

to perform work. Insurers can still use genetic information in the individual market in decisions about coverage, enrollment, and premiums. Insurers can still require individuals to take genetic tests. Individuals are not protected from the disclosure of genetic information to insurers; plan sponsors (employers), and medical

information bureaus, without their consent. Rapid progress in genome science and its potential applications make biology will be the foremost science of the 21st century. Technology and resources generated by the Human Genome Project and other genomics research are already having a major impact on research across the life sciences.

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## 2. Avifauna of Tinjure Forest, Eastern Nepal

Tinjure Forest, one of the ecologically important regions, lies on the eastern mid-hills of the country at a distance of about 9 km. from Basantapur bazaar of Tehrathum district. Its altitude ranges between 2400-3010 m and covers 22 sq. km. lying in between Basantapur and Chauki (Rai 1998). Basantapur is a small market located on the boarder of Sankhuvasabha and Terhathum district. Infrastructure of development, such as road and communication has turned this area into the trading centre for Terhathum, Sankhuvasabha and some parts of Bhojpur district. Large amount of 'Lokta' (*Daphne* spp.) and medicinal plants are collected there. The area is mostly steep with forested slopes and ridges. The broad-leaved deciduous moist forest mostly covers the area and the lower canopy is composed of *Rhododendron* spp., *Quercus* spp., and *Daphne* spp. It is rich in biodiversity and provided the home to various indigenous and rare birds like Kalij Pheasants

(*Lophophora leucomelana*) and Satyr Tragopan (*Tragopan satyra*). There is no specific geographical barrier in between the adjoining areas so that the movement of wildlife and birds within these areas is possible. The area is covered with magnificently beautiful and splendid *Rhododendron* jungle intermixed mainly with oak and other tree species such as *Magnolia* spp., *Castanopsis* spp., *Abies spectabilis*, *Betula utilis*, *Taxus baccata* with different kinds of shrubs, herbs, climbers, epiphytes and grasses. In these regions, survey of bird was conducted in 1997-1998. A total of 73 bird species belonging to 23 families were recorded. Birds were observed in dense forest, degraded forest, bamboo grooves, scrub and open habitats.

Birds were identified (Table 1) with the help of available literature (Fleming *et al.* 1979, Inskipp and Inskipp 1985, Ali and Ripley 1995).

**Table 1.** Checklist of the Birds of Tinjure Forest

S. N.	English Name	Scientific Name	Family	S1	Forest Type
1.	Black Kite	<i>Milvus migrans migrans</i>	Accipritidae	2	O
2.	Crested serpent Eagle	<i>Spilornis chella</i>	"	1	OT
3.	Besra Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter virgatus</i>	"	4	T
4.	Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	"	2	OT
5.	Black Eagle	<i>Ictinaetus malayensis</i>	"	2	D
6	Himalayan Griffon Vulture	<i>Gyps himalayensis</i>	"	-	O
7	Steppe Eagle	<i>Aquila nipalensis</i>	"	2	O
8	Impeyan Pheasant	<i>Lophophorus impejanus</i>	Phasianidae	-	O
9	Satyr Tragopan	<i>Tragopan satyra</i>	"	-	D
V10	Kalij Pheasant	<i>Lophophora leucomelana</i>	"	2	D
11	Rufous Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia orientalis</i>	Columbidae	1	TD
12	Large-Hawk Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus sparverioides</i>	Cuculidae	2	D
13	Collared Pigmy Owllet	<i>Glaucidium brodiei</i>	Strigidae	-	T
V14	Brownwood Owllet	<i>Strix leptogrammica</i>	"	5	D
15	White-throated Needle tail Swift	<i>Chaetura caudacuta</i>	Apodidae	5	O
16	Large White-rumped Swift	<i>Apus pacificus</i>	"	-	O
17	Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>	Upupidae	-	OT
18	Great Himalayan Barbet	<i>Megalaima virens</i>	Capitonidae	-	DT
19	Blue- throated Barbet	<i>Megalaima asiatica</i>	"	2	DT
20	Darjeeling Pied Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos darjellensis</i>	Picidae	1	D
21	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	Hirundinidae	1	O
22	Nepal House Martin	<i>Delichon nipalensis</i>	"	2	TO
23	Hodgson's Tree Pipit	<i>Anthus hodgsoni</i>	Motacillidae	1	O
24	Upland Pipit	<i>Anthus sylvanus</i>	"	2	O
25	Pied Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>	"	-	O
26	Scarlet Minivet	<i>Pericrocotus flammeus</i>	Campephagi dae	2	TD
27	Short-billed Minivet	<i>Pericrocotus brevirostris</i>	"	-	TD
28	Long-tailed Minivet	<i>Pericrocotus ethlogus</i>	"	1	TD
29	White-cheeked Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus leucogenys</i>	Pycnonotidae	1	TS
30	Common Stonechat	<i>Saxicola torquata</i>	Muscicapidae	2	SO
31	Dark Gray Bushchat	<i>Saxicola ferrea</i>	"	2	SO
32	Chestnut-bellied Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola rufiventris</i>	"	-	DT
33	Blue Whistling Thrush	<i>Myiophonus caeruleus</i>	"	3	DT
+34	Plain-backed Mountain Thrush	<i>Zoothera mollissima</i>	"	4	D

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+35	White-collared Blackbird	<i>Turdus albocinctus</i>	"	2	D
+36	Gray-winged Blackbird	<i>Turdus bouboul</i>	"	2	D
+37	Rufous-capped Bush Warbler	<i>Cettia brunnifrons</i>	"	2	SD
38	Black-browed Warbler	<i>Seicercus burkii</i>	"	1	DTS
39	Chesnut-crowned warbler	<i>Seicercus castaniceps</i>	"	1	D
40	Gray-headed Warbler	<i>Seicercus xanthochistos</i>	"	1	D
41	Gray-faced Leaf Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus maculipennis</i>	"	1	D
42	Verditer Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa thalassina</i>	"	1	T
43	Asian sooty Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa sibirica</i>	"	1	T
V44	White-gorgetted Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa monileger</i>	"	4	D
+45	Black-faced Laughing Thrush	<i>Garrulax affinis</i>	"	1	D
46	Hoary Barwing	<i>Actinodura nipalensis</i>	"	2	D
+47	Bar-throated Minla	<i>Minla strigula</i>	"	1	D
48	Red-tailed Minla	<i>Minla ignotincta</i>	"	2	D
49	Chestnut-headed Tit Babbler	<i>Alcippe castaneiceps</i>	"	1	D
+50	White-browed Tit Babbler	<i>Alcippe vinipectus</i>	"	1	DT
+51	Black-capped Sibia	<i>Heterophasia capistrata</i>	"	1	DT
52	Yellow-napped Yuhina	<i>Yuhina flavicollis</i>	"	1	D
53	Stripe-throated Yuhina	<i>Yuhina gularis</i>	"	1	D
+54	Rufous-vented Yuhina	<i>Yuhina occipitalis</i>	"	1	TD
55	Red-headed Tit	<i>Aegithalos concinnus</i>	Paridae	1	TD
+56	Rufous-bellied Black Tit	<i>Parus rubidiventris</i>		1	D
57	Green-backed Tit	<i>Parus monticolus</i>	"	1	DT
58	Yellow-cheeked Tit	<i>Parus xanthogenys</i>	"	-	DTS
59	Nepal Sunbird	<i>Aethopyga nipalensis</i>	Nectariniidae	1	DS
60	Oriental White eye	<i>Zosterops palpebrosa</i>	Zosteropidae	1	TS
61	Black-headed Shrike	<i>Lanius schach</i>	Daniidae	1	OS
62	Gray-backed Shrike	<i>Lanius tephronotus</i>	"	2	OS
63	Bronzed Drongo	<i>Dicrurus aeneus</i>	Dicruridae	3	T
64	Black Drongo	<i>Dicrurus adsimilis</i>	"	-	TO
65	Ashy Drongo	<i>Dicrurus leucophaeus</i>	"	-	T
+66	Yellow-billed Blue Magpie	<i>Cissa flavirostris</i>	Corvidae	1	D
67	Himalayan Treepie	<i>Dendrocitta formosae</i>	"	1	T
68	Nutcracker	<i>Nucifraga caryocatactes</i>	"	-	DT
69	Jungle Crow	<i>Corvus macrorhynchos</i>	"	1	TO
70	Tree Sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>	Ploceidae	-	T

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71	Common Rosefinch	<i>Carpodacus erythrinus</i>	Fringillidae	-	ST
72	Red-headed Bullfinch	<i>Pyrrhula erythrocephala</i>	"	1	D
73	Little Bunting	<i>Emberiza pusilla</i>	Emberizidae	2	OTS

Note:

1	=	Common TO	=	Thin / Open
2	=	Fairly common	T	= Thin
3	=	Occasional	ST	= Scrub / Thin
4	=	Uncommon	D	= Dense
5	=	Rare	OTS	= Open / Thin / Scrub
S1	=	Status		
+	=	Internationally significant breeding population		

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**3. Birds of Itahari**

Itahari municipality is one of the three municipalities of Sunsari district. It is situated in the Tarai region of Eastern part of Nepal. The main rivers are Sunsari, Tengra and Budhi. Besides that there are also few man-made and natural wetlands. Itahari is very near from the mixed type of jungle popularly known as ‘Charkoshe Jhadi’ on the north, which provides ideal shelter for the birds. This is the reason why many local migratory birds as well as other birds are found to come very commonly from the jungle.

It was the month of November 2000 when I went to Itahari to watch birds for the first time. Then I kept watching the birds at that place regularly till January 2001. During that period I visited different sites several times at least once a week regularly and also collected information from the locals.

The present report is the result of a study of about 14 months. Regular observations and local enquiry were also made. I tried my best to identify the birds correctly using available literature (Ali