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Living with the Large Carnivores: The interaction between humans, tigers and leopards in Chitwan National Park, Nepal

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Stellingen (Propositions)

Behorende bij het proefschrift

Living with the large carnivores

**The interaction between humans, tigers and leopards
in Chitwan National Park, Nepal**

1. Large carnivores such as tigers and leopards can co-occur in areas with high prey density and a mosaic of habitats through spatial and temporal partitioning (This study).
2. Within a tiger population, few individuals contribute disproportionately more to conflict incidents and can be termed as problem causing animals'. This is probably due to individual traits of these problem causing animals (This study).
3. A population increase of wildlife species involved in conflicts with humans does not necessarily result in a similar increase in the impacts on human communities (This study).
4. If wildlife impacts on humans (safety threats and economic losses) are properly managed through prevention and mitigation measures, this will facilitate the coexistence of humans and wildlife (This study).
5. Survival of wild animals (especially the large carnivores) through the Anthropocene depends on successful coexistence of human communities and wildlife (Kolipaka, 2018).
6. The availability of abundant prey species is a necessary condition for human-carnivore coexistence and sustainable conservation because carnivores do not eat grass (Nepali proverb: A starving tiger will rather die but do not eat grass).
7. Preference of rural communities for off-farm livelihood options (less dependent on forests) is favorable to reduce conflicts and facilitate human-wildlife coexistence (Harihar *et al.*, 2015).
8. Socio-cultural background and religious beliefs of a society towards wildlife greatly influence the success or failure of wildlife conservation (Inskip *et al.*, 2014).
9. The larger part of wildlife conservation involves management of people rather than wildlife, because people are the ultimate drivers of the majority of threats such as habitat degradation and poaching (Dickman, 2010).
10. A joint PhD with two universities is a great learning experience despite additional time consumed to meet the requirements of both universities.
11. It is strange that humans are causing mass extinction of species on Earth but at the same time they are looking for traces of life on other planets in the universe.