

CLIMATE CHANGE IN NEPAL/HIMALAYA: A BIBLIOGRAPHY

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Climate change discussion formally entered in Nepal in 1992, when Nepal became a party of the United National Framework Convention of Climate Change (UNFCCC) at the Rio Convention, 1992. However, Nepal and the Himalayan region were already in the academic radar of the emerging debate of climate change. For example, based on entries in this bibliography, Nakajima talked about the climate change in South Asia in 1976. In the late 1980s, when human induced climate change was getting academic recognition globally, Nepal and Himalayan region also got some attention, as shown here by Shah (1985–1986) and Gleick (1989), who, however, focused mainly on security and conflict aspects of GHGs effect and climate change. These were the initial academic concerns of climate change in the region.

Climate change in the region got proper attention from scholars only in the late 1990s, for instance, see Huq (1992), Chalise (1994), Yogacharya (1996), Mirza and Dixit (1997), Nakawo et al. (1997), Shrestha et al (1999), Kalshian (1999). Their focus were on measuring greenhouse gases, identifying general impacts as well as specific impacts on water and snow /glaciers, calculation of the temperature rise and also on communication aspects of climate change. Only after 2000, particularly after 2007, climate change became one of major concerns in academia in Nepal from diverse perspectives, e.g., in the form of natural and social science research, development programs and policy making. The trend is increasing more rapidly in recent days and has generated a substantial number of literatures. These references touch various aspects of the climate change in the region in the different extents. The current bibliography is an attempt to explore the landscape of climate change writing in Nepal.

The bibliography is a result of listing of literature that I collected particularly through the internet while doing research on the issue of climate change. Therefore, it is not (and never can be) a comprehensive collection of reference in climate change in Nepal. It is more like a work in progress and hopefully be an aid to the researchers. Here, literatures are categorized according to their type, identifying whether they are books or articles, whether they are published or unpublished. Further categorization of them according to their thematic focus in climate change (whether they are focused on emission/ mitigation aspects or on impacts of the climate change or on adaptation or resilience or mixed these various aspects) or according to their disciplinary approach (natural science or social science or presenting ideas or proposal in development or policies etc.) would have made it more meaningful and would yield some conclusions.

This bibliography has entries of about 400 literatures. More than 40 percent of them are articles published in some type of periodicals or journals. Then, there are published books or reports and their articles (i.e. articles in edited volume). Most of the published works are the product of research institutions like International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD) or Institute for Social And Environmental Transition (ISET). However I admit that I have not explored the physical collection of references in the libraries in Nepal's universities. In bibliography there are also a significant number of papers presented in workshops/seminars that are freely available in the internet besides a significant number of unpublished reports and documents. If we see the climate change references year wise, there is rapid growth after 2007, peaking in 2009 and 2010. It might be because the collection of reference was carried out during 2007–2010. However, growth in the interest in the climate change after 2007 corresponds with the rise of public discussions and media coverage of the issue in that period. Making such conclusion may need a further research.

In the following pages, references are categorized into five sections: books or published reports (71), unpublished reports (as I am unaware of their published status) (74), articles in periodicals or journals (162), articles in the edited volumes (56) and articles presented in some seminars, conferences or workshops usually unpublished but freely available in the internet (32). Update of the references, particularly of the published volumes and articles will be made in the future. Any suggestion and comments are welcome:

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