनाउन सफल आचार्यले वन मन्त्रालय अन्तर्गत अनुसन्धान तथा रेड सेलमा रहेर पनि वन क्षेत्रमा योगदान पुर्याउनु भएको छ । वहाँले १६ वटा विभिन्न शोध पत्रहरू राष्ट्रिय तथा अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय जर्नलहरूमा प्रकाशन गरिसक्नु भएको छ जसमा पाँचवटा कार्यपत्र / श्रोत पुस्तकहरू पनि पर्दछ ।

## Mr. Manoj Gautam श्री मनोज गौतम



Currently affiliated with Jane Godall Institute Nepal and Animal Welfare Network Nepal, Gautam was born in the year 1985 (2042 B.S.) at Ghorahi Municipality-6, Rajhaha of Dang district, Nepal. He is the youngest member of his family and is a graduate in B.Sc. Environmental Management and Sustainable Development. Since last 12 years he is involved in conservation and environment sector and has served for organizations like Roots and Shoots Nepal and Society of Wetland Scientists. He has raised conservation awareness through providing lectures (over 1000), organizing workshops (over 40) and culture festival (one), conducting raids and rescue mission (over 130) and publishing papers (over 35). His other interests include nature exploration, photography, literature work and counseling. He plans to invest time and energy in conservation and animal welfare to institutionalize and mainstream the practice of compassionate conservation majorly in Nepal and wherever possible.

सन् १९८५ (वि स २०४२) जुलाईमा दाङको घोराही नगरपालिका-६ को राजनामा जन्मिएका गौतम हाल जेन गुडल इन्स्टिट्युट र एनिमल वेल्फेयर नेटवर्क नेपालमा आवद्ध छन् । उहाँ आफ्नो ५ सदस्यीय परिवारमा कान्छा हुन् । उहाँ विगत १२ वर्ष देखि वातावरण र संरक्षणको क्षेत्रमा संलग्न हुनुहुन्छ र विगतमा स्ट्स एन्ड सुट्स नेपाल र सोसाइटी अफ वेटल्यान्ड साइन्टिस्ट्स जस्ता सस्थामा योगदान गर्नुभएको छ । उहाँले ११०० भन्दा बाँधि लेक्चर, ४० भन्दा बाँधि कार्यशाला, एक गिड फेसटिबल, १३० पटक भन्दा बाँधि वन्यजन्तुको उडार (लाटोकोसेरो समेत) र ३५ भन्दा बाँधि अध्ययन प्रतिवेदन र लेखहरू मार्फत संरक्षण सम्बन्धि चेतना ल्याएका छन् । उहाँका अरु रूचिहरूमा प्रकृतिको अन्वेषण, फोटोग्राफी, साहित्य रचना र सल्लाह प्रदान गर्नु हो । उहाँ भविष्यमा आफ्नो समय र उर्जा नेपालको संरक्षण क्षेत्रमा लाउने र जनावरको कल्याणलाई सस्थागत गर्ने सोच राख्नुहुन्छ ।

## Mr. Shiva Sharma श्री शिव शर्मा



Born in 1982 (2038 B.S.) in Raipur of Tanahun district, Sharma is the youngest member in his family. He is currently working for Kantipur publications, Pokhara and doing his masters in arts as well. Earlier, he has proved his perks while working in local publication houses and F.M radio stations. He is involved in conservation/environment sector with his writing since 2006. He has written and published more than 50 featured news/articles on birds, environment, wildlife, medicinal plants, wetlands, biodiversity, agriculture and climate change. Some of his stories based on conservation issues are also aired on different national and local F.M. stations. He likes to write songs, poems, and stories and also enjoys traveling and bird watching. He plans to spend his vigor for environmental conservation in the days to come through media and journalism. He actively advocated for establishing the biodiversity park (under construction) in Pokhara.

तनहुँको राईपुरमा सन् १९८२ (वि सं २०३८) मा जन्मनु भएका शिव शर्मा आफ्नो परिवारमा काण्डा हुनुहुन्छ । उहाँ हाल कान्तिपुर पब्लिकेशनसमा कास्की संवाददाताको रूपमा कार्यरत हुनुहुन्छ । उहाँले एक दशक देखि स्थानिय पत्रपत्रिका र एफ् एम रेडियो स्ेशनहरूमा पनि संलग्न भएर पत्रकारिता गरिसक्नु भएको छ । उहाँ वातावरण र संरक्षण सम्बन्धी समाचार लेखनमा सन् २००६ देखि निरन्तर लागि रहनु भएको छ । उहाँले कान्तिपुर पब्लिकेशनका साथै अरु राष्ट्रिय तथा स्थानिय पत्रपत्रिकाहरूमा विभिन्न विषयहरू जस्तै चरा, वन्यजन्तु, जैविक विविधता, सिमसार, कृषि, जडिबुटि, वातावरण, जलवायु परिवर्तनमा ४० भन्दा बढि फिचर समाचार तथा आलेखहरू लेखिसक्नु भएको छ । उहाँका केही सरक्षणमा आधारित समाचारहरू विभिन्न राष्ट्रिय र स्थानिय एफ् एम स्ेशनहरूबाट पनि प्रसारित भएका छन् । यसका अलावा उहाँ गित, कविता, कथा लेख्न र ट्रेकिङ गर्न मनपराउनु हुन्छ । शर्मालाई चराहरूको अवलोकन, अनुसन्धान, र वातावरण पत्रकारितामा आनन्द आउने बताउनु हुन्छ र भविष्यमा वातावरणीय सरक्षणमा मिडिया र पत्रकारिता माफत आफ्नो उर्जा खर्चने उद्देश्य राख्नु भएको छ । पोखरामा निर्माणाधीन अवस्थामा रहेको जैविक विविधता पार्कको स्थापनामा समेत सञ्चारको क्षेत्रबाट समेत उहाँको योगदान महत्वपूर्ण मानिन्छ ।

## Mrs. Chandani Hamal श्रीमती चाँदनी हमाल



Actively advocating for biodiversity conservation since 2002 (2058 B.S.), Hamal is currently reporting for Nagarik national daily as Chitwan correspondent. She was born in 1983 (2040 B.S.) at Hetauda municipality, Makwanpur and currently resides at Bharatpur municipality, Chitwan. She has worked for reputed electronic medias like Kalika FM and Ujyalo network as news in-charge and correspondent respectively in the past. She has contributed five news especially on bird conservation issues and about 70 news/articles on wildlife conservation and environment. She is eager to contribute more in the field of conservation in the future with her fine writing skill.

श्रीमती चाँदनी हमाल सन् १९८३ (वि स २०४०) मा मकवानपुर जिल्लामा जन्मेर, एक सशक्त महिला पत्रकारको रुपमा कलम चलाईरहनु भएको छ । उहाँ हाल नागरिक दैजिकमा चितवन संवाददाताको रुपमा कार्यरत हुनुहुन्छ र भरतपुर नगरपालीकामा बसोबास गर्नुहुन्छ । स्नातकोत्तरमा अध्ययनरत हमालले वन, वातावरण, वन्यजन्तु तथा जैविक विविधता संरक्षणको विषयमा ७० भन्दा बढि लेखहरु नागरिक तथा रिपब्लिका दैनिकमा प्रकाशन गरिसक्नु भएको छ । यसबाहेक पाँचवटा भन्दा बढी समाचारहरु विशेष गरी चरा सम्बन्धि नै प्रकाशन गरिसक्नु भएको छ । नागरिक राष्ट्रिय दैनिकमा काम गर्नु अघि कालिका एफ एम तथा उज्यालो नेटवर्कमा काम गर्नुहुन्थ्यो । वहाँ भविष्यमा कलमको माध्यमबाट संरक्षण क्षेत्रमा योगदान गर्ने चाहनु हुन्छ ।

## Mr. Basanta Parajuli श्री बसन्त पराजुली



Born in 1978 (2035 B.S.), Parajuli hails from Gunjanagar-5, Chitwan, Nepal. He is currently affiliated to Antenna Foundation Nepal, Kathmandu and producing radio features on wildlife conservation, eco-tourism and other social issues. He is also working as senior reporter for Chitwan Post Daily reporting issues on environment conservation. During his work tenure he has reported to different publications including Gorkhapatra National Daily. He is co-ordinator and programme producer at Synergy F.M. too. He has contributed in producing environmental awareness raising programme for conservation of wild flora and fauna through radio program 'Jaibik Bibidhata Sandesh'. He has also served for testing public hearing programme on community forest and other environmental issues.

सन् १९७८ (वि स २०३५) मा जन्मएका पराजुली गुन्जनगर-५, चितवनका स्थानिय बासिन्दा हुनुहुन्छ । उहाँ हाल एन्टेना फाउन्डेसन नेपाल, काठमाण्डौमा रेडियो फिचर उत्पादकका रुपमा काम गर्नुहुन्छ । उहाँले वन्यजन्तु संरक्षण, पर्या पर्यटन, र अरु सामाजिक मुद्दामा रहेका रेडियो फिचरहरु उत्पादन गर्नुभएको छ । उहाँ चितवन पोष्ट दैनिकमा पनि प्रमुख सवाददाताको रुपमा कार्यरत हुनुहुन्छ । वातावरण संरक्षणका मुद्दाहरु उठाउनु उहाँको रुचीको क्षेत्र हो । विगतमा उहाँले गोरखापत्र दैनिक लगायत विभिन्न संचार गृहमा समाचार लेखनको काम गर्नुभएको छ साथै सिर्नार्ज एफ एममा कार्यक्रम उत्पादकका रुपमा पनि अनुभव बटुल्नु भएको छ । त्यस्तै 'जाविक विविधता सन्देश' जस्तो रेडियो कार्यक्रमको माध्यमबाट वन्यजन्तु र वनस्पति संरक्षणमा जनचेतना फैलाउने काममा समेत उहाँको योगदान छ । उहाँले सामुदायिक वन लगायत अरु सार्वजनिक सुनुवाईका कार्यक्रम संचालनमा पनि योगदान पुर्याउनु भएको छ ।