Culture, Religious and Spiritual values of Sacred Salpa Pokhari (Lake) for Biodiversity Conservation in Nepal

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Salpa Pokhari (Lake)

- 2000 glacier lakes
- 3000 glacier river
- 3460msl
- Cup, Unique geography,
- Diverse culture in SHL

Origin of Ancestor, Freshwater Lake, Religious, Spiritual, Heritage, Sacred
• **Salpa Pokhari** is believed the origin of Kirant (*Indigenous inhabitant of Nepal*) ancestors. believe ancestors soul live in the lake bears history, spirit, religious, ritual and sacredness for the society

• People visit to worships and offer new crops to the spirit of ancestors. Express willingness, interests, plans, need and trust will fulfill

• Couple have not child, young, students, old, sick person visit the place to get relief, child, wealth, success and good climate for crops
• Priest speaks with water, stone, forest, gods and deities in Salpa pokhari for spirits of the family member, healing power, good climate for crops, livestock, health and wealth of the society
• Priests respect, request to Salpa pokhari, gods, deities for spiritual energy, song to provoke for healing in society
‘Sili mosai, Sili yangchoi, Saya poko Kayanchori kare wa’
‘Kayanchori kan kare wa’
‘basu madang,
wapa madang’

‘Sali pawa, Sili chowa, solo wa’ Saya poko

The ancient Folklore, Religious, Spiritual, Tradition, Bio cultural Heritages (Animism) are disappearing
• Bring new crops, fruits, flower, cow milk, eggs, pigeons for Salpa pokhari, gods, deities, ancestor spirits

• Votive offer for own, child, get marry, health, wealth, memory for study

“Sai Raja Sai..Sai, Sai Rani Sai. Sai, Samaya Salko Phal Yu, Sai Raja Sai..Sai, Sai Rani Sai..Sai, Linu Hos HoJuRa, Sai Raja Sai..Sai, Sai Rani Sai..Sai. Yaosala, Aau Cocro Ma Li Sai Raja Sai..Sai Rani Sai Sai, Arko Ma Sala, A Hajur Aune Chhao, Chora Li Sai Raja Sai, Sai Rani Sai Sai..”
• Mother, father, fore father mother, we came here to offer for offering new life, wild, forest, weans, leaves, wildlife, we offer you “Salpa pokhari”


(In the absent of Salpa pokhari, history and sentiments of society will disappear)
Downstream Freshwater Ecosystem Services for Biodiversity and Culture, Recreation, to Nature, Disappearing Customary System
- Customary system for habitats conservation for endangered species
- Vulnerable because of siltation, deforestation, over grazing and impact of Climate change
- Disappearing of Animism folklore, culture, religious, spiritual belief along with biodiversity, ecosystem and species

Rhododendron forest
• Daily life, spiritual belief, feeling, interest of the peoples are the animism traditions symbiosis with Salpa pokhari ecosystem play important role for conservation. In the absence of the Salpa pokhari, life of the society will be incomplete.

• Salpa pokhari is the ancient historical sacred natural sites of the society in outside of PA, animism culture, knowledge, practices, intangible heritages vital for conservation. Such bio cultural sentiment of the society is slowly vanishing, (No physical institution, assimilation, Social change, migration, displacement, modern education)

• Recognition, documentation, ownership, protection, autonomous Climate change adaptation and integrate with conservation science

• Inventory, RASAR sites, implement CBD Article 8(j), 10c, Nagoya protocol, Aichi Target, ILO 169 and UNPII declaration. Could be IPs PA

• Research, restoration, conservation, CEPA, Institutional are important

• Opportunity for collaboration, research, restoration and conservation

• APC Sendai out come could focus to recognize the animism culture, knowledge, skill, wisdom, oral tradition and sentiments on sacred sites, conservation in and outside of PA (p/m)
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