with pollution, the byproduct of modernization, that wrecks public health havoc on them. So the crisis of public health will be most daunting for those who can least afford to deal with it. As an American friend of mine lamented after his recent visit to Kathmandu, "The environment, I'm afraid, may kill the mountain views, and more sadly, my (Nepali) friends" (parenthetical word added). This is perhaps the ultimate tragedy of losing Shangri-La, that is, Kathmandu.

NOTES

1. This study is based on my personal observations, as well as the data and information collected during my visits and field research supported by grants from the National Science Foundation (1994 and 1988) and the Ford and Rockefeller foundations (1979). I am grateful for the comments offered by two anonymous reviewers and Drs. Ronald Knapp and John Netz. Their comments have proven to be very helpful in refining some of the arguments contained in this article.


4. Lost Horizon (Columbia Pictures, 1937); Lost Horizon (Columbia Pictures, 1972; remade with Liv Ullman).


6. Ibid., 240.


11. Ibid., 26.


16. Ibid., 39.

17. Ibid., 30.

18. Ibid.

19. The waste disposal operation runs with the help of Germany. However, the Government of Nepal has recently signed a letter of agreement with a private American waste management company to manage Kathmandu’s wastes.

21. Ibid., 30.
23. For a detailed discussion, see Shrestha, In the Name of Development.
25. Ed Burgess, Personal Communication (1997). Ed was in Nepal for five weeks (November-December 1997). Here is one observation that Ed made during his taxi ride in Kathmandu: "As we entered the traffic streams on the road leading from the airport to the center of Kathmandu, my nose was immediately and intensely assaulted by choking exhaust fumes. Old buses and trucks belched black clouds of smoke, and the three-wheeled tempo vehicles belched equal or greater amounts than the buses. Both my wife and I put handkerchiefs over our mouth and nose and tried to breathe as little as possible." And, on his way to his friend's house on the far side of Kathmandu, Ed noted: "As I put a mask to my nose and mouth, I continued to look at the streets of Kathmandu. I could find no area that was not littered with plastic bags and bottles, paper and other garbage. Periodically, the litter and garbage was piled high, with wet dogs and pigs rooting through the most recent deposits."

REFERENCES


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