

**Ornithological Survey of Dharan Forest IBA, Eastern lowland, Nepal.**  
**Third Field Report submitted to**  
 Oriental Bird Club (UK)

**Date of Field Visit**

From 8<sup>th</sup> January, 2008 to 21<sup>st</sup> January, 2008.

**Study Area**

Location: Sunsary and Morang district under Koshi administrative zone in east Nepal.

Geographical position: 87°10'E and 87°37' E longitude and 26°37' N and 26°48' N latitude.

Altitude: from 100m to 500m asl

**Methodology:**

- Bird survey was done after Mackinnon's Species-Richness counting method.
- A total of 18 lists, 20 species in each list, have been made.
- Most of the national as well as community forests of Sunsary and Morang district were visited.
- Birds were also recorded in grassland of dry stream bank, wetland and open field.
- Most of the birds were recorded by direct observation method and few with distinctive calls.

**Result**

A total of 127 bird species belonging 14 order and 41 families have been recorded from Dharan Forest IBA in this third field visit. Among the observed species 28 species were additional species for this visit which were not observed during 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> visit. Running species according to list number is shown in table 1. Among the observed species one was globally threatened and four species were under nationally threatened category. A total of 26 individuals of the globally threatened Lesser Adjutant were found in the nesting area in Shanti community forest of Dharan Forest IBA near Tarahara where seven active nests were counted in a Simal *Bombax ceiba* tree during second visit. Other important birds which we observed from that area are shown in table 2.

**Table 1: List number and running species**

No. of lists	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Running Species	20	36	50	62	69	76	81	88	92	96	102	106	109	113	118	121	124	127

**Table 2: List of threatened birds recorded in the study area.**

No	Common name	Categories	Location	Habitat
1.	Lesser Adjutant*	Endangered	Mixed forest near nesting tree at Tarahara	Agro-forest area
2.	Asian Openbill	Vulnerable	Betana Pokhari near Belbari VDC	Wetland of Betana
3.	Red Junglefowl	Vulnerable	Forests of Morang and Sunsari	Mixed Sal Forest
4.	Black Stork+	Vulnerable	Mixed forest of Yangshila	Mixed forest near stream
5.	Hill Myna	Vulnerable	Forests of Sunsari district	Mixed Forest

\* Globally threatened species    + nationally Protected species