

# **Save The King**

## **Human-King Cobra Co-existence in Nepal**

### **Outreach Programs in Communities**

King Cobra Conservation and Human-King Cobra Co-existence awareness and outreach programs were conducted successfully at 10 sites of Kawasoti, Nawalpur District, Nepal. These programs were organized by Nepal Toxinology Association and KotaKoti Films, and supported by King Cobra Conservancy, Save The Snakes and The Rufford Foundation. We have chosen 10 sites (3 sites each from Ward no. 7 and 13, 1 site each from Ward no. 10, 12, 14 and 15). We have invited Ward Chairman and other local leaders and conservationists in our programs along with the participants. We also have conducted questionnaire survey to know about the people's perceptions towards King Cobra and its conservation (we are planning to publish its results). Altogether around 500 people participated in our programs. The participants have also shared their interest to Save The King campaigns and willing to help by sharing the knowledge and experience they gained from our programs to other locals who have missed our programs. We hope that majority of these locals who have participated in our programs now at least identify the King Cobra when they encounter near their residential area and inform our local rescuers. The participants were from around 5 year's old child to more than 60 years old adults. Those communities where we have conducted outreach programs are as follows:

Program 1: Sandh, Kawasoti-7, Nawalpur, Nepal

Program 2: Barduwa, Kawasoti-7, Nawalpur, Nepal

Program 3: Chilaha, Kawasoti-10, Nawalpur, Nepal

Program 4: Amaltari, Kawasoti-15, Nawalpur, Nepal

Program 5: Pithauli, Kawasoti-13, Nawalpur, Nepal

Program 6: Budaulikuna, Kawasoti-13, Nawalpur, Nepal

Program 7: Gairi, Kawasoti-13, Nawalpur, Nepal

Program 8: Laugain, Kawasoti-11, Nawalpur, Nepal

Program 9: Sandh, Kawasoti-7, Nawalpur, Nepal

Program 10: Danda, Kawasoti-14, Nawalpur, Nepal

## **Awareness Programs in Schools**

Snake Conservation and Human-King Cobra Co-existence awareness programs were conducted successfully at 5 schools and 1 Army Camp (where the nest was seen in past days) of Hetauda, Makwanpur District, Nepal. These programs were organized by Nepal Toxinology Association and KotaKoti Films, and supported by King Cobra Conservancy, Save The Snakes and The Rufford Foundation. We also have distributed educational materials to them. Some of the students showed very keen interest towards the conservation of King Cobra and said that they will share their knowledge and educate their parents and neighbours for its conservation. Mr. Bishwas Koirala and Sandip Luitel have also shared their experiences about snake rescue and relocation from Hetauda. The lists where we have conducted these awareness programs are as follows:

Program 1: Sunshine English Boarding School, Hetauda, Makwanpur, Nepal

Program 2: Reliance English Secondary Boarding School, Hetauda, Makwanpur, Nepal

Program 3: Siddhartha Shishu Sadan Secondary School, Hetauda, Makwanpur, Nepal

Program 4: Ujjwal Shishu Niketan Secondary Boarding School, Hetauda, Makwanpur, Nepal

Program 5: Solidarity International Academy Higher Secondary School, Hetauda, Makwanpur, Nepal

Program 6: Shree Kumarigan Gulma, Army Camp, Hetauda, Makwanpur, Nepal

## **Rescue and Relocation of King Cobras**

We have recorded eleven King Cobras from Nawalpur district out of which two were spotted during their mating process and one was spotted floating in wetland in the Namuna Buffer Zone Community Forest (NBZCF) which remained undisturbed. Our local coordinator Mr. Prem Mahato was able to rescue two King Cobras from Amaltari, two from Dumkauli, one from Laugain, one from 16 number, and two were killed by locals, one from Gairi and another from Rajahar. We also have recorded nine King Cobras from Kaski and its surrounding areas out of which two were spotted in its natural habitat with their nests and others were rescued from residential areas and released into their natural habitats by one of our team members Mr. Rohit Giri from Kaski. We also have recorded five King Cobras from Kathmandu out of which one was juvenile crossing the road at Kavresthali near its natural habitat and four were rescued from Chhyamale, Dakshinkali municipality with the help of one of our team members Mr. Subodh Acharya which later were released to its natural habitat in the presence of forest officials.

## **Save The King Presentations in Snakebite Management Training in Various Districts of Nepal:**

Besides the above particularly organized Save The King programs conducted in various communities and schools, we also have presented and shared about it in various programs organized by governments' institutions in different districts of Nepal. These programs were specifically targeted to government's medical professionals working on various snakebite treatment centres or healthcare centres. Some of the policy makers were also present in these programs. We have also distributed Save The King brochures and posters to them. The list of various programs organized by governments' institutions in different districts of Nepal where we were invited and have presented about our ongoing "Save The King" programs are as follows:

1. Organized by Mid-West University and Nepal Toxinology Association at Mid-West University, Birendranagar, Surkeht, Nepal. February 27, 2022

2. Organized by Karnali Province Government, Ministry of Social Development, Health Service Directorate, Birendranagar, Surkhet at Province Hospital, Surkhet, Nepal. February 26-28, 2022.
3. Organized by Division Forest Office, Kapilvastu at Kapilvastu, Nepal. February 10, 2022.
4. Organized by Health Training Centre, Bagmati and supported by FIAR MED at Jhamsikhel, Kathmandu, Nepal. December 28, 2021.
5. Organized by National Academy of Medical Sciences and supported by World Health Organization and Ministry of Health and Population, Department of Health Services, Epidemiology and Disease Control Division, Teku Kathmandu, Nepal at Bir Hospital. November 22-25, 2021.
6. Organized by Health Training Centre, Butwal and supported by FIAR MED and Nepal Leprosy Trust Dhanusha at Lalgadh, Dhanusha, Nepal. October 27-31, 2021.
7. Organized by Ministry of Health and Population, Health Training Centre, Gandaki Province, Pokhara at Daldale, Nawalpur, Nepal. October 24-26, 2021.
8. Organized by Kanchanrup Municipality, Saptari at PHC, Kanchanpur, Saptari, Nepal. September 4-5, 2021.
9. Organized by Health Training Centre, Lumbini Province, Butwal and supported by FIAR MED at Bheri Hospital, Nepalgunj, Banke, Nepal. August 30-September 1, 2021.
10. Organized by Lamahi Municipality at Lamahi Hospital, Dang, Nepal. July 15-16, 2021.
11. Organized by Far-Western Province Government, Ministry of Social Development, Health Directorate, Dipayal, Doti at Health Training Centre, Dhangadhi, Kailali, Nepal. March 3-5, 2021.
12. Organized by Nepal Zoological Society at Lumbini Province Zoological Seminar, Butwal. February 5-6, 2021.