

and the Central America, etc. The silviculture operations have been lucidly described with highlighting of the role of research in tropical moist forest management.

Finally in the epilogue the authors cite that the failure of

forest management could bring a catastrophe to the existing flora and fauna as we know. The foresters who, by nature and by training are conservationists, should bear greater responsibility in safeguarding all facets of the social- economic- biological

system of the tropical forests. One way to address this would be to strengthen integrated management system.

Sushim Ranjan Baral, Ph D

The Endangered Raute Tribe : Ethnobiology and Biodiversity

Author: Nanda Bahadur Singh

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Raute- a group of nomads roam in the forests of west Nepal and India and rely on plant and animal species for their survival. They are found in seventeen places; six in Nepal and eleven in India. Of more than fifty-three different tribal groups, the Rautes is the only ethnic group who has not adopted agriculture as an occupation. Interestingly, some Rautes have been brought into settlement in some place of Dadeldhura District since 1979.

The Rautes live in the forests of Mid and Far Western Development Regions of Nepal. The book mentions that they are one of the last nomadic groups. They hunt monkey and hanuman langur for flesh and collect wild edible plant such as cush-cush and yams. Rautes use 188 plant species and 48 animals for various uses.

This book is divided into eight sections beginning with the general settings, justification, objectives of the research; section two includes the methodology; section three depicts the Raute's ethnography and ethnobiology; section four touches upon the Raute's skills and techniques, conflicts with local people, AIDS and other diseases; section six shows the Raute in the photography; section seven presents concluding remarks; and section eight proposes some recommendations under the heading 'Looking Ahead'. The author has raised some issues like Raute-Rights, Aphorism and establishment of "Human Zoo" which are notable features of this book.

This book is a product of dissertation of M Sc in Zoology of 1993-95 batch. The author has aptly chosen the topic

"Study on Ethnobiology of the Endangered Tribe, the Raute in Nepal" and took painstaking efforts to bring out the research findings.

Nepal is a country of multiethnic groups and rich in biodiversity. Study on the fields of ethnobiology and biodiversity by a Nepali scholar is a commendable work.

The book is useful for sociologists, biologists, ecologists. It encourages researchers and readers to observe and study the Rautes and other tribes of Nepal, which is important from ecotourism and evolutionary point of view.

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