

Ganga Jamuna (Ganesh Parbat)



Connected with the Phulkharka, Gumdi, Ri, Lapa, Sertung, Manbu, Sertubas, Keraunja and Chisapani of Dhading district and Ladam, Chilime and Langtang of Rasuwa district, Ganesh Himalayan range assigns its center in rock positioned in the Ganga-Jamuna Waterfall which is situated in the height of 1800 meter. This hill, which is believed to have composed of ruby, has a hole which people believe as the trunk of Lord Ganesh. This is one of the reasons for the faith and devotion of millions of people since the ancient times and this trend still follows. This rock extends from Ganga-Jamuna fall to the height of 7,163 meter which is the highest point of the Ganesh Himal. This region covers the latitude from 25° 05" north to 28° 05" east.

Significance

Ancestors believe that Ganesh Himal is sacred place for saints, a pilgrimage for those who entrust religious beliefs and a treasure house for scientists and researchers. The hill is blessed with water sources, priceless herbs, flora and faunas in the outer side whereas precious minerals in the innerside.



Religious and cultural Significance

According to religious beliefs, Lord Ganesh is the son of Lord Shiva and Parvati. Myth says that KailashParvat is the home of Shiva-Parvati and Ganesh Himal is the home of Lord Ganesh. Popular as the sacredplace of the saints, this bracing area conquers Ganga-Jamuna, Tatapanijaisalkunda and other famous pilgrimage which has been the centre of faith and belieffrom the ancient times.

Natural sources

The study has shown that Ganesh Himalayan Range, which extends from Ganga-Jamuna pilgrimage to surrounding of Mount Ganesh, is enriched with natural resources. Among the mountains of Nepal, this mountain is only the one which is small in area but containing numerous precious metals. Blessed with beautiful summit, the giant tree of *Bhojpatra*, fragranced herbs, forest, hills, steep rocks, Lakes, rivers, streams, waterfalls and grasslands, the entire surface and the inner surface of this hill is packed with natural sources.



Water resources

The elegant water sources in the outer surface of the Ganesh Himal are a beautiful gift of nature. The elegant Himalayas are the origin of famous rivers like Gandaki, Trishuli, Begavati etc. This hill holds high altitude falls, Ganga-Jamuna and popular holy ponds like Jaisalkunda, Ganeshkunda etc. Science defines water as colorless, tasteless, odourless liquid. When certain minerals get mixed with it, they add taste to it. Due to the mingling of precious minerals like gold, silver, Maniktama, amrak etc. deep inside the source, the rivers like Manpang, Bagunwa, Aafal, Hawaang and hundreds of other rivers are enriched with minerals and are sweet and tasty. An immediate attempt must be made for their detail identification, conservation and promotion. This campaign is hoped to recruit the people of upper region for conservation programmes and to facilitate priceless water for the people of lower region.

Itinerary from EncountersNepal.com

Forest and Forest Products

Herbs and Vegetation:Herbs/Fruits: Most of the area of the Ganesh Himal is covered with forest. Due to lack of scientific research and approach, herbs worth million are wasted every year. During the month of December and January, herbs like *Malap*, *Chugo*, *Bhakyaulo* are rotten and during the month of April and May, fruits like *Kapal*, *Aishelu* (Berry) etc. are rotten in the forest. During the month of June and July, the embryos of various herbs bloom all over the forest. Among them, red mushroom along with *Chiraito*, *Yarsagumba*, *Shilajit*, *Nirmasi*, *Paanchaunle*, *Kurilo*, *Jatamasi*, *Pakhanbhed*, *Handelsun*, *BojhoKoseBhyau*, *Sunakhari* are regarded as rare and valuable herbs. These exquisite herbs get rotten and wasted in the forest and some are even smuggled due to lack of utilization and identification.

Wildlife

This area has been a home for many important and exquisite wild animals. The animals like musk deer, snow leopard, tiger (*PatteBagh*), Bear (*Kathebhaalu*) reside here and are very important from natural, scientific and medical point of view. Similarly, the animals like *Ghoral*, *Yaral*, *Chittal*, Deer, *Langoor*, Monkey, *Bwanso*, *Malsapro*, *Nyaurimuso* (Mangoose), *Banbiralo*, Fox, Squirrel, Jackal etc. also exist here and are expecting conservation.

Birds

This natural park has been the habit of lovely birds like Lophophorus, *Munal*, *Karyangkurung*, *Malewa*, *Bankukhura*, *Titra*, *Kalij*, *Kalchauda*, *Huichil*, Owl, *Jureli*, *KurleDhuku*, Parrot, Batta etc. These birds have elevated the natural importance and pride of this area.

Trees/ Vegetation

Below the hill, there lies the grassland and below that, there is shortshrubs. Upto the height of 1800m, the hill is covered by coniferous forest. The trees like *Dhupi*, *Salla*, *Katus*, *Jhingane*, *Kalikaath*, *Phusre*, *Guras*, *Dhyangre*, *Bit Dhangelo*, *Chilaune*, *KhasruDalchini*, *Khursane* etc. are and hundreds of other vegetation and shrubs, grass and other plants are found here.

Minerals



Ganesh Himalayan Range is regarded as religious place and a pilgrimage (*Tapobhumi*) since ancient times as there is a huge source of minerals under the entire surface of the Himalayan range. The worship of some precious metals and minerals as deity by ancestors as they do with some vegetation like *Peepal*, *Tulsi* etc. has been conserving these natural resources as a part of religious faith which suits the then social cognizance and civilization. That's why the regions like Ganga-Jamuna, Tatopani, Gosainkunda etc. have established as pilgrimage.

The entire inner surface of this amusing region is gifted with Ruby of different colors. The Rubies of colors like red, blue, green, white, black, yellow etc. are exported to India for the jewelry purpose. But nowadays, the natural structure of this place has been hampered due to the haphazard smuggling of these Rubies.

The particles of gold found in the sands in the river banks of this area prove that there is a gold mine in this area. Similarly, the unrefined ores of copper and iron found in the banks of rivers like *Phapre*, *Manpang* etc. refers that this hill also contains their ores. The ores of zinc, marbles, limestone, *Amta* etc. makes the hill of this area religious since scriptural times.

Variety

The existence of *Him Manav* and *BanMandi* is a matter of curiosity in the natural sites like *Huri Veer*, *PrakritikDharahara*, *ShikariOdhar*, *GaiOdhar*, *Deurali Dada*, *Kaltik* etc. one of the interesting traditions of this area is that in most of the villages, the cattle are left freely in the forest in the rainy season and in the winter the villagers go back to search the cattle. Many of these cattle are either left in the forest and start rearing the new ones or they become the prey of wild animals.

Ganesh Himal, Ganga Jamuna Pilgrimage

According to religious beliefs, Ganesh Mountain is the residence of Lord Ganesh. The front side of the hill locates Ganga Jamuna fall which is a holy waterfall. According to traditional beliefs, this fall is regarded to be falling from the trunk of Lord Ganesh. Similarly, the nearby *Kukurdhara* is regarded to be falling as teardrops of Lord Ganesh and is believed that this liquid is a germ disinfectant.

Ganga Jamuna fall is one of the famous and panoramic falls of Nepal. This fall flows from the height of 2,800m and accumulates in a small valley at height of 1,800m where pilgrims gather. While falling from a height of 1,000m, the water droplets are dispersed in the air and shine brightly which creates a really heart-appealing scene. Moreover, in the month of April and June, when the source gets dried up, a group of villagers pray for water with '*PancheBaja*' (a type of Nepali musical repertoire) singing *Hara HaraGangePaniDeuDeu* (give us water dear Ganga, the Goddess of water). As soon as they sing this prayer, the water starts accumulating in the source and showers over everyone, drenching them which is an astonishing event.

Ganga Jamuna has been described as sisters in the Himalayan Myth. These falls, mingling with other rivers when reach India, are popular as Ganga and Yamuna.

On the occasion of *KartikShuklaPaksha* (a day in the month of October/November), there is a grand festival in this holy place. On this very day, a huge mass of pilgrims gather here covering the entire hill. The drums and other musical instruments played by the Lamas echo in all directions. The pilgrims stay there all night lighting up the *diyos*, singing and dancing and on the following day of *HaribodhiniEkadashi*, they take bath in the Ganga Jamuna fall and worship early in the morning. After then there is a tradition of bathing in the *KukurDhara*. There is a strong belief that, if one takes bath in *KukurDhara* on this day he won't be affected by dog bite. And in the end this ritual is completed by offering cow milk and by flying pigeon, the symbol of peace. This festival is religiously, culturally, historical and scientifically very important.

Itinerary from EncountersNepal.com

Contextual

Ganga and Jamuna are two great rivers where the water from this Ganesh mountain Gets accumulated. History tells that this southern area of Himalaya place was known as Bharat Barsha. But later, this place was introduced in a new way when the British Empire extended up to this region. Then Asia was called Bharat Barsha and present India had a different name. This implies that this region must have been an isolated continent which has been identified as South Asia.

The human civilization and development is believed to have started from the banks of great rivers or the tributaries of these rivers. The tradition of worshipping and respecting energy has been started since the beginning of this era as energy is believed to enhance a new dimension in the universe. Similarly, it is believed the practice of worshipping and respecting water also initiated as water is the inseparable element of not only human but also entire living creatures as well as all the matters and it covers the major portion of all the living creatures and plants. This is neither a religious preaching nor any philosophy; It is the fact that has been accepted by the human civilization and development. Thus, water is a major element of life in earth and is a soul of all the living creatures and plants.

The epicenter of all the religions and traditions of Asia is these rivers and mountain ranges. Among them, few peaks and water resources are more deified and respected. Moreover, the Hindu or Indu river civilization, which has been claiming its significance for almost 10,000 years in this region, has developed its own religion and culture. This civilization has described rivers and its source, mountains as most sacred places. The followers of this tradition prefer not only the universe but also to declare the end of their life in the banks of these rivers. This tradition still exists.

Though all the rivers and mountain peaks are being honored there are some rivers and peaks which must be described as focal point in order to continue tradition and this era. This must be the reason for the Mount Kailash and Mount Ganesh are the two foremost mountains in the list of holy mountains since long time. Since traditional times, Mount Kailash has been described as the spirited spot of universe and Lord Shiva and Parvati are honored as the genuine couple who created this universe. There is a live tradition in human community to accept Lord Ganesh as the first child of Shiva-Parvati and to initiate any good tasks by worshipping Lord Ganesh. Lord Ganesh is regarded as the first child among conscious living souls who could walk, move and sense. That's why the emblematic idol of Lord Ganesh is built by coalescing the features of human and elephant.

Itinerary from EncountersNepal.com

It is said that Mount Ganesh lies in the middle of the long line of the Himalaya range. Defined as an abundant source of precious metals, this mountain is the center of the region which extends from Burma to Pakistan and Iraq which lies in the contemporary national territory. Mount Ganesh is a source of metals and stones which has been discovered and identified by human like Ruby, Diamond, Pearl, Gold etc. as well as those which has been undiscovered, precious and beyond imagination. The locals pray these minerals as well as excellent marbles to be in their natural state.

In the contemporary political map of Nepal, Mount Ganesh extends from Rasuwa district of Bagmati zone to Gorkha district of Gandaki zone. Specially, Dhading district is the central part of this mountain. Furthermore, one of the village of Dhading districts is famous as '*Phulkharka*' which means the land of flowers or the exotic land of flowers of various colors. On the top of this very village, there is a big rock which is figured as the epicenter of Mount Ganesh. It is said that, the alluring cavity of Ruby in the form of Ganesh or the face with the trunk of elephant is the epicenter of this mountain. On every 1st day of lunar month, milk is offered in this cavity and pigeons are freed as symbol of peace. There is no any blood sacrifice in this place. Here, the long queue of beautiful chariot decorated with aromatic flowers of various colors can be seen. It is one of the reason behind the naming of the village as *Phoolkharka*.

The two falls of this region are regarded as fountain-head of Ganga and Jamuna River. It is said that the water does not flow down the fall. It gets accumulated with downside Rivers by the process of continuous evaporation and precipitation and mingles with Ganga and Jamuna and finally encounters the gigantic seas and oceans. During drought, the hilly peasants who are completely dependent on monsoon take bath in these falls praying for monsoon by singing "*HaraHaraMahadev, Pani de*" (Dear Lord Mahadev, please let rain). The practice of worshipping for the continuous monsoon and the expressing the gratitude for the hydro-energy is believed to be continuing since ages. Though this region seems to be more in contact with Hindu and Bone religion, this region is a common place for all the religion, philosophy, and civilization.

Mount Ganesh is an ample source of the chemicals which has been proved to be the priceless element in minerals and living creatures. It is believed that the continuous and regular bath and intake of the water that emerges out of the mountain cures skin diseases and other deformities. Though the scientific approval for this remedy is still on its way, there is a huge increment in the mass of people who practice and believe this medication. Similarly, the bath in the *Kukurdhara*, is believed to resist all the diseases infected by the bite of all the animals.



Itinerary List

Day 01 :	Arrive to Kathmandu / Transfer to Hotel / Evening walk
Day 02 :	Kathmandu Sightseeing
Day 03 :	Drive to Phulkharka (jeep, bus)
Day 04 :	Trek to Phulkharka and stay with one family of rest house
Day 05 :	Early morning with priest, local music worship to Ganga Jamuna Ganesh Parbat
Day 06 :	Trek to "Chimchok" (Gurung Village with the magnificent view of Ganesh Himal)
Day 07 :	Trek down to Taribesi
Day 08 :	Drive back to Kathmandu
Day 09 :	Free Day for shopping (You can take help of your guide)
Day 10 :	Departure to home

Note: For the quote please do email or call