

## Trail on mountainside in western Nepal

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A long trail snakes along the mountain side towards Muktinath, Nepal. The landscape is barren of most vegetation and on the horizon are snow-capped peaks of the Himalayas. This is the trans-Himalayan region — also called the "rain shadow." The region lies to the north of the Himalayan range and receives very little rainfall because the rain clouds, primarily coming from the the south, are blocked by the Northern Himalayan barriers.



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