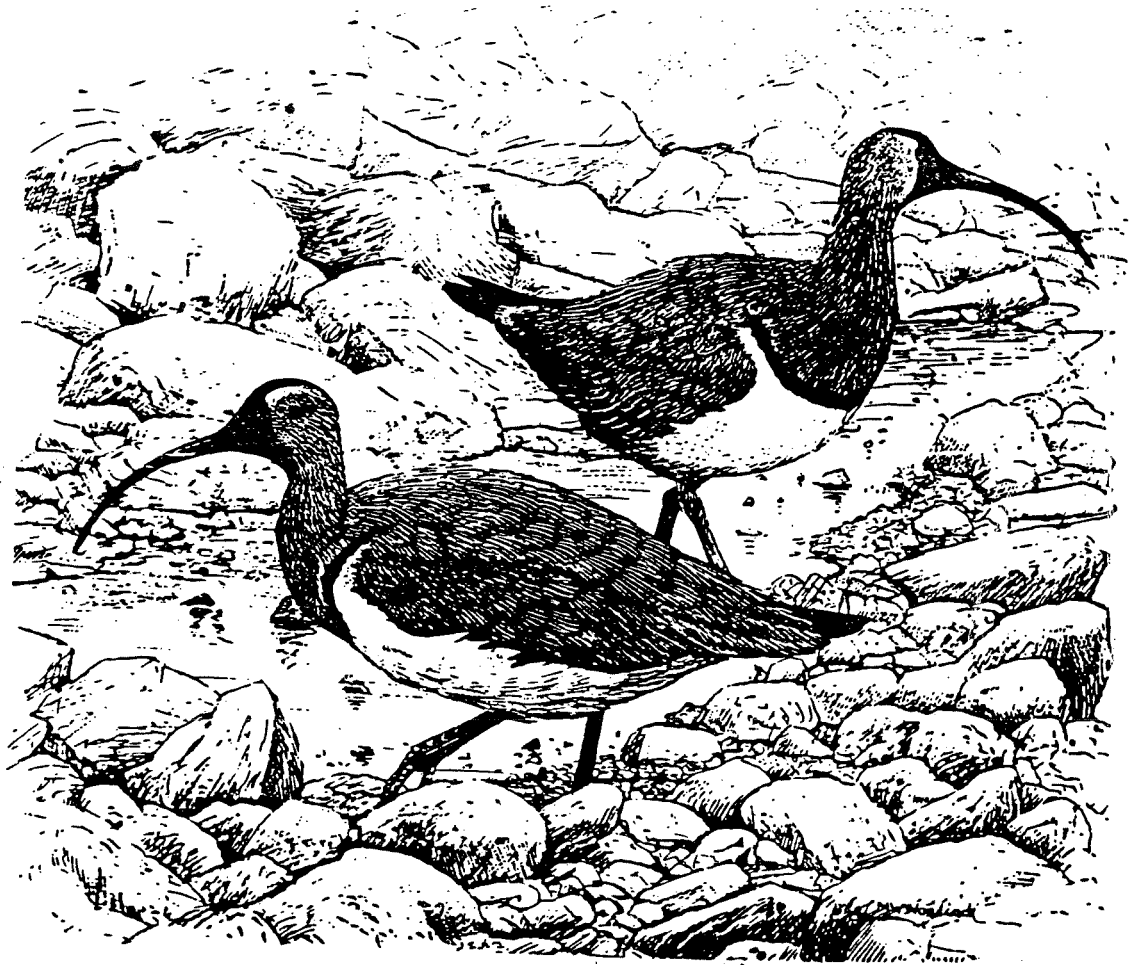


Northern Part of the
Indian Subcontinent.

87

TURIN et.al. (1987)



INTRODUCTION

This report deals with observations made on a journey to India and Nepal during the first half of 1987. We were three observers - two of us came to the Subcontinent on January 7th., after 6 1/2 months birding in South-East Asia. The third joined in on 4th. of February. From that time we travelled together except for a few days on the Everest-trek.

India is a huge country so you have to restrict yourself on where you want to go. We concentrated on the northern part, which in wintertime holds great numbers of palaeoartic migrants appealing to the european visitor. Also this part of the country has many easily accessible, topclass birding-areas, covering a wide range of habitats, from deserts to lush jungles. As spring arrives Hiamalya is the place to be. Go trekking! Nepal holds the most popular trekkingroutes but you might also consider the Indian Himalaya.

Each year large numbers of birders visit places like Bharatpur and Chitwan N.P., which boasts well-established check-lists. Several treks are well visited by ornithologists, e.g. Langtang and Jomosom-trek, but it is by far more interesting and often also more rewarding to visit little-known areas. Very little birding has been done in West-Nepal, Chilka Lake deserves regular countings, etc.etc. Try doing something extra and visit areas like these, in this way you can for example help seeking out valuable sites for future conservation - before it is too late!

In Denmark you can contact "Dansk Ornitologisk Forenings Arbejdsgruppe for International Fuglebeskyttelse", DAFIF, if you want further information on little-known places to visit. Just write to DAFIF c/o DOF, etc.

In our site-lists numbers are maximum for one day.
We hope you can use this report in some way.

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Bulowsvej 12

1870 Frb. C
DENMARK

Morten Heegaard
Viborggade 38

2100 Kbh. Ø
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Litterature:

Ali, S. & Ripley, S.D. (1983): "Handbook to the Birds of India and Pakistan". Compact Edition.

Ali, S., Ripley, S.D. & Dick, H. (1983): "A Pictorial Guide to the Birds of the Indian Subcontinent"

Fleming, R.L., Fleming R.L., and Bangdel, L.S. (1979): "Birds of Nepal"

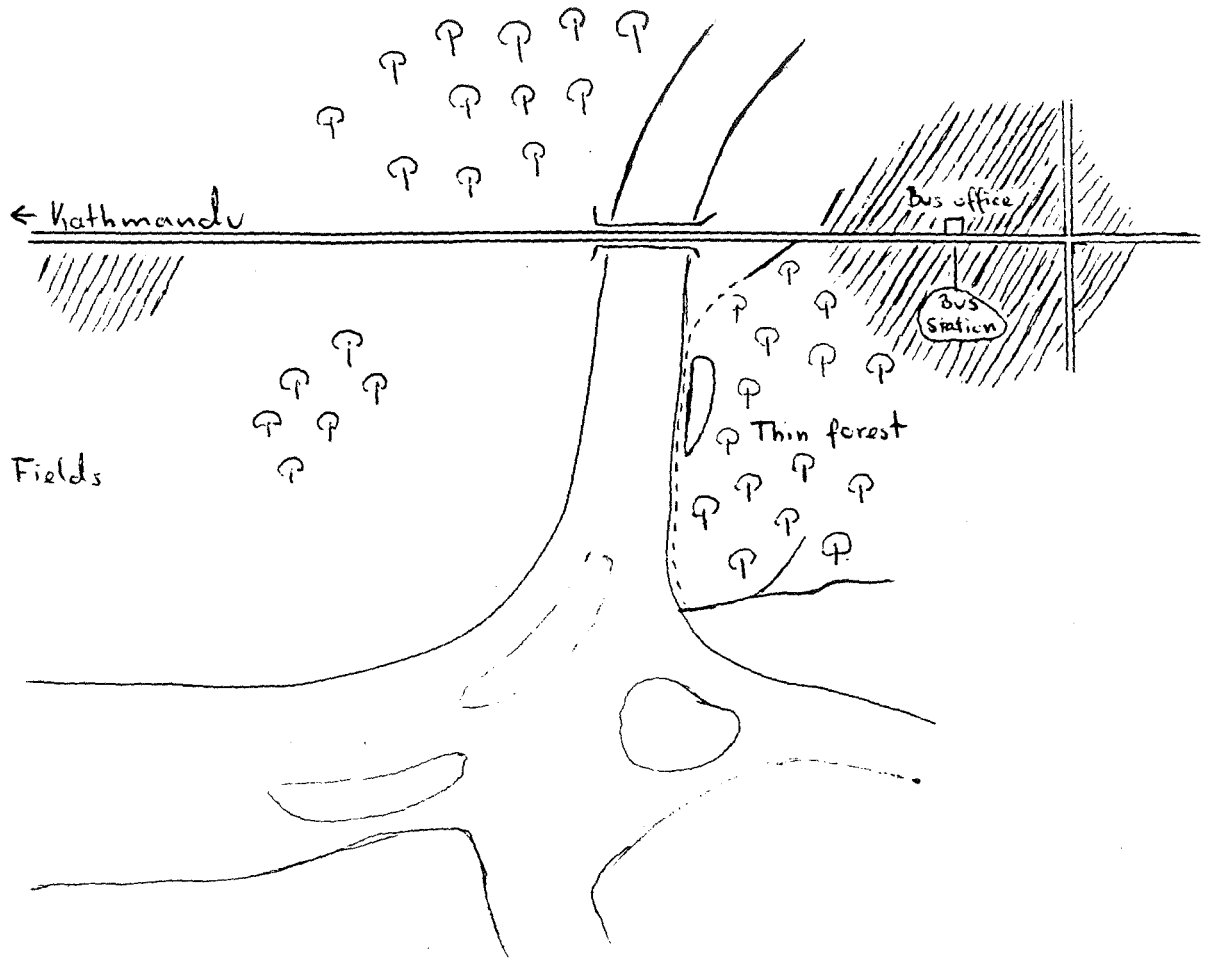
Bezruchka, Stephen: "A Guide to Trekking in Nepal" (the best Trekking-book available, a wealth of information and detailed route description)

Inskipp, C. & Inskipp, T. (1985): "A Guide to the Birds of Nepal"

Frater, S.H. (1980): "The Book of Indian Animals".

HETAURA

The stony riverbed near Hetaura is a traditional wintering area for Ibisbill, but even though we spent two days in the area we did not find any. The breeding season for this species begins in ult. March. Therefore it is most probable that the birds had left for the breeding areas when we arrived on the 8th. of March. Hetaura is easily reached with regular busses from Kathmandu. Several hotels at reasonable prices can be found. It is worth spending some time in the forests around the village, Ibisbill is not the only bird to be seen at Hetaura.



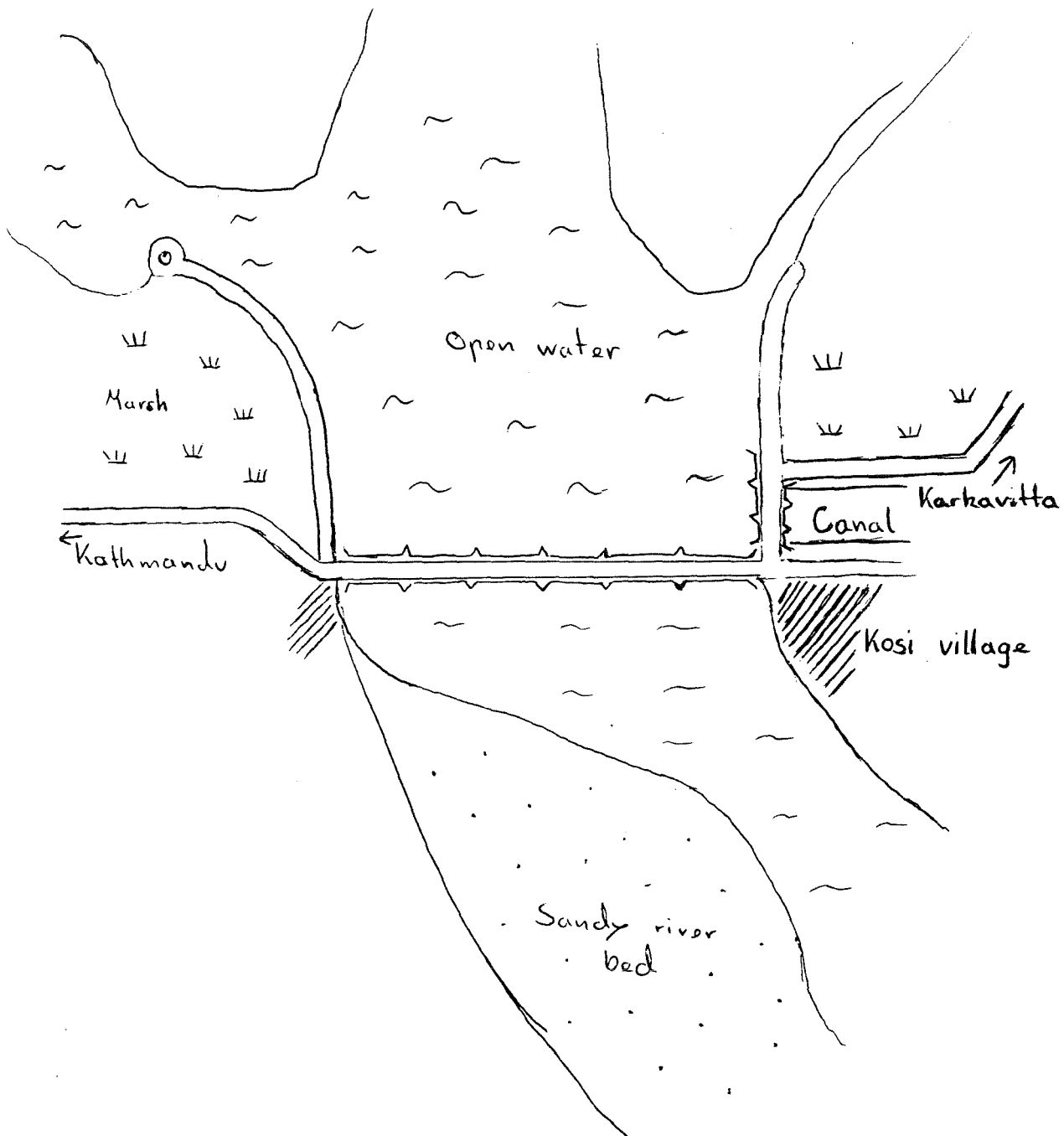
Cormorant 15	Goosander 2
Little green heron 1	Black kite 20
Pond heron 4	Sparrowhawk 1
Cattle egret 1220	Longlegged buzzard 1
Little egret 167	Whiteeyed buzzard 1
Openbill stork 1	Osprey 1
Whitenecked stork 1	Griffon vulture 1
Black ibis 16	Indian whitebacked vulture 4
Ruddy shelduck 50	Kestrel 1
Wigeon 16	Small indian pratincole 3

Stone curlew 2
Redwattled lapwing 6
River lapwing 8
Little ringed plover 10
Greenshank 7
Green sandpiper 3
Common sandpiper 14
Temmincks stint 5
Rufous turtledove 4
Spotted dove 2
Alexandrine parakeet 8
Roseringet parakeet 60
Blossomheaded parakeet 25
Common hawk-cuckoo 4
Alpine swift 2
House swift 300
Common kingfisher 2
Storkbilled kingfisher 1
Whitebreasted kingfisher 3
Indian roller 4
Wryneck 1
Lesser goldenbacked woodpecker 2
Fulvousbreasted woodpecker 1
Bush lark 2
sand lark 10
Plain sand martin 30
Redrumped swallow 8
Rufousbacked shrike 1
Brown shrike 2
Black drongo 7
Spanglet drongo 5
Ashy swallow-shrike 15
Greyheaded myna 7

Common myna 130
Jungle myna 20
Indian treepie 1
Jungle crow++
Whitecheeked bulbul 8
Redvented bulbul 3
Redbreasted flycatcher 2
Verditer flycatcher 2
Tailorbird 1
Blyths reed warbler 1
Booted warbler 4
Chiffchaff 3
Dusky leaf warbler 1
Rubythroat 3
Himalayan rubythroat 4
Bluethroat 1
Magpie robin 4
Hodgsons redstart 1
Plumbeous redstart 1
Stonechat 4
Pied bush chat 3
River chat 1
Golden mountain thrush 1
Vinaceousbreasted pipit 3
Paddyfield pipit 4
White wagtail ++
Yellow wagtail 1
Grey wagtail 1
Large pied wagtail 8
House sparrow ++
Tree sparrow 15
Crested bunting 1

KOSI BARRAGE

Kosi Barrage is undoubtedly the most important area for migrating herons, ducks, waders etc. in Nepal. Areas of marshes border the river and hold lots of birds. Largest numbers of ducks are usually seen in mid-February, while waders pass through between February and mid-May. In the marshes many warblers and buntings are seen. Kosi Barrage is easily reached by daily busses from Kathmandu to Karavitta and the journey is about 12 hours. We stayed at Narayan who runs the only restaurant in the village.



Little grepe 4	Imperial eagle 1
great crested crepe 10	Steppe eagle 1
Comorant 18	Greater spotted eagle 1
Little comorant 400	Pallas fishing eagle 1
Darter 1	Griffon vulture 1
Grey heron 7	Indian whitebacked vulture 15
Purple heron 3	Egyptian vulture 2
Cattle egret 10	Hen herrier 1
pond egret 15	Pied herrier 1
Large egret 4	Marsh herrier 3
Smaller egret 10	Booted eagle 1
Little egret 80	Osprey 1
Chestnut bittern 1	Peregeine falcon 2
Openbill stork 35	Kestrel 2
Whitenecked stork 35	Baillions crake 3
Black stork 1	Moorhen 3
Blacknecked stork 5	Purple moorhen 50
Adjutant 2	Pheasanttailed jacarna 3
Lesser adjutant 4	Bronzewinget jacarna 2
White ibis 6	Painted snipe 1
Black ibis 40	Blackwinged stilt 2
Spoonbill 10	Small indian pratincole 300
Barheaded goose 40	Stone plover 2
Lesser whistling teal 1300	Great stone plover 2
Ruddy shelduck 280	Lapwing 10
Pintail 14000	Redwattled lapwing 10
Common teal 100	Eastern golden plover 8
Spotbilled duck 50	Curlew 250
Mallard 150	Greenshank 100
Gadwall 2200	Green sandpiper 2
Falcated teal 2	Wood sandpiper 1
Wiegong 600	Common sandpiper 8
Gargany 1800	Pintail snipe 7
Showeller 200	Fantail snipe 12
Redcrested pochard 50	Temmincks stint 4
Common pochard 20	Herring gull 2
Ferruginous duck 15	Great blackheaded gull 4
Blackwinged kite 3	Blackheaded gull 1
Black kite 8	Slenderbilled gull 1
Brahamy kite 2	Gullbilled tern 1

Hetauna Baited Warbler
Kosi Barrage 10-13/3/87 Slender-billed Gull
and Black-headed Bunting (1)

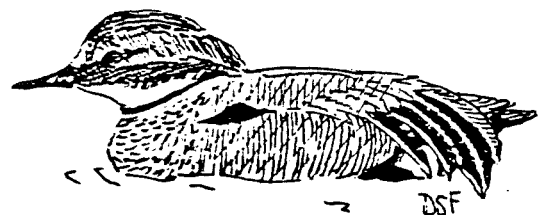
Barun valley 23/3 - 14/4/87
Crimson Rosefinch (2)

Lamtang valley 18/4 - 2/5/87
Satyr Tragopan ♀ on nest + 4 eggs
Honeyguide presumably 3 birds

Twin et. al. (1987) part

Caspian tern 5
 Indian river tern 100
 Blackbellied tern 10
 Little tern 5
 Indian ring dove 5
 Spotted dove 4
 Roseringet parakeet 1
 Lesser coucal 1
 Spotted owlet 1
 Lesser pied kingfisher 2
 Common kingfisher 4
 Storkbilled kingfisher 2
 Whitebreasted kingfisher 1
 Green bee-eater 3
 Indian roller 6
 Hoopoe 2
 Coppersmith 1
 Wryneck 3
 Bush lark 10
 Ashycrowned finch-lark 5
 Sand lark 4
 Plain sand martin 4
 Swallow 200
 Redrumped swallow 8
 Rufousbacked shrike 2
 Brown shrike 3
 Black drongo 8
 Pied myna ++
 Common myna ++
 Bank myna 10
 Indian treepie 1
 House crow 7
 Large cuckoo-shrike 1
 Redwhiskered bulbul 1
 Redvented bulbul 4
 Striated babbler 12
 Redbreasted flycatcher 1
 Verditer flycatcher 2
 Whitethroated fantail 1
 Paradise flycatcher 1
 Fantail warbler 3
 Plain wren-warbler 1

Yellowbellied wren-warbler 2
 Tailorbird 1
 Striated marsh warbler 2
 Thickbilled warbler 2
 Blyths reed warbler 1
 Paddyfield warbler 2
 Tickells warbler 5
 Smoky warbler 2
 Dusky warbler 10
 Yellowbrowed warbler 1
 Dull green warbler 1
 Rubythroat 1
 bluethroat 12
 Magpie robin 1
 Black redstrat 1
 Stonechat 15
 Pied bush chat 2
 River chat 1
 Paddyfield pipit 4
 Vinaceousbreasted pipit 12
 Yellow wagtail 15
 Yellowheaded wagtail 5
 White wagtail 10
 Large pied wagtail 2
 Purple sunbird 4
 House sparrow 30
 Spotted munia 1
 Avadavat 8
 Yellow breasted bunting 50
 Blackfaced bunting 2
 Little bunting 8
 Blackheaded bunting 1



KATHMANDU VALLEY

The Kathmandu Valley still contains some good forest, but because of the collecting of firewood it is decreasing rapidly.

The birdrichest area is Godaveri Botanical Gardens and the Mountain Pulchowki. You can get to the place with taxi or busses. The bus leaves from the busstand near the temple-lake by Ratnapark, (first bus: 5.00 a.m.) and you have to change in Lagankhel. Because of the bad connections it can take more than 1 1/2 hour to get to Godaveri.

One morning we got a taxi to the top of the mountain, and it costed 500 Rps. for 5 persons.

It's quite a struggle to walk all the way to the top of Pulchowki (about 15 km. and more than 1200 meters rise!), but you can see how the vegetations and avifauna is changing with the heights, so it's worth the work. For example Goldheaded Blackfinch where seen where a gulley goes to the right at the beginning and cirka 2 hairpin-curves after a little house on a view-point (c. 4 km. up) we found Cutia.

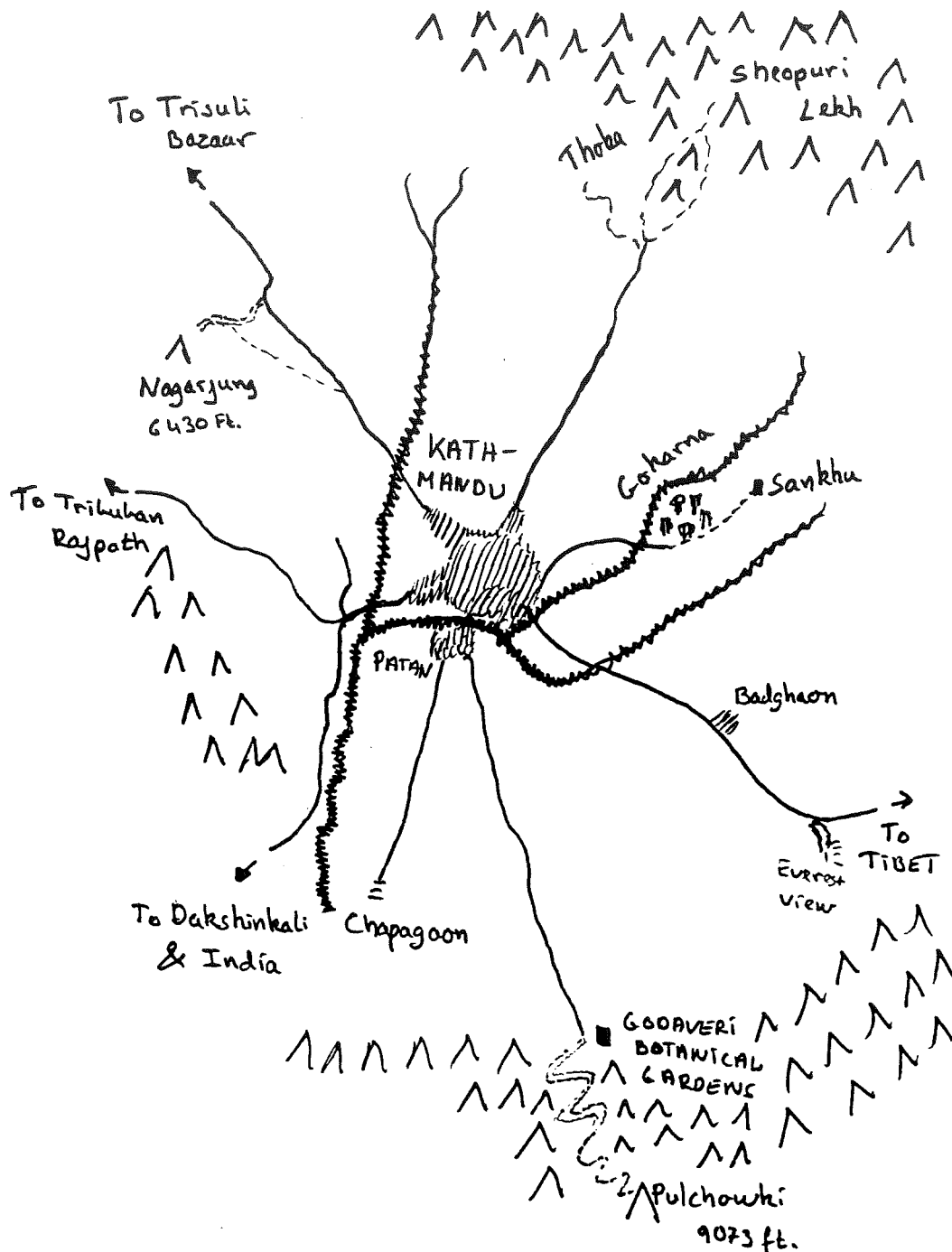
The Botanical Gardens are open parklike areas, and contains some birds, specially thrushes and flycatchers.

Another area is the Gokarna Safari Park, which is situated about 5 km. NE of the town, and easily reached by bike. In the park there is some tame animals as elephant, blackbuck and peafowl, but early in the morning there are no people and a lot of birds in the subtropical forest. Also look around the river and the surrounding fields.

A last place which we visited was Thoka Hospital near Sheopuri. The trail climbs up several kilometers through open scrubland, an ideal habitat for the only Nepalic endemic, Spiny Babbler, but it is a skulker and we didn't find it. We biked to the bottom of the mountain (ca. 10 km. NNE), and walked up.

We didn't go to Nagarjung or Sheopuri, but both of the places are said to be good (Inskipp).





GODAVERI & PULCHOWKI 15, 18, 20, 21/3 + 11/5

Cattle Egret 20	Kaleej Pheasant 1♂
Black Kite 1	Woodcock 1
Shikra 3	Bartailed Cuckoo-dove 4
Hodgsons Hawkeagle 1	Rufous Turtledove 2
Booted Eagle 1 dark	Blossomheaded Parakeet 1
Steppeagle 1	Indian Cuckoo 3
Black Eagle 1	Oriental Cuckoo 1
Indian Whitebacked Vulture 1	Barred Owlet 1
Crested Serpenteagle 1	Houseswift 20
Peregrine Falcon 1	Great Hill Barbet 7
Kestrel 1	Goldthroated Barbet 5

Bluethroated Barbet 2
 Speckled Piculet 1
 Blacknaped Green Woodpecker 1
 Greater Yellownaped Woodpecker 1
 Small Yellownaped Woodpecker 1
 Rufousbellied Woodpecker 3
 Darjeeling Pied Woodpecker 1
 Crimsonbreasted Pied Woodpecker 3
 Redrumped Swallow 5
 Maroon Oriole 6
 Black Drongo 3
 Bronzed Drongo 6
 Lesser Rackettailed Drongo 1
 Common Myna c. 30
 Redcrowned Jay 9
 Redbilled Blue Magpie 1
 Himalayan Treepie 3
 Housecrow c. 20
 Junglecrow 5
 Shortbilled Minivet c. 12
 Longtailed Minivet 10
 Orangebellied Leafbird 8
 Whitecheeked Bulbul 35
 Redvented Bulbul 15
 Striated Green Bulbul 2
 Rufousbellied Bulbul 3
 Black Bulbul 14
 Scalybreasted Wrenbabbler 1
 Lesser Scalybreasted Wrenbabbler 1
 Whitethroated Laughingthrush 60
 Striated Laughingthrush 8
 Whitecrested Laughingthrush 15
 Rufouschinned Laughingthrush 1
 Whitespotted Laughingthrush 1 ♀
 Redheaded Laughingthrush 20
 Redbilled Leiothrix 1
 Nepal Cutia 2
 Redwinged Shrikebabbler 7
 Hoary Barwing 2
 Redtailed Minla 1
 Barthroated Siva 6

Bluewinged Siva 4
 Yellownaped Yuhina 30
 Stripethroated Yuhina 5
 Rufousvented Yuhina 3
 Whitebellied Yuhina 1
 Chestnutheaded Titbabbler 12
 Whitebrowed Titbabbler c. 20
 Nepal Babbler 30
 Blackcapped Sibia c. 35
 Sooty Flycatcher 1
 Redbreasted Flycatcher 4
 Orangegorgetted Flycatcher 5
 Rustybreasted Blue Flycatcher 1 ♂
 Little Pied Flycatcher 1 ♀
 Whitebrowed Blue Flycatcher 1 ♂
 Small Niltava 10
 Rufousbellied Niltava 1 ♂
 Verditer Flycatcher 6
 Greyheaded Flycatcher 6
 Yellowbellied Fantail
 Flycatcher 2
 Dull Slatybellied Ground-
 warbler 1
 Chestnutheaded Ground-
 warbler 1
 Aberrant Bushwarbler 1
 Rufouscapped Bushwarbler 1
 Tailorbird 2
 Chiff Chaff 1
 Orangebarred Leafwarbler 30
 Yellowbrowed Leafwarbler 4
 Pallas' Leafwarbler 8
 Greyfaced Leafwarbler 8
 Large Crowned Leafwarbler 5
 Blyth's Leafwarbler 12
 Blackbrowed Flycatcher-
 warbler 10
 Greyheaded Flycatcher-
 warbler 2
 Blackfaced Flycatcher-
 warbler 4

ARUN/BARUN VALLEY

23.3.-14.4.87 we went trekking in Arun/Barun Valleys in eastern Nepal. We flew from Kathmandu to Tumlingtar (203 Rp. student discount). From Tumlingtar airfield the path leads through very cultivated land with rice- and cornfields to Khandbari. Khandbari is a bazaar town and the last place food can be bought! We continued to Bhotebas, a village surrounded by hillsides covered with scrub and cultivation. From Bothebas we went to Sakurate, and the day after we stopped for the night in Num. This part of the trip leads through scrub and small areas covered with subtropical forest. From Num the path descends steeply to Arun River, that has rich subtropical forest on its banks, and climbs to Sheduwa. Small patches of subtropical forest remain around the village. From Sheduwa we continued to Tashigoan through little cultivated land, and beyond Tashigoan no cultivation exists. From Tashigoan we climbed through moist temperate forest with mosses, ferns and orchids, and later getting closer to Khongma, through forest with undergrowth of bamboo. Khongma lies among rhododendron forest, but when we arrived everything was covered with snow. Walking from Khongma to Mumbuk you have to cross three passes to get into the Barun Valley. When we did that on the 1st of April, there was huge amounts of snow, and the crossing had been impossible without a local guide. In Barun Valley we spent 6 days and walked as far as Merak. This valley is clothed in rhododendron forest as far as Yangri. From there conifers and juniper gradually take over up to app. 4100 m. From there the vegetation is dominated by alpine flora and scrubs. On the way back we used the same route until Tashigaon, from where we walked on the west-side of the river towards Tumlingtar. Tashigaon to Navagaon is a short walk through light forest. The day after we continued to Wahlong, walking through patches of excellent forest. Good forest at this altitude (app. 1800 m) is very rarely found because of widespread deforestation. From Wahlong to Akshua the landscape changes with more cultivation, but still some original vegetation can be found. From Akshua via Bumling to Tumlingtar everything turns into cultivation.

As there are no lodges in this area you will need camping-equipment, and nearly all food have to be bought in Khandbari. Therefore it is necessary to hire porter, and even if you do not enter the Barun Valley it is a good idea to hire a guide. Porter costs Rs 50 a day and a guide Rs 70.

When we entered Barun Valley it was still early spring, and very few birds had arrived, therefore it would be better to do the trek later. May would be a good time in upper Arun and Barun.

The following abbreviations are used:

Tu	Tumlingtar	Kb	Khandbari	Bb	Bhotebas
Sa	Sakurate	Nu	Num	Se	Sheduwa
Ta	Tashigaon	Km	Konghma	Mu	Mumbuk
Ya	Yangri	Ne	Nehe	Me	Merak
Na	Navagaon	Wa	Wahlong	Ak	Akshua
Bu	Bumling				

Numbers are maximum in a day.

Comorant 1 Tu-Kb	Indian roller 4 Bu-Tu
Little egret 2 Bu-Tu	Great hill barbet 2 Ak-Bu
Whitenecked stork 6 Kb-Bb	Bluethroated barbet 4 Ak-Bu
Goosander 3 Tu-Kb	Himalayan swiftlet 30 Kb-Bb
Black kite 20 Sa	Alpine swift 4 Bu
Goshawk 2 Kb-Bb	House swift 8 Kb
Shikra 1 Nu-Se	Darjeeling pied woodpecker 3 Ta-Km
Besra sparrowhawk 2 Ta	Redeared bay woodpecker 3 Sa
Upland buzzard 1 Nu	Eastern skylark 2 Nu
Buzzard 2 Ne	Swallow 60 Kb-Bb
Changeable hawk-eagle 2 Tu-Kb	Redrumped swallow 15 Ak-Bu
Steppeeagle 2 Sa	Nepal house martin 50 Se-Ta
Black eagle 1 Kb-Bb	Greybacked shrike 1 Ak-Bu
✓ King vulture 4 Tu-Kb	Rufousbacked shrike 4 Sa-Nu
Griffon vulture 2 Tu-Kb	Maroon oriole 2 Sa-Nu
Himalayan griffon 2 Tu-Kb	Black drongo 7 Nu-Se
✓ Indian whitebacked vultu- re 10 Tu-Kb	Ashy drongo 1 Na-Wa
Lammergeier 1 Ya-Me	Spanglet dronbo 10 Bu-Tu
Hen herrier 3 Sa	Spottedwinget stare 1 Bu-Tu
Kestrel 2 Wa-Ak	Greyheaded myna 3 Tu
Snow partridge 10 Km-Mu	Common myna 30 Kb-Bb
Blood pheasant 4 Ya-Mu	House crow 6 Tu
Monal pheasant 2 Mu	Jungle crow 8 Sa-Nu
Kaleej pheasant 2 Ta	Green magpie 3 Bb-Sa
Redwattled lapwing 2 Tu	Yellowbilled blue magpie 2 Ta
Common sandpiper 1 Tu	Redbilled blue magpie 2 Bu-Tu
Yellowlegged green pigeon 4 Bu-Tu	Indian treepie 2 Bu-Tu
Snow pigeon 19 Ne	Himalayan treepie 5 Nu-Se
Rufous turtle dove 1 Kb-Bb	Nutcracker 2 Ta-Km
Red turtle dove 1 Kb-Bb	Redbilled chough 90 Ya-Me
Spotted dove 6 Bu-Tu	Large cuckoo-shrike 2 Tu-Kb
Blossomheaded parakeet 4 Tu	Smaller grey cuckooshrike 1 Nu-Se
Large hawk-cuckoo 1 Se-Ta	Shortbilled minivet 6 Ta
Cuckoo 4 Wa-Ak	Longtailed minivet 2 Ta
Barred owlet 1 Se	Scarlet minivet 2 Ak-Bu
Himalayan pied kingfisher 1 Bu-Tu	Goldenfronted leafbird 4 Bu-Tu
Common kingfisher 1 Bu-Tu	Orangebellied leafbird 3 Ak-Bu
Whitebreasted kingfisher 1 Bu-Tu	Whitecheeked bulbul 15 Kb-Bb
	Redvented bulbul 20 Kb-Bb
	Striated green bulbul 2 Ta

Black bulbul 15 Ak-Bu	Slaty blue flycatcher 1 Nu-Se
Spotted babbler 2 Tu	Rufousbellied niltava 2 Ta-Na
Rustycheeked scimitar babbler 8 Tu	Verditer flycatcher 4 Ta
Scalybreasted wren-babbler 1 Sa	Greyheaded flycatcher 2 Ta
Lesser scalybreasted wren- babbler 2 Sa-Nu	Dull slatybellied ground- warbler 1 Sa
Redheaded babbler 14 Ta	Chestnutheaded bround-warbler 5 Ta
Redbilled babbler 3 Ak-Bu	Abrrant bush warbler 1 Sa-Nu
Whitethroated laughing thrush 20 Wa-Ak	Brown hill warbler 2 Se-Ta
Striated laughing thrush 10 Ta	Tailorbird 2 Se-Ta
Whitecrested laughing thrush 12 Ak-Bu	Orangebarred leaf warbler 8 Ta
Bluewinged laughing thrush 1 Ta	Yellowbrowed leaf warbler 4 Ta
Plaincoloured laughing thrush 20 Ta	Pallas leaf warbler 8 Ta
Blackfaced laughing thrush 30 Ya	Grey faced leaf warbler 10 Ta
Redheaded laughing thrush 5 Ta	Largebilled leaf warbler 1 Tu
Redwinged shrike-babbler 2 Sa	Blyths leaf warbler 2 Se-Ta
Chestnutheaded shrike-babbler 3 Na-Wa	Blackbrowed flycatcher warbler 4 Ta
Hoary barwing 2 Ta	Greyheaded flycatcher warbler 6 Na-Wa
Redtailed 4 Ta	Chestnutheaded flycatcher war- bler 6 Ta
Barthroated siva 17 Bb-Sa	Blackfaced flycatcher warbler 4 Ta
Bluewinged siva 1 Ta-Na	Lesser shortwing 1 Bb-Sa
Yellownaped yuhina 20 Km-Ta	Rubythroat 3 Tu
Stripedthroated yuhina 5 Na-Wa	Whitebrowed bush robin 4 Km-Mu
Rufousvented yuhina 1 Km Mu	Rufousbellied bush robin 2 Mu
Blackchinned yuhina 3 Wa-Ak	Magpie robin 2 Bu-Tu
Chestnutheaded tit-babbler 10 Ta	Black redstart 1 Bu-Tu
Whitebrowed tit-babbler 2 Km	Hodgsons redstart 3 Kb-Bb
Blackcapped sibia 30 Ta	Bluefronted redstart 6 Ya-Me
Redbreasted flycatcher 2 Sa-Ta	Plumbeous redstart 1 Ak-Bu
Orangeforgotteed flycatcher 6 Ta	Hodgsons grandala 1 Mu-Km
Rufousbreasted flycatcher 1 Sa-Nu	Little forktail 2 Se-Ta
Little pied flycatcher 1 Bb-Sa	Stonechat 5 Kb-Bb
Whitebrowed blue flycatcher 1 Bb-Sa	Dark grey bush chat 2 Sa-Nu
	Riverchat 4 Ak-Bu
	Blue rock thrush 1 Ak-Bu
	Blue whistling thrush 2 Se-Ta
	Orangeheaded ground thrush 2 AK-BU

Plainbacked mountain thrush
4 Mu

Longtailed mountain thrush
1 Mu

Large brown thrush 1 Mu

Tickells thrush 1 Kb-Bb

Whitecollared blackbird 2 Km

Greywinged blackbird 5 Sa-Nu

Blackthroated thrush 1 Km-Mu

Wren 6 Km-Mu

Brown dipper 3 Ya

Alpine accentor 1 Ta

Rufousbreasted accentor 2
Sa-Nu

Marronbacked accentor 4 Mu

Grey tit 1 Tu

Greenbacked tit 8 Ta

Coal tit 2 Mu

Rufousbreasted crested tit
6 Ta

Brown crested tit 3 Mu

Yellowcheeked tit 4 Se-Ta

Yellowbrowed tit 2 Ta

Redheaded tit 4 Km-Ta

Whitetailed nuthatch 4 Ta-Na

Tree creeper 2 Se-Ta

Nepal tree creeper 4 Mu

Indian tree pipit 15 Kb-Bb

Vinaceousbreasted pipit
100 Me-Ne

Upland pipit 2 Bb-Sa

Grey wagtail 2 Ak-Bu

Large pied wagtail 2 Bu-Tu

Plaincoloured flowerpecker
2 Ak-Bu

Firebreasted flowerpecker
3 Se-Ta

Nepal yellowbacked sunbird
15 Ta

Blackbreasted sunbird
2 Bb-Sa

Firetailed sunbird 7 Mu

House sparrow 30 Bu-Tu

Tree sparrow 12 Tu

Whitebreasted munia 12 Ak-Bu

Allied grosbeak 4 Ne-Mu

Whitewinged grosbeak 12
Me-Ne

Himalayan greenfinch 48 Ta

Hodgsons mountain finch 1 Km

Common rosefinch 30 Bb

Blanfords rosefinch 2 Mu-Km

Spottedwinget rosefinch 1
Ya-Me

Whitebrowed rosefinch 3 Ya-Me

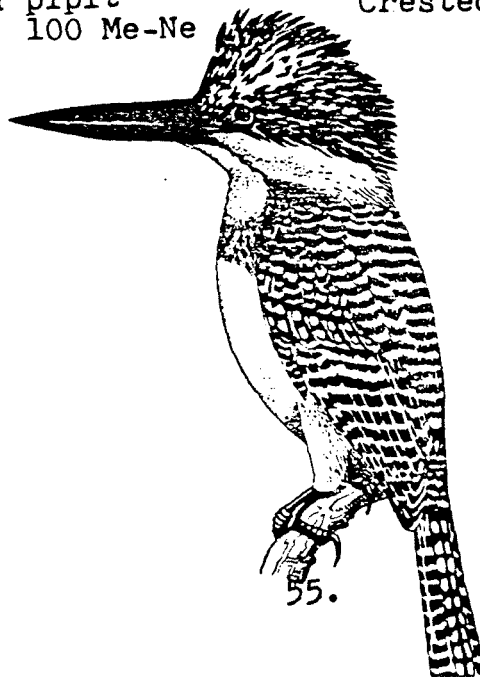
Scarlet finch 3 Ta

Brown bullfinch 4 Ta

Redheaded bullfinch 12 Ta

Little bunting 70 Na-Wa

Crested bunting 2 Nu-Se



LANGTANG-TREK

On this fairly easy and very popular trek it is possible to see a good selection of mountainbirds along with a lot of rare stuff. We were a bit too early, as spring had not arrived at high altitudes - end of May should be the best time for many species. Originally we had planned on doing the Gosainkund-trek too, but a period of bad weather made us change our plans towards Chitwan N.P.

The trek starts with 5 hours crammed bus-ride from Kathmandu to Trisuli where the "bus" to Dhunche leaves 1 p.m., the bus-trip up to Dhunche is one of the worst in Nepal - our bus had a breakdown, so we had to stay overnight at Kaligestan, and the next day we walked the last 20 km. through scrub and fields to Dhunche. The road continues through Barkhu and further on to Syabrubensi.

Between Barkhu and Syabru you pass through quite good habitat. It is well worth spending two full days in Syabru birding its surroundings. One hour uphill from Syabru towards Sing Gompa, just where the trail goes into the forest, is where we found the Tragopans - and their nest!!!

From Syabru the trail takes you along the southbank of the Langtang river, through excellent forest. Look for Honeyguides on the big beecombs hanging on vertical cliffs above the river.

Crossing to the north bank at Langtang River Lodge the forest becomes drier, but in many places it has a good undergrowth of bamboo. At Ghora Tabela (where you get by far the best food on the trek), the forest turns into pastures mixed with rhododendrontrees. From Langtan Village onwards it is low scrub and scree. Ibisbill breeds on the riverflats at Kyangjin.

Lodges are found at close intervals all the way to Kyangjin, so you only need to bring cooking-gear and food with you, if you think of crossing the Ganja La or the Laurabina Pass (Gosainkund-trek).

Tri = Trisuli

Kal = Kaligestan

Dhu = Dhunche

Sya = Syabru

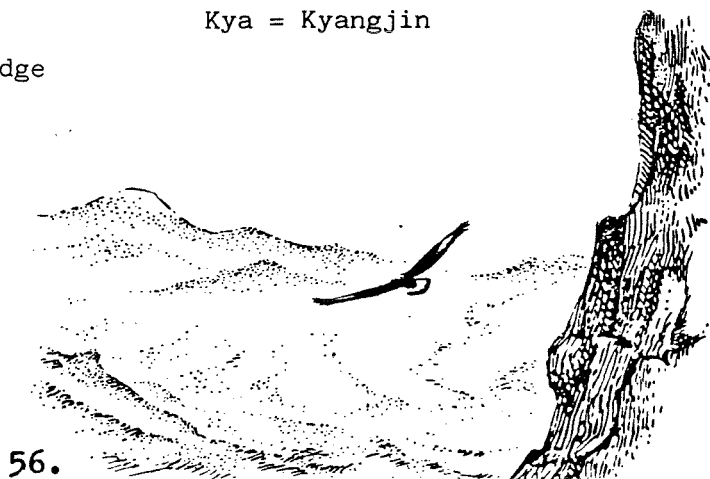
LRL = Langtang River Lodge

Lam = Lama Lodge

Gho = Ghora Tabela

LtV = Langtang Village

Kya = Kyangjin



Blyths leaf warbler 15 Gho-Lam	Rufousbellied crested tit 6 Kya Gho
Blackbrowed flycatcher warbler 2 Dhu-Sya	Brown crested tit 3 Gho
Greyheaded flycatcher warbler 6 Lam-Sya	Yellowbrowed tit 1 Lam-Sya
Chestnutheaded flycatcher warbler 3 Sya-LRL	Redheaede tit 12 Dhu-Sya
Blackfaced flycatcher warbler 6 Sya-LRL	Rufousfronted tit 10 Gho
Blue chat 1 Sya	Whitetailed nuthatch 4 Sya
Orangeflanked bush robin 2 Kya-Gho	Nepal tree creeper 2 Gho
Rufusbellied bush robin 1 Gho	Indian tree pipit Kya-Gho
Bluefronted redstart 10 LtV-Kya	Vinaceousbreasted pipit 30 Kya-Gho
Plumbeous redstart 8 Gho-Lam	Upland pipit 2 Kya
Whitetailed blue robin 1 Sya	Yellowheaded wagtail 1 Kya
Little Forktail 2 Sya	Grey wagtail 6 Gho-Lam
Stonechat 3 Kal-Dhu	White wagtail 2 Kya
Dark grey bush chat 6 Lam-Sya	Yellowbellied flowerpecker 1 Sya-LRL
River chat 4 LtV-Kya	Firebreasted flowerpecker 6 Sya-LRL
Blueheaded rockthrush 5 Dhu-Sya	Mrs.Goulds sunbird 2 Sya
Blue whistling thrush 12 LtV-Gho	Nepal yellowbellied sunbird 2 Sya
Pied ground thrush 4 Sya-LRL	White-eye 4 Sya
Tickells thrush 4 Sya	Tree sparrow ++ Sya
Whitecollared blackbird 2 Sya	Himalayan greenfinch 30 Sya
Greywinged blackbird 1 Sya	Hodgsons mountain finch 50 Kya-Gho
Wren 4-5 Kya	Pinkbrowed rosefinch 3-4 Gho
Brown dipper 1 Dhu-Sya	Spottedwinged rosefinch 3 Gho-LtV
Altai accentor 25 Sya	Beautiful rose finch 10 Kya
Robin accentor 1 Kya	Brown bullfinch 2 Sya-Dhu
Rufousbreasted accentor 7 Kya-Gho	Redheaded bullfinch 3 Sya
Greenbacked tit 5 Lam-Sya	Yellowbreasted bunting 2 Kya
Coal tit 1 Sya	Little bunting 8 Kal-Dhu
	Crested bunting 4 Kal-Dhu



CHITWAN NATIONAL PARK

Royal Chitwan N.P. is situated in the lowlands of Nepal - the Terai - covering 932 km of forest and grassland. Famous for its rhinos, tigers as well as other big mammals, this park provides excellent birding opportunities. We visited the Meghauri-Tiger Tops-area, and coming from the mountains we found a surprising wealth of birds. Many a traveller go to the Sauraha-end of the park further east because of its bigger choice of lodges, rhino-guides etc. but the forest shouldn't be as productive as in the Meghauri-end.

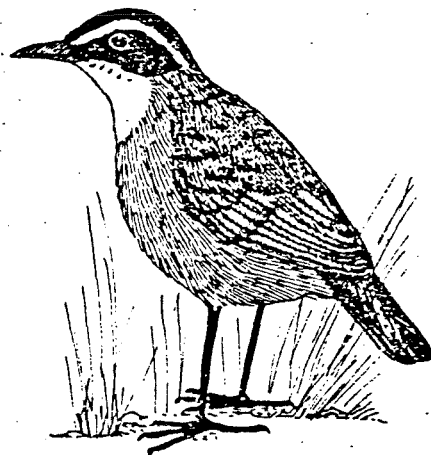
To get to Meghauri-end you go by one of the frequent busses from Kathmandu to Naryangath - about 4-6 hours journey. From Naryangath you get a bus the last 25 km. (2 hours!) to Meghauri/Telhauri - leaves several times during the afternoon. In Telhauri Village Chietl Lodge offers basic accommodation and tasteful meals. Forget all about Tiger Tops: It's 160 US-\$ a night!!

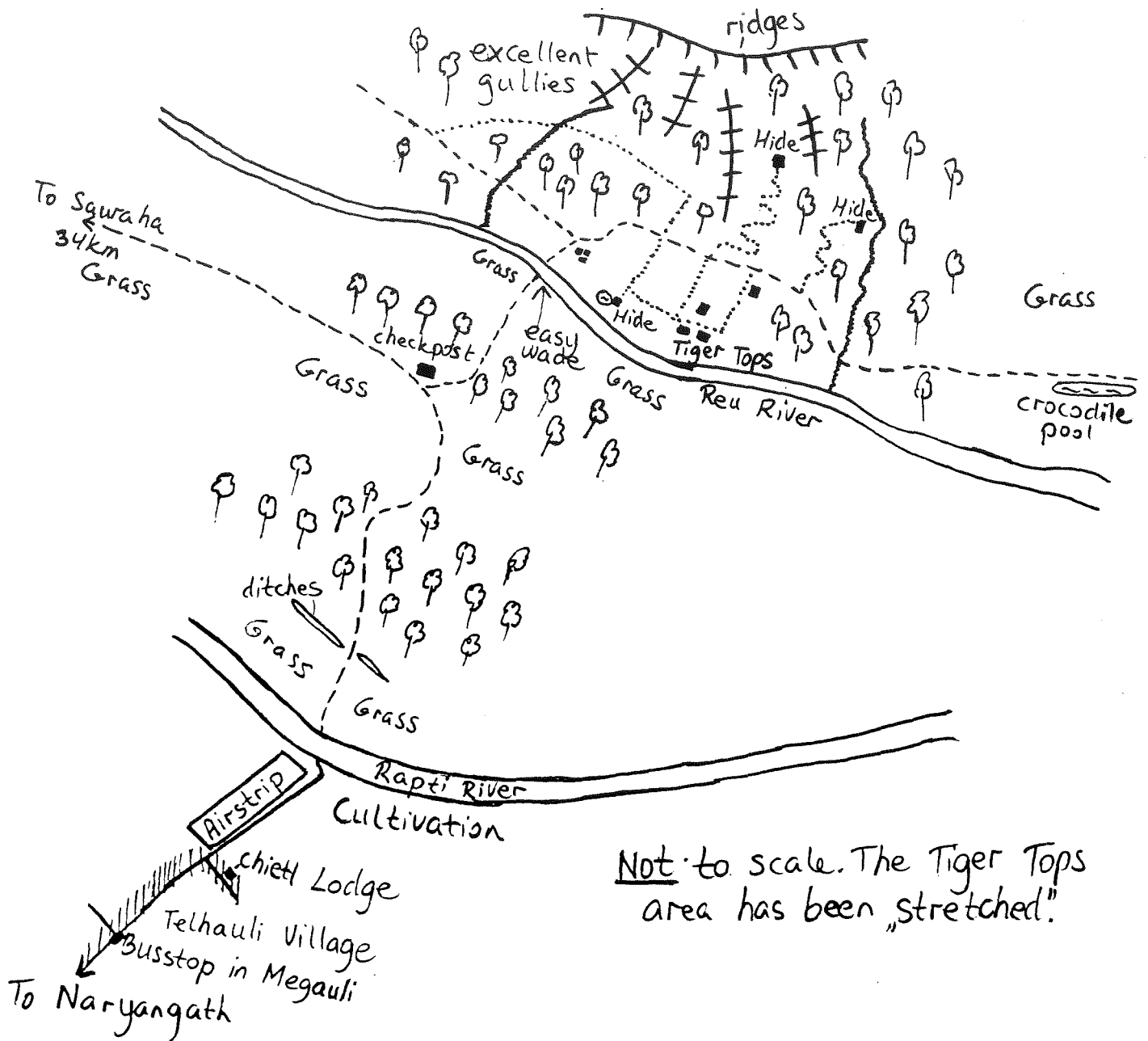
By far the best forest is around Tiger Tops itself - here Pittas will sing your head off even during the heat of the day if you come in early May. This part of the year seems ideal as many goodies were quite easy to locate.

The extensive grasslands are worth exploring as quite a few birds can only be found here, and you stand a great chance/risk of meeting some of the parks 350 rhinos.

The ferry across Rapti River starts 6. a.m. but you might be able to wake up the boatman at 5 a.m. in order to get to Tiger Tops area really early in the morning. (It would be great to get hold of a bicycle to zap into Tiger Tops). Wading across here is quite difficult business! From the river it's an hours fast walk to Tiger Tops. At the checkpoint you will have to pay 65 Rs. entry-fee.

Only water and soft-drinks are available at Tiger Tops, so bring all your food in with you - the guy at Chietl Lodge will prepare fried rice to take with you. The checkpoint closes at 6 p.m. they sort of dislike it, if you come back late - people have been locked up for the night, because the Sloth Bears along the track have the habit of tearing nice people into pieces at dusk.





Not to scale. The Tiger Tops area has been "stretched".

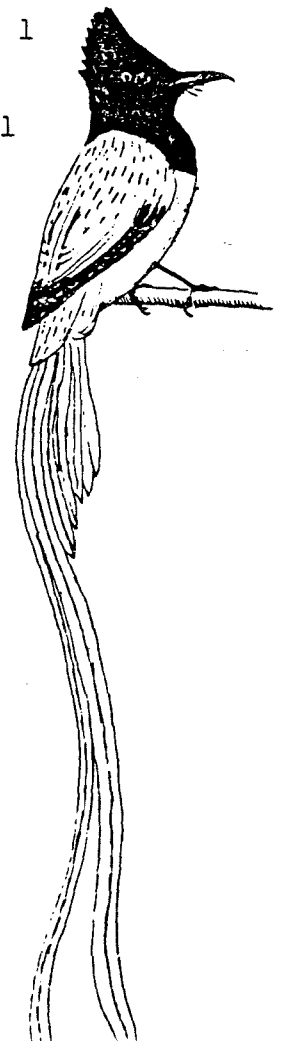
- Darter 2
- Purple Heron 1
- Pondheron 5
- Cattle Egret 25
- Large Egret 1
- Smaller Egret 1
- Little Egret 1
- Chestnut Bittern 3
- Openbill Stork 1
- Whitenecked Stork 1
- Lesser Adjutant 1
- Black Ibis 3
- Lesser Whistling Teal 20
- Blackwinged Kite 1

- Crested Honey Buzzard 4
- Shikra 1
- Sparrowhawk 1
- Whiteeyed Buzzardeagle 1
- Steppeeagle 1
- King Vulture 2
- Griffon Vulture 2
- Indian Whitebacked Vulture 12
- Crested Serpenteagle 2
- Osprey 4
- Black Partridge 2-3 call.
- Kaleej Pheasant 7
- Red Junglefowl 8
- Common Peafowl 4

Common Woodshrike 1
 Large Cuckooshrike 1
 Lesser Grey Cuckooshrike 3
 Scarlet Minivet 6
 Common Iora 6
 Goldfronted Leafbird 2
 Blackheaded Yellow Bulbul 2
 Redwhiskered Bulbul 10
 Whitecheeked Bulbul 1
 Redvented Bulbul 12
 Black Bulbul 4
 Spotted Babbler 10
 Slatyheaded Scimitarbabbler 2
 Redbilled Babbler 3
 Blackthroated Babbler 1
 Yellowbreasted Babbler 4
 Redcapped Babbler 5
 Yelloweyed Babbler 6
 Striated Babbler 3
 Slenderbilled Babbler 2
 Junglebabbler 6
 Necklaced Laughing Thrush 5
 Blackgorgetted Laughing Thrush 6
 Rufousnecked Laughing Thrush 4
 Whitebellied Yuhina 4
 Nepal Babbler 2
 Brook's Flycatcher 8
 Bluethroated Flycatcher 2
 Whitethroated Fantail Fly-
 catcher 12

 Paradise Flycatcher 20
 Blacknaped Flycatcher 4
 Palefooted Bushwarbler 2
 Streaked Fantail Warbler 10
 Franklin's Wrenwarbler 2
 Hodgson's Wrenwarbler 3
 Yellowbellied Wrenwarbler 7
 Large Grasswarbler 2-3
 Tailorbird 12
 Blyth's Reedwarbler 2
 Dull Green Leafwarbler 1
 Yellowbellied Flycatcher-

Blue Chat 2
 Magpie Robin 20
 Shama 4
 Blackbacked Forktail 2
 Stone Chat 5
 Whitetailed Stonechat 3
 Pied Bush Chat 4
 Orangeheaded Ground Thrush 10
 Grey Tit 6
 Chestnutbellied Nuthatch 3
 Velvetfronted Nuthatch 2
 Paddyfield Pipit 10
 Large Pied Wagtail 2
 Tickell's Flowerpecker 1
 Purple Sunbird 1
 Whiteeye 6
 Housesparrow xx
 Treesparrow x
 Yellowthroated Sparrow 15
 Baya 25
 Whitebacked Munia 1
 Spotted Munia 20
 Common Rosefinch 1



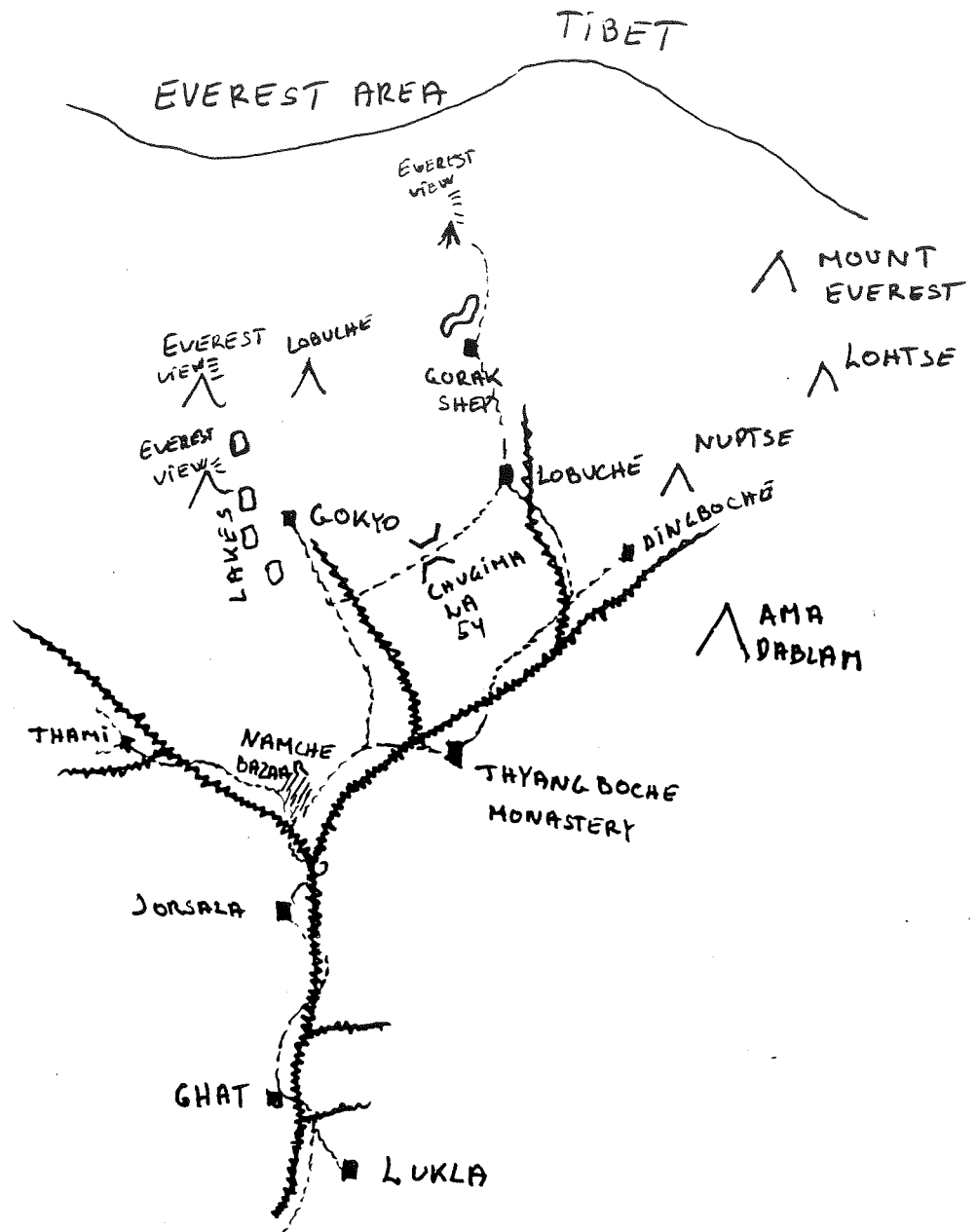
EVEREST 13.5-1.6.87

The Everest Region (Solu-Khumbu) is not very rich on birds, but because of the very spectacular landscape it is absolutely worth a visit, and you WILL find some nice birds in the highest situated places.

It is an easy area to trek in, with lots of cheap accomodation and food, so you don't need to carry much, and the trails are good and not to strenuous. There a a hell-lot of people in the tourist-season, but it's okay in ultimo Maj/ primo June, where it's best for birding, and we had really fine weather, with very clear mornings and excellent views. We would recommend a walk from Jiri to Lukla or opposite, instead of flying both times, (very expensive: 45 US \$ for one way with student-discount), because the trail leads you through some nice forests. Especially the rhododendron forest is beautifull when blooming, but here are also patches with decidous forest and birds. Above 3 km.s height it's mostly conifers, but you will also find rhododendron and birch, and the area around Thyangboche Monastery is very spectacular.

We flew to Lukla, and walked to Namcke Bazaar, where we stayed over a day to acclimize. From here we took the left trail to Gokyo, where we splitted up. One went over the Chugima La to Gorak Shep and Everest Base Camp (this part is used in the description), while the 2 others climbed down, and we met again in Thyangboche. On our way back we walked to Jiri, from where the busses (and the road) goes to Kathmandu. There are several other possibilities, so buy a trekking-book. I woun't recommend one of the viewpoints in preference to the other, because they are both fantastic and breath-taking (in two ways!), but if you go to Gokyo, climb Gokyo Ri after the fourth lake. It's much better than the first peak.

1) Lukla-Phakding	Lu-Pha
2) Phakding-Namche Bazaar	Pha-NB
3) Namche Bazaar	NB
4) Namche Bazaar-Dhole	NB-Dho
5) Dhole-Macherma	Dho-Ma
6) Macherma-Gokyo	Ma-G
7-8) Gokyo	Go
9)Gokyo-Chugima La	Go-La
10) Chugima La-Lobuche	La-Lo
11) Lobuche-Gorak Shep	Lo-GS
12) Gorak Shep - Thyangboche	GS-Thy
13) Thyangboche - Namche Bazaar	Thy-NB
14) Namche Bazaar	NB
15) Namche Bazaar - Ghat	NB-Gha
16) Ghat - Kharke	Gha-Kha
17) Kharte - Ringmo	Kha-Ri
18) Ringmo - Sete	Ri-Se
19) Sete - Sangabanda	Se-Sa
20) Sangabanda-Jiri	Sa-Ji



Ruddy Shelduck 2 Go
 Pintail 1♂ Go
 Wigeon 2♂ Go
 Tufted Duck 1♂·2♀ Go
 Sparrowhawk 1 NB-Gha
 Upland Buzzard 1 Pha
 Booted Hawkeagle 1 Lu-Pha
 Golden Eagle 1 ad Lu-Pha
 Himalayan Griffon 4 NB-Dho
 Lammergeier NB-Dho
 Kestrel 2 Go
 Snow Partridge 5 Go
 Tibetan Snowcock 8 Lo-GS
 Black Partridge 3 Kha-Ri
 Blood Pheasant 8 Dho

Monal Pheasant 2 Dho
 Snow Pigeon 2 Dho
 Speckled Wood Pigeon 4 Gha-Kha
 Rufous Turtledove 4 Lu-Pha
 Large Hawkcuckoo 2NB-Gha
 Indian Cuckoo 1 Gha-Kha
 The Cuckoo 3 Gha-Kha
 Oriental Cuckoo 1 Gha-gha
 Small Cuckoo 1 Se-Sa
 Spotted Scopsowl 1 call. Kha
 Himalayan Swiftlet 35 Gha-Kha
 Large Whiterumped Swift 50 Kha-Ri
 Honeyguide 3 Pha
 Horned Lark 3 GS
 Eastern Skylark 5 NB

MAMMALS

- Rhesus Macaque (*Macaca mulatta*) : Jd, B
Assamese Macaque (*Macaca assamensis*) : H
Common Langur (*Presbytis entellus*) : Cl, Sa, R, L
Tiger (*Panthera tigris*) : R
Jungle Cat (*Felis chaus*) : Sa, B, A
Common Mongoose (*Herpestes edwardsi*) : Sa, B, R
Small Indian Mongoose (*Herpestes auropunctatus*) : B
Jackal (*Canis aureus*) : Sa, B, R
Indian Fox (*Vulpes bengalensis*) : Js
Dhole (*Cuon alpinus*) : E
Yellowbreasted Marten (*Martes flavigula*) : E, N
Himalayan Weasel (*Mustela sibirica*) : P
Pale Weasel (*Mustela altaica*) : A
Flying Fox (*Pteropus giganteus*) : over Kathmandu
Particoloured Flying Squirrel (*Hylopetes alboniger*) : A
Orangebellied Himalayan Squirrel (*Dremomys lokriah*) : A
Fivestriped Palm Squirrel (*Funambulus pennanti*) : All towns
Threestriped Palm Squirrel (*Funambulus palmarum*) : Cw
Common House Rat (*Rattus rattus*) : Js
Indian Porcupine (*Hystrix indica*) : Sa
Indian Hare (*Lepus nigricollis*) : Sa
Mousehare (*Ochotona roulei*) : A, L, E
Indian Elephant (*Elephas maximus*) : Jd
Great Indian Onehorned Rhinoceros (*Rhinoceros unicornis*) : Jd, Cw
Gaur (*Bos gaurus*) : Jd
Himalayan Thar (*Hemitragus jemlahicus*) : L, E
Goral (*Nemorhaedus goral*) : N
Chinkara (*Gazella gazella*) : Js, from trains in Rajasthan
Blackbuck (*Antilope cervicapra*) : B, from trains in Rajasthan
Nilgai (*Boselaphus tragocamelus*) : Sa, B
Sambar (*Cervis unicolor*) : Jd, Sa, R, Cw
Chital (*Axis axis*) : Jd, Sa, B, R, Cw, Co
Barking Deer (*Muntiacus muntjak*) : Jd, Co, A, Cw
Musk Deer (*Moschus moschiferus*) : E
Indian Wild Boar (*Sus scrofa*) : Jd, Sa, Cw