

My first try to write a little report.

Jumla, 15th february 2018

I think I have never seen so many stars at one place in my whole before. That's what I thought yesterday evening, when I was standing in front of my house, just about to go inside. It was quite cold, but I somehow didn't want to leave that beautiful night sky above me.

And now I'm sitting here and wondering... what do I think of when I want to describe Jumla to you?

Jumla is a small town with about 9000 habitants in the north-western region of Nepal. Actually it's very much somewhere in the nowhere. To get here you can either fly (which takes only 25 min from Nepalgunj and is about 3-4 times as expensive for foreigners as for locals) or you can come by bus or by jeep. I came by Jeep and I was really lucky because it was a good and comfortable one and I even got the seat in the front. The drive took about 13 h and although it was I think the longest car drive of my life so far it somehow didn't feel like it.

By driving the whole day through this actually stunningly beautiful landscape I noticed how far away from every other place you can describe as a bigger collection of houses Jumla actually is. On our way here we passed a lot of very easy and also very poor villages and I needed quite some time to see and accept in what simple conditions so many people here are living. Therefore, the city itself developed quite a lot.

The people here told me that some years ago you wouldn't find any reception or electricity or anything here. They stood in line for a short call on the landline. Now there's everything you would think you need here. Internet (which is working most of the time - except you've got the wrong provider as I did), electricity (at least every second day - because the power is shared between the two parts of Jumla... sometimes that's a bit annoying and I feel like my phone is always empty but that's ok I think), water supply (also working most of the time), telephone and TV (when there's electricity). What you'll also find here is a really wonderful landscape. Jumla is surrounded by hills (if you look at the fact that Jumla is already on a height of 2500 m above sea level it's rather mountains I'd say) and when you stay here for a bit longer your imagination will definitely start to drift behind these hills and imagine how breathtaking beautiful the landscape must be there. The place has its own magic to it and the people living here now that as well as everyone who stays for a little bit longer.

I especially love it when I'd find a place where there are not so many people (what shouldn't be too hard to find here) because then I can enjoy the landscape a bit more. Otherwise I often feel like an alien and people constantly stare at me what I'm still not quite used to and I'm still learning to be fine with it.

I understand it though, because I really look absolutely different than anyone else here. But I think with a bit of time the people will also get used to me wandering around the streets of Jumla.

So much for now,  
you'll hear of me again.