

ORNITHOLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS NEPAL.

25 December 1986- 20 January 1987.

By Jelle Scharringa.

(part)

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Interesting recordings in systematic order:

1. *Anhinga melanogaster*--

Chitwan NP: a few seen at Lami Tal (lake) inside the park; one at Thamar Tal, January 14.

2. *Ixobrychus cinnamomeus*--

Chitwan NP: one seen at Lami Tal (lake), January 14.

3. *Anastomus oscitans*--

Chitwan NP: one seen in forest-creek west of Sauhara, one soaring north of Sauhara.

4. *Ciconia nigra*--

Chitwan NP: one seen soaring twice over Lami Tal, January 14.

5. *Leptoptilos javanicus*--

Chitwan NP: one foraging in fields near village inside the park, opposite Sauhara, January 13. Two soaring over Lami Tal, January 14.

6. *Pseudibis papillosa*--

Chitwan NP: two flying over just west of Sauhara, January 11; one perched in tree along creek west of Sauhara, January 13; A few individuals perched in trees at Lami Tal, January 14.

7. *Anser indicus*--

Sauhara: 3 in Rapti river on sand-bars west of Sauhara, Jan 12.

8. *Tadorna ferruginea*--

Chitwan NP: flocks of up to 50 in Rapti river on sand-bars.

9. *Anas platyrhynchos*--

Chitwan NP: several on Thamar Tal, near Kasara, inside the park, on January 14.

10. *Mergus merganser*--

Chitwan NP: a few males and females seen daily in Rapti river.

11. *Pernis apivorus*--

Chitwan NP: seen at Sauhara over Rapti river and seen at Kasara

(Park HQ) also over Rapti river, single individuals.

12. *Buteo rufinus*-

Kathmandu Valley: one adult, soaring over fields between Kathmandu and Godavari on January 18; one immature soaring over Royal Botanical Gardens at Godavari on January 19, and one adult soaring high over Kathmandu on December 29.

13. *Spizaetus nipalensis*-

Pulchowki: one adult soaring over lower slopes on December 26, and one adult on January 19.

Bahuntanthi: 2 flying high over broadleaf-forest slopes on January 4.

Ulleri: 2 soaring high above fields above Ulleri (2100m) on January 3.

14. *Aquila "nipalensis"*-

Naudanda: 1 adult and 1 immature soaring over ridge, Jan 1.

Khare-Lumle: 2 immatures and one adult soaring, Jan 2.

Kathmandu: one soaring high above city on January 20.

14.A. *Aquila "rapax"*-

Chitwan NP: one soaring high over fields at village inside the park, opposite Sauhara, showing the characteristics of this form, Jan 13.

15. *Ictinaetus malayensis*-

Pulchowki: one adult seen soaring over lower slopes of the mountain and inside the forested ravine at 1700m. Seen on December 26 and 28 and January 19.

16. *Ichthyophaga ichtyaetus*-

Chitwan NP: one perfect adult at Lami Tal, January 14. Seen perched and hunting over the area.

17. *Sarcogyps calvus*-

Pokhara: one soaring over the city on December 31.

Naudanda: one soaring below the ridge, January 1.

Khare: one circling low near dead dog and seen perched in tree just below the village, January 2.

Birethanti: 2 soaring against rock-faces and seen perched in trees above the village, January 2.

Hille: two seen between Birethanti and Hille, along the Burungdi Khola, January 8.

18. *Aegypius monachus*-

Pokhara: One beautiful and immense bird, soaring over the city, with much smaller *Milvus migrans*, yellow legs striking, on december 31 and january 1.

19. *Gyps himalayensis*-

Pokhara: Beautiful single adults soaring above the city on december 31 and january 1.

Naudanda: one seen soaring, january 1.

Khare-Lumle: a few soaring over cliffs above Khare and Lumle, january 2.

Birethanti-Hille: a few seen along the way.

Ghorepani: a few seen above Ghorepani and Nayathanti.

20. *Gyps indicus*-

Sauhara: one with 10+ *Gyps bengalensis* at carcass, between Sauhara and Tadi Bazaar, january 10.

Apparently a sub-adult or immature bird: mantle pale sandy coloured, dark brown flight-feathers, white ruff around neck.

Underparts sandy coloured, dark neck and head, dark and striking long bill. Larger than *G. bengalensis*. Beautifully standing in between this species.

21. *Gypaetus barbatus*-

Khare-Lumle: two beautiful adults soaring along cliffs all the time, between the 2 villages. Seen extremely well, january 2.

Bajjara: one adult extremely close, soaring over, january 3.

Nayathanti: one adult soaring over, jan 4.

Ghorepani: one adult soaring daily over Ghorepani, sometimes beautifully below us. Also seen landing on the path next to the village, hopping over the trail(!), this bird later seen perched in tree along the path, the Nepali walking right past it, january 7.

22. *Pandion haliaetus*-

Chitwan NP: one seen daily, flying up and down the Rapti river at Sauhara; once two seen together; one perched in tree at Lami Tal and one over Rapti river at Kasara.

23. *Microhierax caerulescens*-

Chitwan NP: one beautiful bird with extensive, rich orange on underparts, in trees east of Sauhara, near Gaida Wildlife camp, open forest edge, january 12.

24. *Falco subbuteo*-

Sauhara: One flying over fields between Sauhara and Tadi Bazaar, seen well (definitely not *F. severus*!), january 10.

25. *Francolinus francolinus*-

Chitwan NP: one beautiful male, seen running over forestroad, through stands of high lalang-grass, between Sauhara and Kasara, inside the park, January 13.
One male flying in front of the car along same road through open fields, January 14.

26. *Coturnix coturnix*-

Sauhara: heard calling at 07:00h in mustard-field at the village, calling every few minutes, 3 or 4 phrases, January 13.

27. *Arborophila torqueola*-

Fulchowki: The call of this bird was tape-recorded from the lower densely forested slopes of the mountain (at 2000-2200m), on 27 and 28 December and on January 18.
The call sounds as follows:*****

28. *Lophura leucomelana*-

Fulchowki: 2 or 3 birds flushed from densely vegetated slope inside forest in the ravine at 16-1700m; at least one male, flying up into trees but not seen again, December 26.
Male and female flying straight up from path inside the ravine, hardly seen again, on January 17. The chirping alarm-call, also known from other members of the genus, was heard.
Bahuntanti: two birds swiftly walking up-slope inside the forest at 2300m+, barely glimpsed, January 8.

29. *Hydrophasianus chirurgus*-

Chitwan NP: one in non-breeding plumage in Thamar Tal near Kasara, January 14.

30. *Glareola lactea*-

Sauhara: up to 50 together, seen flying along Rapti river west of Sauhara.

31. *Vanellus duvaucelii*-

Chitwan NP: A few present in Rapti river; up to 10 together, seen in creek west of Sauhara.

32. *Gallinago stenura*-

Chitwan NP: one flushed along creek west of Sauhara, on January 11 and 12. The bird was found near a small party of *G. gallinago*, which were feeding on muddy patches in the shallow water. The *G. stenura* was flushed from dry grass-bank near the edge of the water. Seen extremely well at length, both perched as well as in flight. Pale forewing, indistinct trailing edge to wings,

plumage pattern on upperparts different from *G. gallinago* (direct comparison possible). Heavy flight, heavier and rounder wings and heavier body. Dry habitat!

33. *Calidris temminckii*-

Sauhara: Several single individuals in Rapti river.

34. *Larus ichthyaeetus*-

Sauhara: one immature in Rapti river west of Sauhara, January 12. The bird was in first winter plumage and together with a few *Tadorna ferruginea*: Diagnostic head-shape, mantle brown and grey, broad blackish tailbar, bill black and long, black smear through the eye.

35. *Sterna aurantia*-

Sauhara: up to 2 seen daily in Rapti river.

36. *Sterna acuticauda*-

Sauhara: one in breeding plumage along Rapti river.

37. *Treron phoenicoptera*-

Chitwan NP: one male, perched in open sal-forest inside the park, on January 14.

38. *Columba pulchricollis*-

Pulchowki: 3 flying past at entrance ravine, 16-1700m, on December 26.

Bahuntanti: one flying through forest on January 4, at 2300m+.

39. *Macropygia unchall*-

Pulchowki: 3 seen, perched in trees inside the ravine (16-1700m), seen at length, before flying off, December 29.

40. *Streptopelia orientalis*-

Godavari: one perched in tree inside the Royal Botanical Gardens, on January 19, seen at length.

41. *Psittacula eupatria*-

Chitwan NP: two males and one female seen, perched high in tree in open sal-forest west of Sauhara, January 11.

A few birds seen flying around above the creek west of Sauhara, January 12. The diagnostic calls were tape-recorded.

Several flying over inside the park, January 13-14.

42. *Psittacula alexandri*-

Chitwan NP: a few times birds flying over, in open sal-forest inside the park and outside, west of Sauhara. A small party flying over Sauhara in afternoon and once 3 males and one female seen perched in trees near the creek west of Sauhara. Diagnostic call was tape-recorded.

43. *Psittacula cyanocephala*-

Sauhara: flocks seen flying over and foraging in open sal-forest near the village; also common inside the park.

44. *Psittacula himalayana*-

Khare-Lumle: 3 flying past between Khare and Lumle (1600m) on January 2.

45. *Glaucidium brodiei*-

Pulchowki: one seen in full daylight, mobbed by small passerines along the road, 22-2300m. Perched in small tree along the road. The pattern at the back of the head looked very much like its face: when the bird turned it had two faces! December 27. One seen again, staring at us, in same general area, also along the road, December 28.

46. *Glaucidium radiatum*-

Sauhara: 2 seen at dusk at open forest edge near Gaida Wildlife Camp, January 13. Two call-types were heard:
(1) a pitta-like descending "prrrrrr" trill.
(2) an ascending call similar to that of *G. cuculoides*.
Chitwan NP: one seen in dry sal-forest at 14:00h on January 13, inside the park.

47. *Glaucidium cuculoides*-

Godavari: one seen in daylight on December 28 near St. Xavier-school; one seen inside the Botanical Gardens on January 19. A few times heard calling in distance at foot of Pulchowki.

48. *Athene brama*-

Chitwan NP: tentatively heard at night at Sauhara; one spotlighted here on January 12 at 21:00h.

49. *Caprimulgus macrurus/indicus*-

One seen at Sauhara on January 13 at 18:00h in near darkness. The bird was perched on a pole at edge of a garden, it was calling softly: a soft purring trill. Large, with white tail-corners and white patches in wings.

50. *Ceryle lugubris*-

Birethanti: two seen, in Burungdi Khola (river) close to confluence with Modi Khola at the village, (1065m), January 2. One seen at length, perched on cable across river, tail-wagging, its ragged crest parted in two. Fish-diving into the river and calling: a metallic "quip", "quip". Extremely beautiful with rusty orange on breast. Both individuals seen flying. Heard calling on January 3, higher up the Burungdi Khola on the way to Baaagara, two birds; one seen perched in dead tree along the river, calling. On January 8: two birds flying over Modi Khola below the balcony of our guesthouse.

51. *Pelargopsis capensis*-

Chitwan NP: one seen along creek west of Sauhara, January 11. One seen at Lami Tal, inside the park, January 14. One seen at Thamar Tal, same.

52. *Anthracceros malabaricus*-

Chitwan NP: two seen in open sal-forest west of Sauhara, Jan 11.

53. *Buceros bicornis*-

Chitwan NP: one seen during the entire morning in open sal-forest west of Sauhara; seen perched at length, and flying around, January 11.

54. *Megalaima lineata*-

Chitwan NP: A few single birds seen in open sal-forests; also at Sauhara.

55. *Megalaima franklinii*-

Pulchowki: infrequently heard on forested slopes higher up and seen once: January 18, one bird going through treetops.

56. *Megalaima asiatica*-

Bokarna: call heard on December 30, at the forest park (1400m).

57. *Picus canus*-

Pulchowki: one male seen on December 26, at 17-1800m, close to ground and very inconspicuous. Broad blackish malar stripe and black on crown seen. On December 27, one seen at 22-2300m. One female seen at 2000m on January 18. Chitwan: one male seen in shady sal-forest between Sauhara and Kasara, inside the park, January 13.

58. *Picus chlorolophus*-

Phedi: one, in small patch of broadleaf forest just above the village at 1300m, January 1.

Chitwan: 3 seen in open sal-forest inside the park, January 13.

59. *Dinopium shorii*-

Chitwan NP: common in open sal-forests of the park and around Sauhara; once flock of 6 together inside the park, usually two or three together. Calls, very similar to *D. javanense* as well as *Chrysocolaptes lucidus*, were tape-recorded.

60. *Picoides hyperythrus*-

Pulchowki: one female seen, in tall broadleaf forest at 2300m+ on December 27; male and female seen together here on December 28. The calls are similar to *Picoides major* and were tape-recorded.

61. *Picoides darjellensis*-

Ghorepani: one male, heard tapping and calling (*Picoides major*-like, single call) on snow-covered open forest slope above Ghorepani village (2800m+), finally seen, January 5.

One heard calling high up in dead branch above Poon Hill Hotel at Ghorepani; the bird, a male was "singing" for minutes on end shortly after dawn. This song sounded similar to the accelerated "rattle-call" of *Picoides major*, January 6.

Bahuntanti: one male seen twice, in the beautiful forest just above the village, 2300m+, January 7.

62. *Picoides macei*-

Pokhara: one male seen in village between Pokhara and Hyangja, on the way to Phedi, January 1.

Chitwan NP: Very common in open parklike sal-forest, both inside the park as well as around Sauhara.

63. *Picoides canicapillus*-

Chitwan NP: as common as *P. macei* in the sal-forests.

On January 11, at least 10 different birds were seen in the forests west of Sauhara.

64. *Chrysocolaptes lucidus*-

Chandrakot: one male, on open forest slope below this village, on the steep descent to Birethanti (12-1300m), January 2.

65. *Picumnus innominatus*-

Pulchowki: one male, in forested ravine at the foot of the mountain (16-1700m) with large bird-flock, January 19.

66. *Eremopterix grisea*-

Sauhara: two seen between Sauhara and Tadi Bazaar, dry riverbeds.

67. *Calandrella cinerea*-

Sauhara: January 11, one seen well in fields west of Sauhara.

68. *Calandrella raytal*-

Sauhara: A few between Sauhara and Tadi Bazaar in dry riverbeds; a few on sand-bars in Rapti river.

69. *Delichon nipalensis*-

Common in mountains from Naudanda-ridge up all the way to Ulleri, 1400-2100m; a very distinctive species.

70. *Oriolus traillii*-

Pulchowki: A few males heard and seen and the mewing call tape-recorded, 2200-2400m.

71. *Oriolus xanthornus*-

Sauhara: males seen and heard west of Sauhara and inside the park, both in open sal-forests.

72. *Dicrurus caerulescens*-

Sauhara: up to 2-3 seen in open sal-forests west of the village.

73. *Dicrurus hottentottus*-

Common in open sal-forest at Sauhara and Chitwan NP.

74. *Cissa chinensis*-

Phedi: 3 in small broadleaf-forest patch just above Phedi at 1300m on January 1.

Chandrakot: 2 in open forest and bamboo on steep slope between Chandrakot and Birethanti at 11-1200m, Jan 2.

75. *Urocissa flavirostris*-

Ghorepani: up to 4 birds seen in open forest on Ghandrung ridge and at the Deorali, Jan 5-6, 2850m.

Bahuntanti: a few seen in forest above Bahuntanti, 23-2400m.

76. *Urocissa erythrorhynchus*-

Birethanti: 7 birds in trees along Modi Kola river, Jan 9.

Godaveri: 5-6 birds flying around in Royal Botanical Gardens and calls tape-recorded, jan 19.

77. *Dendrocitta formosae*-

A few seen frequently on Pulchowki; a few between Phedi and Birethanti.

78. *Dendrocitta vagabunda*-

One seen in Royal Botanical Gardens at Godaveri; common in open sal-forest at Chitwan NP, Sauhara.

79. *Nucifraga caryocatactes*-

Ghorepani: 2 flying past near summit of Ghandrung ridge at 3000m on jan 6; later seen again in conifer forest on other side of the summit.

80. *Coracina melaschista*-

Chitwan NP: 2 seen in open sal-forest on jan 13.

89. *Chloropsis hardwickii*-

Pulchowki: a few seen on lower slopes (2 males in the ravine on 19 jan among them).

90. *Pellorneum ruficeps*-

Chitwan NP: 2 seen in sal-forest undergrowth, jan 13.

91. *Pomatorhinus ruficollis*-

Pulchowki: 3 seen at 2400 and 2500m at broadleaf-forest edge; a few seen and heard in ravine at foot of the mountain.

92. *Pomatorhinus erythrogenys*-

Pulchowki: one seen and 2 heard near entrance to the ravine, 16-1700m, on scrub-covered slope outside the forest, dec 29.
Hille: one seen splendidly, forested gully below Hille, 1400m+ on jan 8.

93. *Xiphirhynchus superciliaris*-

Bahuntanti: one bird, seen hanging upside down in vines, near edge of forest along fields below the village, 2200m+, jan 8. The bird was creeping along moss-covered trunk and vines of big, isolated tree, 5-10m above ground. This incredible and most wanted bird was travelling with a large mixed birdflock of babblers, *Sitta himalayensis*, rose-finches etc.

After a few brief but good views it disappeared suddenly. This appears to be the most western record ever for the species, it has been seen before at Tikedhunga, a few kms to the east. (Inskipp & Inskipp, Pers comm).

94. *Pnoepyga pusilla*-

Pulchowki: The distinctive 3-note whistle briefly heard in undergrowth of the ravine, 16-1700m, dec 29.

94.A. *Pnoepyga pusilla/albiventer*-

Pulchowki: The "tsick"-call frequently heard, in undergrowth of the ravine; a few times seen very well, but impossible to identify(?), in the ravine in december; call-notes tape-recorded.

Godaveri: One seen and heard (tape-recorded) in the Royal Botanical Garden along stream, jan 19. Call different from the normal "tsik" call.

Birethanti: heard above the village.

95. *Stachyris nigriceps*-

Pulchowki: a few in undergrowth of the ravine, with mixed bird-flocks, 16-1700m.

96. *Stachyris pyrrhops*-

Pulchowki: A few in undergrowth of the ravine, with mixed bird-flocks; single individuals higher up the mountain, up to 2300m.

97. *Chrysomma sinense*-

Royal Chitwan NP: 2 in lalang-grass undergrowth inside the park.

98. *Turdoides earlei*-

Royal Chitwan NP: a few in tall elephant(lalang-) grass inside the park, jan 13.

99. *Garrulax albogularis*-

Pulchowki: noisy flocks of up to 20-30 birds in undergrowth on lower slopes of the mountain.

Bahuntanti: small flocks near lower edge of forest, 2300m.

100. *Garrulax striatus*-

Pulchowki: small, noisy flocks on lower slopes, especially in the ravine; a few birds seen well.

Bahuntanti: one seen at lower edge of forest.

101. *Garrulax lineatus*-

Pulchowki: Seen in open areas at 2300-2400m, in grasses and bamboo close to the ground; small size for a *Garrulax* and shy and skulking behaviour; usually seen only after play-back of its peculiar song; unlike a babbler and sounds very much like a *Cettia*! Seen and tape-recorded on dec 27 and 28.

Ulleri: song heard and single birds seen in bamboo patches of open fields above the village, 21-2200m. On jan 8, a large flock seen just below Bahuntanti in similar habitat.

102. *Garrulax caerulatus*-

Pulchowki: 2 or 3 seen at 18-1900m on the mountain; the birds were found in a large flock of *G. albogularis* and seen foraging on the road, dec 26.

One was seen at entrance of ravine with large flock of *G. albogularis*, on jan 19.

103. *Garrulax variegatus*-

Ghorepani: one seen, foraging at bottom of tree-trunk in the snow, on the Ghandrung ridge at 2850m, jan 5.

(A flock of this species was seen by J. Hendriks at Ghorepani village on the same day).

104. *Garrulax affinis*-

Ghorepani: flock of up to 10 at Poon Hill Hotel in Ghorepani village (2775m); one larger flock near summit of Ghandrung ridge (3000m+).

Nayathanti: a flock in deep forest just below this village (2400m+).

105. *Cutia nipalensis*-

Pulchowki: more than 10 birds in a silent flock, creeping among moss-covered branches at 2300m+, on december 27.

Probably the same flock seen again, at 2500m+, on dec 28, mostly males, two females seen well.

106. *Pteruthius melanotis*-

Pulchowki: one female seen in the ravine on jan 17; one male seen here on dec 26.

Hille: one male seen in forest-patch just below this village (1400m+), jan 3.

107. *Pteruthius flaviscapis*-

Pulchowki: one male, seen at 22-2300m on jan 18.

108. *Actinodura nipalensis*-

Pulchowki: a few seen higher up the mountain, from 2400m up,

creeping in vines like *Heterophasia*.

Nayathanti: a few seen between Bahuntanti and this village, above 2300m, in primary broadleaf-forest; a few seen above this village at 2500m+; 2 seen on Ghandrung ridge at Ghorepani.

109. *Minla cyanouroptera*-

Pulchowki: 2 seen in the ravine at 16-1700m on jan 19.

110. *Yuhina flavicollis*-

Pulchowki: flocks in ravine and at forest edges between Godaveri and the mountain, up to 30-50 birds in a flock; a few seen at 2300m+. Contact calls tape-recorded.

Hille: flock just below this village, 1400m+.

Bahuntanti: small flock above this village, 2300m+.

111. *Yuhina occipitalis*-

Pulchowki: small flock at 2500m+ on dec 28.

A few seen above Bahuntanti in the broadleaf-forests.

112. *Yuhina gularis*-

Bahuntanti- Ghorepani: Common in the broadleaf-forest from this village all the way to Ghorepani; many heard and small flocks seen, 2250-3000m.

113. *Alcippe vinipectus*-

Pulchowki: small parties in dense bamboo undergrowth at 2300m and higher.

Ghorepani: common on grassslopes at the village, 2775m+.

This bird is extremely beautiful and the white eyebrow is much broader than in all the pictures I could find.

114. *Alcippe nipalensis*-

Pulchowki: parties in the ravine and higher up the mountain; also seen in the R.B. Gardens at Godaveri.

115. *Leiothrix lutea*-

Pulchowki: small flocks in undergrowth, shy and skulking, between 1700 and 2500m;

Bahuntanti: small parties at forest edge.

Nayathanti: small parties in forest.

116. *Niltava sundara*-

Phedi: one female, in forest-patch above Phedi, 12-1300m, jan 1.

117. *Niltava macgrigoriae*-

Birethanti: one male, in undergrowth along Burungdi Khola at the village, 1065m; shy and skulking, jan 2.

Hille: one male, in shady gully just below the village, 1400m+, on jan 3.

118. *Ficedula tricolor*-

Birethanti: one male, in gardens and undergrowth along the Burungdi Khola at the village (1065m), jan 2. Shy and restless. Male and female in the Burungdi Khola gorge on the way to Baaigara, jan 3, 1200m+.

119. *Cyornis poliogenys*-

Chitwan NP: one, giving alarm-calls along forestroad through closed sal-forest inside the park, jan 13. Seen well and at length.

Large with long bill; rufous tail; orangy-buffy flanks and brown mantle; greyish cheeks and head and pale throat; eyering.

120. *Rhipidura hypoxantha*-

Pulchowki: frequently seen lower slopes of the mountain, single birds.

Godaveri: single birds in the R.B. Gardens.

Pokhara: two seen at the Phewa Tal.

Naudanda-Bahuntanti: several seen along this part of the Jomosom Trek.

121. *Tesia castaneocoronata*-

Pulchowki: 2 heard in dense undergrowth along streamlet inside the ravine, 16-1700m, on dec 26; soft, churring alarm/contact-calls were given. The birds were extremely shy and barely glimpsed.

Two were heard in the ravine on jan 17; two were heard at different localities inside the ravine on jan 19.

The high-pitched and diagnostic call-note was tape-recorded.

Even after play-back of its own call, one bird remained invisible up to 10 m distance: its presence was betrayed by the moving vegetation only, when it was creeping over the moss-covered forest floor. Finally briefly seen when it flew straight up.

Apparently common in the ravine in winter, but can be extremely difficult to see!

122. *Cettia major*-

Chitwan NP: 2 heard in undergrowth of open sal-forest west of Sauhara on jan 11; the call-note appeared identical to that of *C. brunnifrons*: a bunting-like, sharp "pseek".

One seen well in undergrowth of ferns, especially after playback of call, very restless and shy.

Chestnut cap; yellowish-buffish on flanks; longish bill and rather long tail (larger with longer tail than *C. brunnifrons*).

Tentatively heard on jan 14, two birds, at Lami Tal, inside park.

123. *Cettia brunnifrons*-

Ulleri: one seen, undergrowth of bamboo-patch at edges of field, above the village, 2100m, on jan 3.

Call-note seems identical to that of *C. major*, a sharp bunting-like call.

Chestnut crown; sharp supercilium; small size and short tail; greyish underparts.

A *Cettia* sp. (*brunnifrons*/*major*) was seen and heard on steep slope below Chandrakot, in dense fern undergrowth, jan 9.

124. *Cettia flavolivacea*-

Godaveri: at least 2-3 birds present in fern- and herbage undergrowth of open areas between Godaveri and the foot of the Pulchowki, jan 17-19.

Chitwan NP: call heard in lalang grass between Lami Tal and Kasara, jan 14.

Naudanda-Hille: one present in bamboos at Naudanda, two on slopes below Chandrakot (12-1300m), and two at Hille, jan 2-9.

The birds were usually hiding in undergrowth or bushes and calling frequently: a typical *Cettia*-call, a vibrating "drrrrt" or "krrrt", many times repeated. Although not always visible, this species is less shy than *C. major* and *C. brunnifrons*.

Diagnostic characters were: large size; sulphur-yellow underparts and supercilium; olive-brown upperparts (no rufous in plumage); large, rounded tail; dark eye-stripe; pale legs.

125. *Acrocephalus dumetorum*-

Sauhara: a few seen in bushes along river and fields; typical *Acrocephalus* with very long bill, diagnostic call-note.

126. *Phylloscopus affinis*-

Sauhara: 2 seen, in bushes at edges of fields, on jan 11.

Yellowish eyebrow and underparts diagnostic; pale legs; shape and size like *Ph. collybita*.

127. *Phylloscopus trochiloides*-

Sauhara: common in herbage undergrowth and middle storey of open sal-forests inside and outside the park; call-notes heard continuously; several seen well.

128. *Phylloscopus fuscatus*-

Pokhara: one seen in grasses and bushes along the road 20km SE of Pokhara, when bus broke down. Diagnostic call-note heard and seen at length, jan 10.

129. *Phylloscopus reguloides*-

Pulchowki: at least one identified at 2000m and one at 2300m or higher, dec 26-27.

Chitwan NP: one identified, in open sal-forest inside the park, jan 13.

130. *Seicercus xanthoschistos*-

Common and widespread: Pulchowki (up to the higher elevations), Godaveri, Gokarna, along the Jomosom trail up to Ulleri.

The song is very similar to that of *Ph. trivirgatus*.

131. *Seicercus castaneiceps*-

Pulchowki: a few times seen and song heard on lower slopes of the mountain; also seen at Gokarna forest park.

132. *Abroscopus schisticeps*-

Pulchowki: 2 seen inside ravine, close to ground, with large mixed birdflock, jan 19.

Bahuntanti: 4-5 seen in broadleaf-moss forest above this village, 2300m+, jan 7. An extremely attractive species.

133. *Brachypteryx montana*-

Ulleri: song heard far below in ravine of Burungdi Khola, below this village, jan 4. It sounded similar to the song known from several other areas in S.E. Asia from this species.

134. *Luscinia calliope*-

Sauhara: one beautiful male, singing in garden of small village west of Sauhara, close to Rapti river, jan 12. The song was briefly tape-recorded.

135. *Luscinia pectoralis*-

Chitwan NP: one stunning male, bathing in rusty-coloured stream in open sal-forest inside the park, jan 13. Briefly seen, standing in water of shallow stream!

136. *Luscinia svecica*-

Seen in bushes near Rapti river, west of Sauhara.

137. *Tarsiger cyanurus*-

Pulchowki: a few times single individuals at different elevations, both adult male and female plumages.

Godaveri: 2 adult males and one female in isolated berry-tree, along the road above the quarry to the Pulchowki, together with

2 *Ficedula strophinata* and one *F. parva*, feeding.
Ghorepani: one female-plumage bird at Poon Hill Hotel slope.
Bahuntanti: more than 10 altogether, in forest just above the village, at least 3-4 adult males, on January 4, 7 and 8.

138. *Tarsiger indicus*-

Bahuntanti: one, female plumage, in undergrowth of broadleaf-forest above the village, 2300m+, Jan 7.
Flitting around in undergrowth, not very shy, close to ground. Large head; bluish tail; white supercilium; small dark ear-patch; brown upperparts and entire underparts uniform yellowish-buff. Calling softly and continuously vibrating tail.

139. *Tarsiger hyperythrus*-

Bahuntanti: at least 2 female plumage birds seen, in undergrowth of broadleaf-mossforest, 2300m+, Jan 4, 7.
With several *T. cyanurus* and one *T. indicus*, one probable immature male seen at length: brownish upperparts with bluish cast; bright blue tail; trace of eyebrow and distinct eyering; entire underparts uniform brownish-buff. Once attacked by *T. cyanurus*, so direct comparison possible. *T. cyanurus* has whitish throat and belly and warm orange flanks, brown on breast.

140. *Phoenicurus caerulocephalus*-

Khare-Lumle: one male seen in bushes on open slope between the two villages at 1500-1600m, Jan 2.
Ghorepani: one male present at Poon Hill Hotel slope.
3-4 males and 3 females, seen near summit of Ghandrung ridge, 3100m+, Jan 6. The birds were found on the southern, more sunny part of the ridge, together with several *Ph. schisticeps* and other insectivores.

141. *Phoenicurus hodgsonii*-

Godaveri: up to 3 males and a few females seen around Godaveri and along the road past the quarry up; several present in the Royal Botanical Gardens, Dec 27- Jan 19.

142. *Phoenicurus schisticeps*-

Ghorepani: 3 males and one female, on sunny slope just below summit of Ghandrung ridge, 3000-3100m, together with *Ph. caerulocephalus*, Jan 6. The males were deep chestnut below and extremely beautiful.

143. *Phoenicurus frontalis*-

Pulchowki: one adult male and one female seen, 2200-2300m.
Godaveri: one female in Royal Botanical Gardens, Jan 19.
Jomosom Trek: male seen at Naudanda, female near Khare; common between Ulleri and Ghorepani: many males seen and calls heard almost everywhere outside forest or at edges, Jan 1-8.

144. *Thamnotaea leucocephala*-

Common and widespread along the Jomosom Trek; seen everywhere in the larger rivers, Seti Khola, Modi Khola, Burungdi Khola (especially common at Birethanti); also seen at Ghorepani and in the stream above Godaveri school and the stream through the R.B.Gardens.

145. *Enicurus scouleri*-

Birethanti: 2 seen on large boulders in Burungdi Khola here, jan 2; 1 seen on jan 9.

146. *Enicurus immaculatus*-

31 dec: one seen from bus between Kathmandu and Mugling in Trisuli gorge, 300-400m.

147. *Enicurus maculatus*-

Khare: 2 seen at length along small stream just below this village, 1700m, jan 2.

148. *Enicurus schistaceus*-

Birethanti: one in Modi Khola at this village, 2 jan; one along the Burungdi Khola gorge higher up near Baajgara, jan 3.

149. *Saxicola leucura*-

Sauhara: male + female along Rapti river west of village, jan 12; found on top of tall grasses on sandy peninsula inside the river; male is very contrasting black and white with small deep orange breast-patch; outer tail-feathers with white fringes, white rump. Female pale and non-descript.

150. *Zoothera dauma*-

Chitwan NP: one flushed from forestfloor inside shady sal-forest, along the "road" from Sauhara to Kasara, jan 13; also seen perched in trees.

(Gokarna: one flushed by A. Wassink inside the forest-park, dec 30).

151. *Zoothera mollissima*-

Bahuntanti: 2 seen inside the beautiful forest above the village on jan 4; one walking up moss-covered branch several m above the ground, near berry-tree with feeding *T. bouboul*; the other one walking off over forestfloor; 2300m+.

2 seen on jan 8: one foraging on forestfloor of slope below trail; the other one seen at length in moss-forest behind the forest-glade with all the *T. cyanurus*, above the trail. This bird was hopping over forestfloor, not very shy and staring all the

time at the observer. Striking features were:
Darkbrown mantle without visible wing-bars; beautiful scallops on belly and flanks; longish, thin bill; pale orangy legs; short tail.

152. *Turdus unicolor*-

Chitwan NP: a few seen on forestfloor of shady sal-forest along the road between Sauhara and Kasara, jan 13; the *Zoothera dauma* was found among them, they were feeding on the ground and only immature/female birds were seen well; shy.

153. *Turdus albocinctus*-

Bahuntanti: one female in the beautiful moss-forest above the village, 2300m+, jan 7; only briefly seen perched high up in tree, brown plumage with rufous tinge and striking dirty-whitish collar.

154. *Turdus bouboul*-

Bahuntanti: 2 males seen foraging in berry-tree in forest above the village, 2300m+, jan 4; the wings were dark-grey and not white like the bird seen in N Thailand.
Several seen flying over forest and flying up from forestfloor at same locality on jan 7-9; a few females and one male were seen perched; shy.

155. *Turdus ruficollis atrogularis*-

Ghorepani: one seen on slope of Poon Hill near the Deorali at 2800m+, jan 6; perched at length in top of tall tree, seen quite far below us; broken blackish band across breast, whitish belly; greyish upperparts, short and pale supercilium.

156. *Turdus viscivorus*-

Ghorepani: 2 seen at 2700m in tall, open forest, jan 4.

157. *Troglodytes troglodytes*-

Ghorepani: several birds hiding in the village, jan 4-7.

158. *Cinclus pallasii*-

Pokhara: one above the dam in Seti Khola on jan 1;
Birethanti: at least 4-6 in rivers at the village; very active, chasing each other and singing all the time; at least 2 seen higher up along Buruhgdi Khola, jan 2-3 and 8-9.

159. *Prunella strophiatea*-

Fulchowki: one on grassy bank above the road in open forest near

the summit at 2600m+, dec 28; creeping over the ground, extremely beautiful; bright rosy-orange on supercilium and breast.

Ulleri: one seen at 2100m+, on jan '3-4; also seen perched in bamboo.

160. *Parus rubidiventris*-

Ghorepani: common in forest between Nayathanti and Ghorepani and the most frequently seen and heard bird in the silent forests above Ghorepani; orange on belly restricted to centre, flanks and sides of belly grey.

161. *Parus dichrous*-

Ghorepani: almost as common as *P. rubidiventris*, usually in mixed parties.

162. *Sylviparus modestus*-

A few seen on Fulchowki, flock above Nayathanti and small flocks at Ghorepani; common above Bahuntanti.

163. *Sitta himalayensis*-

Fulchowki: common from 1800-2000m onwards, single birds and small parties frequently seen;

common at Bahuntanti and in forests up to Nayathanti.

The white in the tail is difficult to see: the spots on the uppertail are usually covered by the wingtips!

164. *Tichodroma muraria*-

Godaveri: one beautiful bird seen along the river at the marble quarry, 15-1600m, dec 29; foraging and flying along stone wall above the river, as well as the giant boulders in the river, seen running over the stone wall.

165. *Certhia familiaris*-

Fulchowki: several seen at 18-2000m and in ravine, 16-1700m; warm buffy orange on flanks and rump-patch; white throat and breast; apparently very different from the European ones.

166. *Certhia nipalensis*-

Nayathanti-Bahuntanti: one seen near the first village, a few seen near the second, 2300-2400m, jan 4 and jan 7;

Ghorepani: a few seen at the village and on Ghandrung ridge, up to 3000m, jan 5. Striking features were: rufous rump; rich orange buff on flanks, more extensive than *C. familiaris*; very distinct white supercilium curving down behind dark ear-patch and meeting white of cheeks.

167. *Anthus roseatus*-

Sauhara: several small flocks (more than 100 birds altogether?), along Rapti river, jan 12; several in fields along narrow canals of village opposite Sauhara, inside the park, jan 13.
Call like *A. spinoletta*; pale legs; broad and pale supercilium; heavily streaked and spotted on breast; distinct blackish streaking on upperparts. None of the birds had a trace of rosy on throat.

168. *Motacilla maderaspatensis*-

Gokarna: one on the lawn of the forest-park on dec 30.
(confusingly similar to male *M. alba alboides*).
Kathmandu-Pokhara: a few seen from the bus in the river gorges along the way, dec 31.
Sauhara: a few present in Rapti river.

169. *Aethopyga ignicauda*-

Pulchowki: males in winter plumage and females seen daily at the foot of the mountain, mainly in isolated trees above Godaveri, 1550-1700m.

170. *Aethopyga siparaja*-

Naudanda: one splendid male, seen in bushes from balcony of our hotel at 1430m, jan 1.

171. *Passer rutilans*-

Ulleri: a few in fields near Bahuntanti, 2200m+, one singing male, jan 4.

172. *Coccothraustes melanozanthos*-

Pulchowki: a flock of more than 30, beautiful males and females, feeding in tree high up inside the ravine, 16-1700m, dec 26.
Later the same day, twice a flock of 20+ flying over, higher up the mountain; a small flock feeding in trees at 18-2000m on the mountain, dec 27.

173. *Leucosticte nemoricola*-

Ghorepani: a flock of more than 20, on grassy slopes above our hotel, 2775m, jan 5. A few birds seen perched in small trees; non-descript pale greyish-brown plumage, pale patches in wing; tail long and forked with much white in it; sharp bill.
On jan 6, up to 50 in a large flock, on Ghandrung ridge, feeding on seeds of grasses at edges of snow-patches.

174. *Carpodacus nipalensis*-

Khare: 3 males seen in bushes just below the village, 1600m+, jan 2. A typical "zick" call was heard, more birds were present, but not seen.

Bahuntanti: small flocks of males and females were seen at forest edges below the village, high above Ulleri, 2200m+, jan 8.

175. *Carpodacus rhodochrous*-

Pulchowki: male and female seen at open forest edges and in grasses near the summit, 25-2600m, dec 28; More *Carpodacus* sp. heard, but the birds were quite shy.

Ghorepani: 2 males and 2 females, seen at length, with foraging group of *C. pulcherrimus*, on grass-slope next to Poon Hill Hotel, 2775m, jan 5-6.

176. *Carpodacus rhodopeplus*-

Ghorepani: up to 3 females seen on grass-slope of Poon Hill Hotel, 2775m, jan 5-6; one female seen near the Deorali on jan 5; Striking features were: large size; very broad buffy eyebrow contrasting with blackish ear-coverts; pale edges to wings; one had some whitish streaks on back (Picture in Ali & Dick).

Bahuntanti: 3-4 females and one splendid male were seen below forestedge high above Ulleri, 2200m+, jan 8.

The call-note was diagnostic, a loud *Carduelis*-like "tjulie".

177. *Carpodacus pulcherrimus*-

Ghorepani: small flocks (up to 50 birds altogether) on grassy slopes around Poon Hill Hotel, 2775m, jan 5-7; The birds were not very shy and many males and females were seen at length; they were foraging on seeds of the dry grasses on the sunny slope, together with 2 other *Carpodacus* sp. Small flocks were also seen in forest undergrowth and on grass-slopes of Ghandrung ridge and high above our hotel. The striking call sounds very much like a sparrow.

178. *Loxia curvirostra*-

Ghorepani: small flock flying over Ghandrung ridge, 2900m, on jan 5; not seen well, but call-note diagnostic.

179. *Propyrrhula subhimachala*-

Ghorepani: one female seen, inside silent broadleaf-rododendron forest on slopes of Poon Hill, 2900m, jan 6.

The bird was silently feeding on seeds several meters up in tree and was observed for more than 10 min; typical short and heavy, blackish bill (like *Pinicola*); yellow on breast and eyebrow, typically scalloped; greenish on wings; quite large.

180. *Pyrrhula nipalensis*-

Pulchowki: 3-5 seen at 2400m+ in tops of trees, broadleaf-forest, only one seen well, perched, dec 27.

2 seen flying into treetops and seen perched, the musical call was tape-recorded, 2300m+, jan 18.