



## **HIMCCA in collaboration of GPA succeeded international conference**

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The two days conference on Peace, Environment & Tourism was successfully completed at Pohara 20-21, 2011. Rt. Honorable Parmanand Jha, Vice President of Nepal, did the honor of inaugurating the Peace, Environment & Tourism Conference on the 20<sup>th</sup> September by lighting the Panas (lamp). The event has gathered more than 300 spectators which include the national & international delegates, dignitaries, VIPs, stakeholders, experts, students, journalists & volunteers.



Rt. Honorable Parmanand Jha, the chief guest of the event, gave an encouraging message in his speech. He said that he believes that Nepal will be a source of inspiration for the entire world if the ongoing peace process will reach its destination. He further said that this type of international

conference will be a guideline for peace and will give pressure to the related aspect & for the development of tourism & healthy environment to happen, peace & security are the most essential things that need to be taken into consideration. Finally, he congratulated the organizers: HIMCCA and GPA for its success with his remarks change is not possible with a single person, people of Nepal must unite to be able to attain real change.

**Mr. Jin Soo Kim**, executive Director of GPFF Asia Region was also present at the program. He heartedly shared some wisdom in his speech and discussed the advantages of the technology in this modern day especially in connecting with each other around the globe. He further discussed the three **pillars of Global Peace Festival Foundation (GPFF) Movement**. “What is most important now is not how and where human family began millions of years ago, but rather how, where and when human family will at last come together to live in peace” he added.



Moreover, His Excellency Mr. Maris Sangiampongsa, Ambassador of Royal Thai Embassy to Nepal was the special guest at the inauguration ceremony and gave an inspiring speech. In his speech, he stressed that the private sectors play an important role in achieving sustainable development. He further said that despite the political difficulties that Thailand had come across for the last 6 years (which is the same in Nepal), Thailand is still moving forward & this is because of the teamwork of the bureaucrats and the private sectors. He had inspired and advised as well all the people of Nepal on how to attain sustainable development.



Er. Ganesh Shah, Chairman of PETConference 2011 & former Minister of Environment, Science & Technology closed the inauguration by giving his vote of thanks and a short message to the audience. He mentioned that to establish sustainable Peace everyone needs to be active & distribute the information to all the local people. He also said that, most of the participants belong to the young generation who has shown great interest in the event & if they stay the same, Nepal will be better & beautiful in 10 years time.

### **Technical Session**

The Peace, Environment & Tourism Conference 2011 committee has received 55 abstracts and 28 full papers around the globe. Out of these, 21 papers were accepted and 20 of them were presented during the plenary sessions. Two success stories & a poster presentation as well were presented. The Plenary Sessions of the Peace, Environment & Tourism were divided into 5. The national & international delegates & invited guests presented their papers with full confidence. Each presenter is allowed with 15 minutes for presentation followed by interactive discussions.



**The following are the presenters at the conference with their respective title presentation:**

- **Mr. Prachanda Man Shrestha**, CEO Nepal Tourism Board

*Tourism Promotion, Peace and Environment*

- **Dr. Naci Polat**, Asst. Prof. & Chair. of Tourism and Travel Dep't, Dumlupinar Univ., Turkey
- *Impacts of Tourism Projects on Social Peace which are supported by South Eastern and Eastern Anatolian Development Agencies in Turkey*
- **Mr. Safal Ghimire**, Research Officer, National Centre of Competence in Research (NCCR) North-South

*Community Participation in Environment-friendly Tourism: The Avenue for Local Peace*

- **Mrs. M. Sujatha**, Asst. Professor & a Research scholar , KL University, AP-India

*Sustainable peace through Environmental tourism*

- **Mr. Amitendra Chaudhary**, Program Officer, Winrock International

*Towards ecotourism: issues of current tourism practices in the Sundarban mangrove forest, Bangladesh*

- **Ms. Catrin Froehlich**, CSR Expert, National Business Initiative

*CSR for Peace and Sustainable Economic Development in Nepal's Tourism Sector*

- **Mr. Pranil Kumar Upadhyaya**, PhD Student, Kathmandu University

*Tourist Mechanized Mobility Induced Global Warming Effects in Mountain Tourist Destinations: The ramification and reaction in Nepal*

- **Dr. Mohinder Kumar Slariya**, Environmental Sociologist, Associate Professor, Gov't Post Graduate College, India

*Scramble for Water in Himalayas: A Case Study of Water Looting in Ravi basin in Himachal Himalayas*

- **Mr. Krishna Lamsal**, Project Officer, Local Initiatives for Biodiversity, Research and Development (LI-BIRD), Pokhara

*Tourism and the Environment: A Case from Pokhara, Nepal*

- **Mr. Niraj Tamrakar**, President of Tourism Development Endeavors (TUDE) TOURISM FOR PEOPLE

- **Dr. Lhakpa Norbu Sherpa**, President of Mountain Spirit and Research Scientist, Yale University Role of Protected Areas in Environmental Conservation and Tourism Development and Peace Building – a case study of Nepal
- **Mr. Akash Shrestha** , Communications & Marketing Manager, World Wildlife Fund (WWF) - Nepal Conservation and Tourism: Making the Connect
- **Mr. Juddha Bahadur Gurung**, Member Secretary, National Trust for Nature Conservation (NTNC) Role of NTNC/ACAP in Peace, Tourism and Nature Conservation
- **Mr. Dinesh Meena**, MSc student, Maharshi Dayanand Saraswati University, India Amphibian watch: A New Sector of Ecotourism and Biodiversity Conservation
- **Mr. Prabhakar Guragain**, MSc Student Central Department of Environmental Science, T.U. Perception of Local People and Concerned Authority Regarding Poaching of Wild Animals: (A case study of Chitwan National Park)
- **Mr. Jum Gurung**, founder JASBISE, NGO The JASBISE Mission in Mauja Village Development Comittee (VDC) via Mauja Bikash Kosh and Kiran Foundation – Holland : Success Story
- **Mr. Kamal Raj Shrestha**, former MP & presently an Agro entrepreneur My Effort: Success Story
- **Mr. Tulasi Sharan Sigde** , PhD Student, Kathmandu University Cultural Politics of Governance and Peace Process in Post-Conflict Nepal
- **Mr. Badri Nath Bhatta**, Lecturer, PK Campus, Tribhuvan University Interrelation between Peace, Environment and Tourism: A Review of Nepal Status beyond Peace Agreement in 2006
- **Mr. Megh Ale**, Chairman, Nepal River Conservation Trust Tourism for Peace and Prosperity 2010 (Reviving Shangri-La)
- **Dr. Ved Pal Singh Deswal**, Asst. professor, Faculty of Law, M.D. Univ. Rohtak, India Environmental Problems: A Bane for the Society
- **Mr. Rajib Timalsina**, MSc Student, Dep't of Conflict, Peace and Dev't Studies, Tribhuvan Univ. Peace-Tourism as a Component of Peace Building Process
- **Swami Yogananda**, Osho Tapoban/Upoban Pokhara Spiritual Tourism The plenary sessions concluded with a panel discussion wherein participants are asked to ask questions and where experts gave their wrap up presentation.

## **Peace Chain**

In the morning of the second day all the participants climbed to the World Peace Stupa at Pumdri Ghumdi. There were peace murmuring program and short address for the peace in the world.

## **Closing Session**

The Peace, Environment & Tourism Conference 2011 has come to an end on the 21<sup>st</sup> September, 2011. On its closing ceremony, Dr. Dibya Ratna Kansakar, Visiting faculty of Nepal Engineering College; head of the scientific committee wrapped up all the presentations and gave some insights regarding the 2 day conference. It was followed by the declaration of PETConference 2011. Mr. Sudeep Thakuri, Environmental Researcher, delivered the 6 point declaration of the PETConference 2011.

### **The 6 points of the declaration are as follows:**

We the participants and delegates from India, Bangladesh, Turkey, Korea, Thailand, Philippines, USA, Germany and Nepal unanimously agreed to declare to continue the theme of Peace, Environment and Tourism Conference held on 20-21 September, 2011 in Pokhara, Nepal in upcoming years on convenient time and place.

— We agreed upon to carry out the issues selected to Peace, Environment & Tourist Conference 2011 at individual, institutional and national levels for the conducive constituting policy, programs and implementing action plans for the protection of common natural and other heritages.

— We agreed upon to carry out model pilot project related to ecotourism, agro-tourism, religious tourism, educational tourism, health tourism and other similar tourism for the common benefit to the people.

— We agreed to make effort in advocating for the institutionalization of Peace, Environment & Tourist in formal and non formal education from community level to Tertiary level of education in the areas untouched so far in our respective countries.

— We also agreed upon to protect the individual safety, security or any kind of violence against any domestic or international tourists from their origin to destination.

— We agreed upon to conserve endangered species, socio cultural & religious harmony among the community & nation.

Dr. Naci Polat , Asst. Professor & Chairman of Tourism and Travel department, Dumlupinar University, Turkey & Dr. Ved Pal Singh Deswal, Asst. professor from India, shared their experiences and recommendations to all the participants of the event. Then, Mr. Ganesh Bhattarai, Former President, Pokhara Tourism Council, gave a short message at the ceremony. He asked the politicians & every individual to unite & to preserve the culture and natural resources of Nepal and not only to develop the tourist sector but the education sector and other sectors as well.

Furthermore, Gen. (Rtd) Rookmangud Katawal, the Special Guest of the closing ceremony gave an **inspiring speech. In his speech he said, "I've seen a little problem with us human beings. The problems arising today are a question of management, man & material management. Men don't know how to manage that's why we pose problems to the growth and livelihood of mankind."** He further calls on the youth and the told them to manage themselves at home, in school and everywhere they go and be role models and be the symbol of purity and integrity of this nation.

Then the Chief of Guest, Prof. Khagendra Prasad Bhattarai, Vice Chancellor, Pokhara University, gave an inspiring speech as well. He remarked that we have to protect the environment and maintain a balance between modern development and environmental protection.

Vote of thanks was addressed by Mr. Dhruba Lamichhane, President of GPYC-Nepal, on behalf of the organizing committee.

Finally, Er. Ganesh Shah, Chairman of PETConference 2011 concluded the program by giving the **closing remarks. In his short speech, he expressed that the PETConference doesn't end here but just a beginning for building sustainable peace through Tourism and environment and that we must spread what we have learnt to all the people that we know. With this remarks he declared the conference ended.**