

11 DECEMBER

INTERNATIONAL MOUNTAIN DAY

"There is precious little in civilization to appeal to the Yeti."
- Sir Edmund Hillary -

WHY DO WE MARK THIS DAY?



World Mountain Day is an annual celebration on December 11 to emphasize the significance of mountains to life. About 15% of the world's population lives in the mountains and it provides the world's largest biodiversity hotspots. The day is a reminder to everyone that mountains play a huge role in providing fresh water and food for both humans and animals. The first International Mountain Day was celebrated in 2003 following the declaration of the United Nations International Year of Mountains in 2002.

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

- ✓ How can the establishment of an International Mountain Day save mountains from loss of biodiversity and human habitats?

- ✓ What is Mountain biodiversity?

MEET TODAY'S GLOBAL CITIZEN



EDMUND HILLARY

He climbed Mt Everest in 1953 with a fellow Sherpa mountaineer, Tenzing Norgay.

Hillary was knighted in 1953 and he became an honorary citizen of Nepal in 2003. He has dedicated his interest to the welfare of Nepal's Himalayan people and sponsored various projects in New Zealand. His legacy lives on through the Edmund Hillary Fellowship (EHF). The EHF is a fellowship program fostering innovative entrepreneurs to solve global problems.