

KOHIMA COLLEGE KOHIMA
Altiora Quaerite (Search For Excellence)

PROJECT
ON
ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE-501

Topic: A report on forest conservation.
A report on Japfii Mountain Kohima Nagaland

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Japfii Mountain



(Introduction)

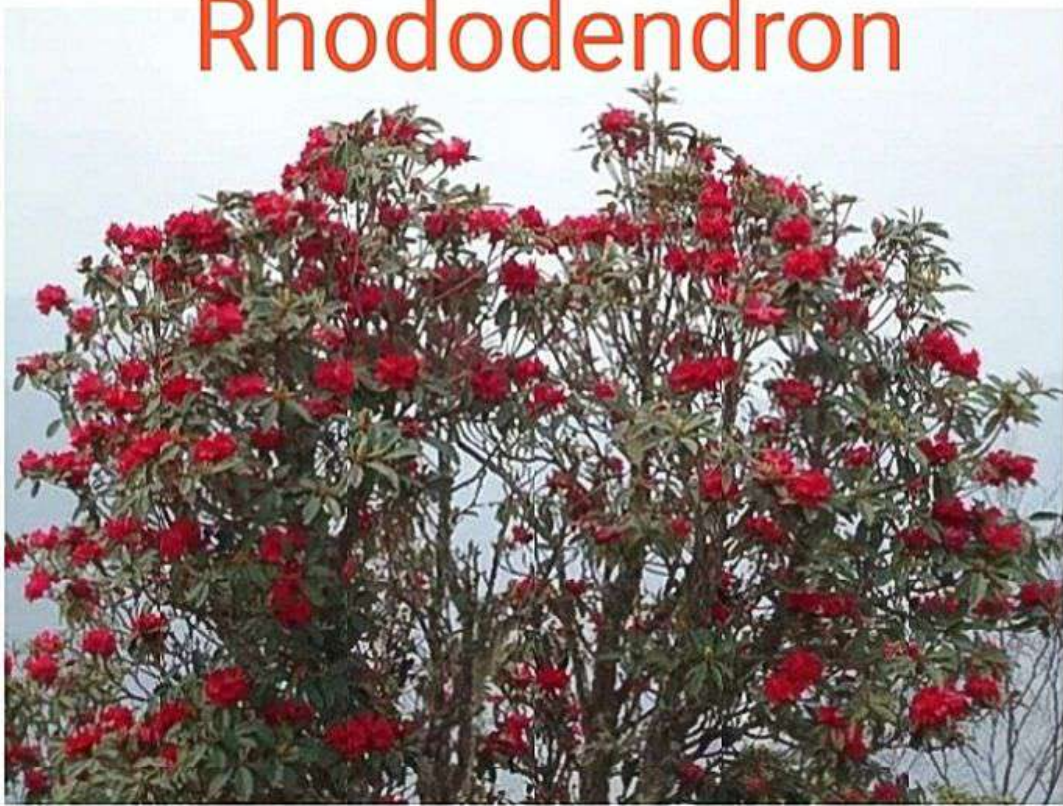
JAPFII MOUNTAIN

Japfii peak is located South of Kohima town, capital of Nagaland, India. Japfii peak (3048m) is the second highest summit in Nagaland after Mount Saramati (3826m). Japfii peak is about 9500 feet high and located west of Kigwema village Nagaland, Manipur highway. The Japfii mountain is encompassed by two villages namely, Kigwema and Phesama village.

An interesting feature of this mountain is that it is home to the world's tallest Rhododendron tree (rhododendron arboreum), the Scarlet Rhododendron (Guinness book of worlds record). This mountain range receives heavy rainfall during summer while the coldest months are from December to February where snowfall occurs occasionally at higher altitude. Whereas the vegetation type in Japfii mountain is sub-tropical broadleaf on the slopes and temperate broadleaf on the highest peak.

The rich edaphic factor coupled with the climate makes the mountain harbour a diverse range of plants species. Many medicinal plants, orchids, climbers, ferns and herbs are encountered. The count of a total of 2267 individuals from 40 tree species belonging to 21 shrub species belonging to 32 families and 49 genera from the 69 vegetative units in the study area revealed the strength and richness of diversity and gave a glimpse of the representation of the rest of the species thriving in the mountain. The mountain provides an important platform for researchers, botanist, trekkers and nature lovers. At the same time, the need to protect, conserve and uplift the wealthy heritage of the mountain has been felt the need of the hour.

Rhododendron



FOREST CONSERVATION AT JAPFII PEAK.

Forest view point constructed at Japfii Mountain range in Nagaland.

A view point was constructed at Mt. Japfii range side by Kigwema Nature Conservation Trust (KNCT) sponsored by Kohima Forest Division. It was inaugurated during a routine inspection by Kohima Forest Division Officials recently.

The "View Point" is mainly for the purpose of forest fire protection as a great side of Dziikou Valley is visible from the spot. It is also located on a strategic site having potential for ecotourism such as nature trail trekking activities , home to world's tallest rhododendron, double storeyed cave, scenic exploration of Kigwema Community Conservation Area, among other exotic locations. The fabricated construction items

were carried manually and assembled on the site after trekking uphill for three hours from the base camp. With minimum destruction of natural resources the view point was set up.

Meanwhile, the DFO Kohima Rongsenlemla Imchen appreciated the efforts of KNCT , Village council and the village community and cooperating with the department in raising awareness with regard to forest fire management , wildlife protection and environmental conservation in the area. It is pertinent to mention that in the last one year, the village community has constructed two forest watch towers and one forest view point in collaboration with Kohima Forest Division in the same area.

Conclusion

Forest conservation strategy cannot succeed without the willing support and cooperation of the people. It is essential, therefore to create interest in the forests, their conservation and development , and to make them conscious of the values of trees, wildlife and nature in general. Effort should be made to involve educational institutions and local bodies - village council, town committee ,etc for this purpose. Suitable programmes should be propagated through mass media, audio visual aids and other extension machinery.

Environmental education is the principle means of enhancing such awareness, both among the public at large and among focussed groups. Such education can be formal or informal or a combination of both. It may rely on educational institutions at different levels; the print, electronic or live media and various other formal and informal settings.

REFERENCE

1. Primary data collection:

- Discussion with elders (parents and uncles).

2. Secondary data collection:

- Online references.

2.1 [researchgate.net](https://www.researchgate.net).

2.2 <https://www.incredible.org>>com

2.3 <https://www.nagaland.gov.in>> [PDF]