

Pebbles on the Kali Gandaki flood plain

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The pebbly floodplain of the Kali Gandaki River. A few snow-capped mountain peaks can be seen in the distance. The Kali Gandaki River is one of many rivers in Nepal originating in the Himalayas. This river flows south down through the mountains and into southern plains where it converges with other rivers. These rivers eventually join with the Ganges in India, which empties into the Bay of Bengal. These flood plains are famous for ammonite fossils, called Shaligrams by Hindus. Ammonites are an extinct group of marine animals of the subclass Ammonoidea in the class Cephalopoda, phylum Mollusca. Ammonite fossils are found all over the world but only those from the Kali Gandaki are considered sacred Shaligrams.



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