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## **Laos and Cambodia**

**Oriental Bird Club fund-raising tour**

**24<sup>th</sup> February – 10<sup>th</sup> March 2013**

**Leader: Frank Lambert**

**Participants: Jim and Vivienne Harvey,  
Paul Blakeburn, Linda Bogiages and Steve Kornfield**



***Cambodian Tailorbird, Phnom Penh***

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Our sixth Oriental Bird Club fund-raising tour to Cambodia, as in 2011, also included a few days in the seldom-birded country of Laos. Despite the very brief visit to Laos, our one-and-a-half days in the dramatic forests on karst limestone resulted in many sightings of the recently described Bald-faced Bulbul, a few sightings of Sooty Babblers, and a single Limestone Leaf Warbler. Laos was however a hard place to bird, with relatively few birds to see due to intensive hunting and trapping pressure, but once we reached Cambodia we were seeing birds continuously. This year we also visited Bokor in the mountains of southwest Cambodia to search for the rarely seen Chestnut-headed Partridge, which we found surprisingly easily, along with Indochinese Green Magpie, Orange-headed Thrush, a magnificent male Blue Pitta and a host of other interesting species. A brief visit to the coast produced Nordmann's Greenshank and Dunlin, the latter the first record for Cambodia. Continuing on the

traditional Cambodia tour route, we were privileged to see the spectacular display of “jumping” male Bengal Floricans on the Tonle Sap floodplains, as well as the similarly Critically Endangered Giant and White-shouldered Ibises and Black-necked Stork in the dry dipterocarp forests and the near-endemic Mekong Wagtail below the rapids at Kampi. Another endemic seen very well, discovered only months before our tour, was the newly described Cambodian Tailorbird. We also managed to see a remarkable set of owls- all scoped- during the day, including both Brown and Spotted Wood Owls and Brown Fish Owl, as well as, eventually, a female White-rumped Falcon. Our tour finished at Angkor Wat, the wonderful complex of temples that is the highlight of most visits to Cambodia – and even here we found some interesting birds, such as Brown Boobook, Forest Wagtail and Black Baza.

Our group met up in Laos’s laid-back capital, Vientiane, at our comfortable hotel overlooking the broad expanse of sand flats that, during the rainy season, are inundated by the 600m-wide Mekong River. But despite the alluring nature of the habitat outside our windows, there were clearly very few birds here apart from the occasional Red Collared Dove or Oriental Reed Warbler – not even an egret was on show along the river. The following morning we headed eastwards towards Vietnam soon after breakfast, and our first birding site in a scenic area of limestone karst near the border of Nam Kading National Park. Most of the drive was devoid of birds, except for a few Black Drongo, Siberian Stonechats and shrikes, a pair of Shikra, a few Chinese Pond Herons and a scattering of Common Myna and Eurasian Tree Sparrow. However, after lunch at our pleasantly situated lodge, we returned to an area where the forested limestone karst came close to the road.

Amazingly our first bird was a pair of Bare-faced Bulbuls – the main reason we had visited this area - that miraculously appeared in a fruiting tree beside the road and fed at very close range, apparently unaffected by the huge heavy traffic. The birds were later regularly seen perched on the limestone karst in this area and we probably saw at least six individuals. This very conspicuous but highly localized endemic has so far only been found on the western side of the Annamite mountain range that borders Laos and Vietnam. The bulbul has a rather amusing (but embarrassing for some!) history; despite only being identified in 2008 and described the following year, it had been seen on separate occasions by at least four birders over a ten-year period before the penny-dropped! Having been described in the Oriental Bird Club scientific journal *Forktail*, it seems fitting that the OBC fund-raising tour should target this unusual bulbul.

We had 1½ days in which to explore the stunning limestone karst forests and found the birding enjoyable but very hot and unusually hard work. The intensity of the hunting here is so great that we saw no squirrels (one less than our previous tour!) and an almost complete lack of even lizards and skinks (though we did see some boys with fishing rods who had just captured about five lizards for the pot!). Feeding flocks were also very scarce, and mostly quite distant. Despite this, our persistence paid off and we eventually saw our three target species. On our full day it took us until the point of giving up – at about 1030am when it had already become very hot, to get a good view of another limestone specialist, the Annamite-endemic Sooty Babbler. The occasional feeding flock held Great Iora, Crimson Sunbird, Scarlet Minivet and wintering Yellow-browed and Two-barred Warblers. Other birds seen occasionally in this area included Purple-naped Sunbird and Little Spiderhunter, White-rumped Shama, Hainan Blue Flycatcher and a single Pale-legged Leaf Warbler feeding near the ground. Night birding, both before dawn and after dusk, and despite the full moon, only produced a single Asian Barred Owlet.

On our second afternoon we headed further up the road towards the border with Vietnam, searching for Limestone Leaf Warbler, and it was only on the following morning that we managed to find a singing bird, watched feeding through the ‘scope in fantastic light – surely one of the most beautiful leaf warblers. Other birds seen in this area included a small flock of Sooty Babblers, feeding silently on the vines and rocks very close to us, Puff-throated and Grey-eyed Bulbuls and Streaked Wren-Babbler, as well as a brief look at a skulking and silent Black-browed Fulvetta. On our final afternoon we headed back towards Vientiane, stopping on route along one of the tributaries of the Mekong, where we had nice scope views of River Lapwings and Small Pratincoles on the exposed mud.

After our short but productive visit to Laos we flew across the border into the capital of Cambodia, Phnom Penh. Unfortunately, a presumably serious technical problem delayed our flight and we had to wait seven hours for a new plane, meaning that we did not reach our destination of Kampot, at the base of the Cardamom Mountains, until near midnight. Nevertheless, we were all eager to leave pre-dawn for our visit to Bokor National Park, where we drove up to about 1000m in an area that had been closed to visitors for the past five years. The forest in this area had clearly already been logged in the past, but the remaining vegetation is still in very good condition and regenerating nicely. After a leisurely breakfast at the forest edge, which produced a brief perched view of Wedge-tailed Green Pigeon but little else, we headed along a narrow trail in search of our main target, Chestnut-headed Partridge. None were calling but during the day we all had wonderful views of this near endemic during two close encounters of foraging birds. We also had looks at a very shy Indochinese Green Magpie and very good views of an Orange-headed Thrush that Vivienne had spotted on the trail. Other birds we found along the trail included Streaked Wren Babbler and the local races of White-browed Scimitar Babbler and Fire-breasted Flowerpecker, here lacking the “fire” on its breast.

On our second morning at Bokor we started with a field breakfast at a roadside viewpoint somewhat below the plateau. Here we found an amazing abundance of Banded Cuckoo-doves, Asian Fairy Bluebirds and Ashy Drongo, as well as a few Black-throated and Purple-naped Sunbirds, and Velvet-fronted Nuthatches. An occasional fly-by Mountain Imperial or Thick-billed Green Pigeon kept us on our toes. Bulbuls were common, particularly Black-crested and Ochraceous and wintering passerines were well represented, including a single Swinhoe's Minivet, a couple of Black-winged Cuckooshrike, and quite a lot of Alstrom's Warblers. But perhaps the most memorable bird in this area was a wonderful Long-tailed Broadbill that gave us incredible views as it moved around in full view just below us. Later, along the forest trail, we had the most incredible views of another memorable bird - a Blue Pitta that repeatedly hopped along the trail in front of us, barely 15m away. What a wonderful bird!

On our last morning at Bokor, we spent a couple of hours looking for raptors and unexpectedly found a Jerdon's Baza, as well as a Crested Goshawk. We also had fantastic views of some tape-responsive Kloss's Leaf Warblers, a Blue Whistling Thrush and wintering Mugimaki Flycatchers. During an hour birding along the road as we descended back towards the lowlands, we obtained great views of at least ten Wreathed Hornbills and a single Great Hornbill. After an early lunch away from the heat, we took a boat out from Kampot in search of shorebirds. As the tide came it pushed the birds into smaller and smaller areas, and eventually we had close views of a number of species, including a couple of unexpected rarities: a single Nordmann's Greenshank, and two Dunlin (apparently the first record of this distinctive species for Cambodia). Small numbers of Caspian Terns were also present. Once the tide had pushed all the shorebirds to higher ground, we headed back to Kampot and onwards to Phnom Penh.



***Bare-faced Bulbul, Ban Na Hin, Laos***



**© Steve Kornfeld**

After a night in the Cambodian capital, we headed out of town to some nearby wetlands that were teeming with birds. On the more open water, Lesser Whistling Duck and Cotton Pygmy Duck mingled with jacanas, White-browed Crakes, Oriental Darters, Little Cormorants and a few Black-backed Swamphens. In the fringing reeds, grasses and scrub we found Pallas Grasshopper Warbler, Black-browed Reed Warblers, Dusky Warblers and Plain Prinia. But the bird we had come especially to this site to see was to be found only in the flooded scrubland, and we eventually found it, the just-described Cambodian Tailorbird – after taping it in from far out in the impenetrable scrub. This species, miraculously overlooked for so long, was finally discovered and recognized for what it was in 2012. On present evidence this tailorbird, a bit like an Ashy Tailorbird, and a bit like a Dark-necked Tailorbird, but very distinctly different, has only been found in a decidedly small range, bordered by the Tonle Sap and the Mekong River. We felt most privileged to be the first birding group to see this new species, and special thanks to those that gave us prior information on this species.

Very satisfied with the excellent views we had had of the tailorbird the many other good birds we had seen, we continued our drive northwards towards Kratie, to spend the night in this sleepy town beside the Mekong. Up before dawn the following day, we headed out into the Mekong River, here perhaps 800m wide and just below the Kampi Rapids to look for the near-endemic Mekong Wagtail. It took longer than expected to find one, but eventually we found a nest site where we obtained superb close-up views. Irrawaddy Dolphins, a species that can live in salt and fresh water, with an isolated, declining population in this stretch of the Mekong also gave a

brief showing. We also searched in vain for Asian Golden Weavers, but saw a few other interesting species, including a couple of superb Racket-tailed Treepie, Red Avadavats and some nice breeding plumage Watercocks. Leaving the Mekong behind us, after crossing it with our vehicles on a pontoon, we headed westwards and eventually arrived at Tmatboey, on the plains of central Indochina. This area was once one of the most difficult areas to access in South-east Asia due to the lack of roads and abundance of un-mapped mine fields, but it is here where both the Critically Endangered Giant and White-shouldered Ibises were recently rediscovered. Within the last few years mine fields have been documented (indeed, there were apparently never any mine fields in the Tmatboey area) and the area has become easy and safe to visit.

After a comfortable night's sleep in our pleasant rural guesthouse – established with the help of the Wildlife Conservation Society and run by the local community – we headed out well before dawn to search for a roosting Giant Ibis. Arriving in the dark, we then spent 30 minutes 'scoping an obscure distant image. As it got lighter and lighter, however, and our view became clearer and clearer, we were suddenly looking at a roosting Woolly-necked Stork rather than an ibis! Our guides, perhaps somewhat embarrassed, spread out to look for the real ibises, but an hour later we were eating our field breakfast – one of many great field meals prepared by our local hosts – without so much as a peep at an ibis. As we finished breakfast, one of the guides returned to inform us that he and his companion had located some feeding White-shouldered Ibises, so we headed off in hot pursuit. Suddenly, as we crossed a narrow, dry watercourse we flushed some waterbirds and within seconds we were eyeballing three Giant Ibises at close range, and in superb early morning light. This is surely one of the most sought-after birds in Cambodia, and we were overly happy to have seen them so well. Then, only twenty minutes later we had our first of many sightings of White-shouldered Ibises, and in total we probably saw at least 20 of these threatened birds during our three days at Tmatboey. Another increasingly rare and equally impressive large waterbird, Black-necked Stork, also provided us with excellent views at one of the many water holes we visited during our time at Tmatboey – in Asia, this species is now only regularly seen in northeast India and Cambodia, though it remains relatively common in parts of Australia.

Tmatboey still has extensive areas of open, dry dipterocarp forest, though this forest is being degraded daily by local villagers and others, and it was somewhat depressing to see so many recently cut and burnt trees. This habitat, once the dominant vegetation across the plains of central Indochina is slowly but surely being converted to other land uses, but where there are intact patches with taller trees, as at Tmatboey, birds are surprisingly abundant. More common species of this habitat included Purple Sunbird, Common Woodshrike, Common Iora, Lineated Barbet, White-browed Fantail, Small Minivet, Velvet-fronted Nuthatch, Red-breasted Parakeet and a host of woodpeckers including Grey-capped Woodpecker, Common and Greater Flamebacks, Great Slaty and Black-headed Woodpeckers. Other birds are much rarer, however, or at least much harder to locate at this time of year, including for example Indochinese Bushlark, and in particular White-rumped Falcon – the latter proved unusually hard to find, probably since they had just finished breeding. As a result, we spent a great deal of time searching for this one bird at Tmatboey and never saw it there, but persistence eventually paid off, and on our way back towards Siem Reap, we found one easily beside the road, much to our relief!

Despite the near silence of the forest at Tmatboey during our evening and early morning 'owling' trips, we managed to see a number of owl species at daytime roosts thanks to the knowledge of our local guides. Within quick succession they found us Brown Wood Owl, which was amazing enough, but then a superb Spotted Wood Owl, surely one of South-east Asia's most beautiful owl species. Later the same day we were also shown Banded Owllet, and the next day, at least two Brown Fish Owls. Night birding was more difficult, and even Large-tailed Nightjars were silent. Our only success was in obtaining brief views of an Oriental Scops Owl just before dawn on our last morning.

During the midday lull in bird activity we returned both days to the guesthouse for lunch, and even here, and despite the heat, we continued to see good birds as they came to drink at a small water source. White-crested Laughingthrushes seemed to be around most of the time, and Rufous Treepies regularly visited the water hole. It was also presumably the water that was the main attraction to a male White-throated Rock Thrush that was seen by Jim, and only seen later in the tour by other participants on our last afternoon around the ruins of Angkor.

On our last morning at Tmatboey, after our pre-dawn owling session that produced another brief Oriental Scops Owl, we found that one of our 4WD vehicles was suddenly inoperable as the key had become stuck in the ignition but could not turn... undaunted, we all squeezed into one vehicle and continued on our journey towards Siem Reap, meeting our replacement vehicle after only a couple of hours at a site where we had stopped to look, successfully, for White-rumped Falcon!

During the afternoon we stopped at the Prolay Florican Grasslands community reserve, outside of Siem Reap, primarily to search for another of Cambodia's special birds, the critically endangered Bengal Florican. After a brief interlude in an area where Plain-backed Sparrows were nesting, we headed out to one of the core areas of the reserve. Our three local guides left us on a high bund whilst they walked and walked through the taller grasses of the reserve, apparently unable to find a florican – however, we were not to be disappointed because



Sophoan, ever sharp-eyed, spotted one lurking in the grasses behind us, at the edge of a rice field and only 120m away from us. We spent the next 30 minutes or more scoping this beautiful male – at first it remained hidden, but suddenly, without any warning, it started its display, leaping 5m into the air with its wings held in an arc, and then dropping gracefully to the ground in a two-stage flutter. This fantastic performance was repeated in full view at least five times during the next half hour, and was undoubtedly one of the most memorable sightings of our tour.

The grasslands in this remarkable area not only support a healthy, population of floricans, but also many other grassland birds – indeed the area was teeming with species such as Richard’s, Paddyfield and Red-throated Pipits, Oriental Skylark, Australasian Bushlarks, Pied and Eastern Marsh Harriers, Siberian Stonechat, Pied Bushchat, Bluethroats, Zitting Cisticolas and buttonquails. Quails were particularly common, and whilst walking we flushed at least 15 Small Buttonquail, one Barred Buttonquail and a male Blue-breasted Quail without even trying. And, as we left the area to head back to our hotel in Siem Reap, we were fortunate enough to find a superb Small Buttonquail feeding in the open and hardly bothered by our two vehicles. The one bird that we had hoped to find here but had failed to find on the first afternoon was Manchurian Reed Warbler, a scarce, difficult to identify *Acrocephalus* warbler that winters only in the tall grasses of this region, where its habits make it particularly hard to see.



**White-crested Laughingthrush and Cambodian Tailorbird**

**© Steve Kornfeld**

The next morning, the last of the tour, we were back in the grasslands just after dawn to search for this elusive species. One of the first birds we saw – in the hand – was a superbly-plumaged male Red-spotted Bluethroat that Frank rescued from a small piece of fishing net that had caught around its legs, a nice but only brief distraction from our main target – Manchurian Reed Warbler. Perhaps luckily for us, most of the area we visited had been recently burnt, so there were only a few patches of tall dense grass in which to look for this species. As we finished breakfast adjacent to such a patch, an *Acrocephalus* warbler gave a couple of calls from somewhere inside the dense grass, and during the next 40 minutes we managed to get excellent views of this tricky bird – which turned out to be a Manchurian Reed Warbler. What was noticeable was its aversion to bushes, because virtually every time our local guides pushed it towards a couple of small bushes where we hoped it might perch in full view, it back-tracked at the last moment into the dense grass instead of hopping into the bushes – indeed, the bushes in this area of grassland only support the more abundant, but confusingly similar Black-browed Reed Warblers.

This morning in the grasslands also produced a few good water-birds as well as more floricans and the usual array of grassland passerines. One highlight was a flock of 15 Sarus Crane, another was the appearance of large flocks of Painted Storks, and last but not least, a single Spot-billed Pelican. Blue-breasted Quail and Small Buttonquails were also flushed on several occasions, and a few Comb Duck put in a surprise appearance. Very satisfied with our morning, we headed back to Siem Reap for lunch before our excursion to the ruins of Ancient Angkor, one of Asia’s most famous archeological sites – indeed, a UNESCO World Heritage Site – and a must-see tourist attraction.

During the afternoon we spent most of our time around two temples, that of Ta Prohm (late 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> Century) and Angkor Wat itself (1,113-1,150AD), and briefly visited Ankor Thom (late 12<sup>th</sup> Century). Ta Prohm

is a temple that has been deliberately left in almost the condition in which it was 'discovered', with many large trees rooted on the walls and ruins, whilst Angkor Wat, the world's largest religious monument, is the most famous of the temples in the area, with many of its fine carvings, asparas and 600m of narrative bas-relief still in amazingly good condition. We discovered that, not only are the temples in relatively good shape, but much of Ancient Angkor is still forested, with trees larger than almost any we had seen on our tour. Not surprisingly these trees support some interesting birds, and the huge trees above Ta Prohm Temple are now an afternoon napping spot for two noisy parakeet species, Alexandrine and Red-breasted, as well as Lineated Barbets, whilst an examination of some quieter areas of trees slightly more removed from tourists found us Black Bazas, White-throated Rock Thrushes, a Forest Wagtail, and even Brown Boobook, the sixth owl we had seen in the daytime. Despite the birds drawing us away from the temples, we did not miss the late evening at Angkor Wat and to finish off we visited a nearby plush hotel to cool off and to drink a few cold beers during a really excellent Happy Hour. This, we decided, was the perfect way to end what had been a most memorable and enjoyable tour.

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## Systematic List

### PODICIPEDIFORMES: Podicipedidae

Little Grebe *Tachybaptus ruficollis*

### PELECANIFORMES: Pelecanidae

Spot-billed Pelican *Pelecanus philippensis*

### PELECANIFORMES: Phalacrocoracidae

Indian Cormorant *Phalacrocorax fuscicollis*

Great Cormorant *Phalacrocorax carbo*

Little Cormorant *Phalacrocorax niger*

### PELECANIFORMES: Anhingidae

Oriental Darter *Anhinga melanogaster*

### CICONIIFORMES: Ardeidae

Grey Heron *Ardea cinerea*

Purple Heron *Ardea purpurea*

'Eastern' Great Egret *Casmerodius [alba] modestus*

Intermediate Egret *Mesophoyx intermedia*

Little Egret *Egretta garzetta*

Chinese Pond Heron *Ardeola bacchus*

Eastern Cattle Egret *Bubulcus [ibis] coromandus*

Striated Heron *Butorides striata*

Black-crowned Night Heron *Nycticorax nycticorax*

Yellow Bittern *Ixobrychus sinensis*

Cinnamon Bittern *Ixobrychus cinnamomeus*

### CICONIIFORMES: Ciconiidae

Painted Stork *Mycteria leucocephala*

Asian Openbill *Anastomus oscitans*

Woolly-necked Stork *Ciconia episcopus*

Black-necked Stork *Ephippiorhynchus asiaticus*

Lesser Adjutant *Leptoptilos javanicus*

### CICONIIFORMES: Threskiornithidae

White-shouldered Ibis *Pseudibis davisoni*

Giant Ibis *Pseudibis gigantea*

### ANSERIFORMES: Anatidae

Lesser Whistling Duck *Dendrocygna javanica*

Comb Duck *Sarkidiornis melanotos*

Cotton Pygmy Goose *Nettapus coromandelianus*

Indian Spot-billed Duck *Anas poecilorhyncha*

**FALCONIFORMES: Pandionidae**

Osprey

*Pandion haliaetus***FALCONIFORMES: Accipitridae**

Black Baza

*Aviceda leuphotes*

Jerdon's Baza

*Aviceda jerdoni*

Oriental Honey Buzzard

*Pernis ptilorhynchus ruficollis*

Black-shouldered Kite

*Elanus caeruleus*

Crested Serpent Eagle

*Spilornis cheela*

Eastern Marsh Harrier

*Circus spilonotus*

Pied Harrier

*Circus melanoleucos*

Crested Goshawk

*Tachyspiza trivirgatus*

Shikra

*Tachyspiza badius*

Grey-faced Buzzard

*Butastur indicus*

Rufous-winged Buzzard

*Butastur liventer*

Rufous-bellied Eagle

*Aquila kienerii*

Changeable Hawk Eagle

*Nisaetus limnaetus***FALCONIFORMES: Falconidae**

White-rumped Falcon

*Polihierax insignis*

Eurasian Kestrel

*Falco tinnunculus*

Peregrine Falcon

*Falco peregrinus***GALLIFORMES: Phasianidae**

Chinese Francolin

*Francolinus pintadeanus*

Blue-breasted Quail

*Coturnix chinensis*

Red Junglefowl

*Gallus gallus*

heard only

**GRUIFORMES: Turnicidae**

Small Buttonquail

*Turnix sylvatica*

Barred Buttonquail

*Turnix suscitator***GRUIFORMES: Gruidae**

Sarus Crane

*Grus antigone sharpii***GRUIFORMES: Rallidae**

White-breasted Waterhen

*Amaurornis phoenicurus*

White-browed Crake

*Porzana cinerea*

Watercock

*Gallixrex cinerea*

Black-backed Swamphen

*Porphyrio indicus*

Common Moorhen

*Gallinula chloropus***GRUIFORMES: Otidae**

Bengal Florican

*Houbaropsis bengalensis***CHARADRIIFORMES: Jacanidae**

Pheasant-tailed Jacana

*Hydrophasianus chirurgus*

Bronze-winged Jacana

*Metopidius indicus***CHARADRIIFORMES: Rostratulidae**

Greater Painted Snipe

*Rostratula benghalensis***CHARADRIIFORMES: Glareolidae**

Oriental Pratincole

*Glareola maldivarum*

Small Pratincole

*Glareola lactea***CHARADRIIFORMES: Charadriidae**

Red-wattled Lapwing

*Vanellus indicus*

River Lapwing

*Vanellus duvaucelii*

Grey-headed Lapwing

*Vanellus cinereus*

Little Ringed Plover

*Charadrius dubius jerdoni*

Kentish Plover

*Charadrius alexandrinus dealbatus*

Lesser Sand Plover

*Charadrius mongolus schaeferi*

Greater Sand Plover

*Charadrius leschenaultii*

**CHARADRIIFORMES: Scolopacidae**

Pintail Snipe	<i>Gallinago stenura</i>
Common Snipe	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>
Whimbrel	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>
Eurasian Curlew	<i>Numenius arquata orientalis</i>
Spotted Redshank	<i>Tringa erythropus</i>
Common Redshank	<i>Tringa totanus</i>
Nordmann's Greenshank	<i>Tringa guttifer</i>
Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>
Green Sandpiper	<i>Tringa ochropus</i>
Wood Sandpiper	<i>Tringa glareola</i>
Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>
Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpina</i>

**CHARADRIIFORMES: Sternidae**

Caspian Tern	<i>Sterna caspia</i>
Gull-billed Tern	<i>Geochelidon nilotica</i>
Whiskered Tern	<i>Chlidonias hybridus</i>

**COLUMBIFORMES: Columbidae**

Pale-capped Pigeon	<i>Columba punicea</i>
Red Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia tranquebarica</i>
Spotted Dove	<i>Streptopelia chinensis</i>
Barred Cuckoo Dove	<i>Macropygia unchall minor</i>
Peaceful Dove	<i>Geopelia striata</i>
Orange-breasted Green Pigeon	<i>Treron bicincta</i>
Thick-billed Green Pigeon	<i>Treron curvirostra</i>
Yellow-footed Green Pigeon	<i>Treron phoenicoptera</i>
Wedge-tailed Green Pigeon	<i>Treron sphenura</i>
Green Imperial Pigeon	<i>Ducula aenea</i>
Mountain Imperial Pigeon	<i>Ducula badia</i>

**PSITTACIFORMES: Psittacidae**

Alexandrine Parakeet	<i>Psittacula eupatria</i>
Blossom-headed Parakeet	<i>Psittacula roseata</i>
Red-breasted Parakeet	<i>Psittacula alexandri</i>
Vernal Hanging Parrot	<i>Loriculus vernalis</i>

**CUCULIFORMES: Cuculidae**

Indian Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus micropterus</i>	
Banded Bay Cuckoo	<i>Cacomantis sonneratii</i>	
Plaintive Cuckoo	<i>Cacomantis merulinu</i>	heard only
Violet Cuckoo	<i>Chrysococcyx xanthorhynchus</i>	
Asian Koel	<i>Eudynamys scolopacea</i>	
Green-billed Malkoha	<i>Phaenicophaeus tristis</i>	
Greater Coucal	<i>Centropus sinensis</i>	
Lesser Coucal	<i>Centropus bengalensis</i>	

**STRIGIFORMES: Strigidae**

Collared Scops Owl	<i>Otus lettia</i>	heard only
Oriental Scops Owl	<i>Otus sunia distans</i>	
Brown Fish Owl	<i>Ketupa zeylonensis</i>	
Spotted Wood Owl	<i>Strix seloputo</i>	
Brown Wood Owl	<i>Strix leptogrammica</i>	
Collared Owlet	<i>Glaucidium brodiei</i>	heard only
Asian Barred Owlet	<i>Glaucidium cuculoides deinani</i>	
Spotted Owlet	<i>Athene brama</i>	
Brown Boobook	<i>Ninox scutulata</i>	

**CAPRIMULGIFORMES: Caprimulgidae**

Large-tailed Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus macrurus</i> heard only
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**APODIFORMES: Apodidae**

Himalayan Swiftlet	<i>Aerodramus brevirostris</i>
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Germain's Swiftlet  
Brown-backed Needletail  
Asian Palm Swift  
House Swift

*Aerodramus germani*  
*Hirundapus giganteus*  
*Cypsiurus balasiensis*  
*Apus [affinis] nipalensis*

**APODIFORMES: Hemiprocnidae**

Crested Treeswift

*Hemiproctne coronata*

**TROGONIFORMES: Trogonidae**

Red-headed Trogon  
Orange-breasted Trogon

*Harpactes erythrocephalus*  
*Harpactes oreskios* heard only

**CORACIIFORMES: Alcedinidae**

Common Kingfisher

*Alcedo atthis*

**CORACIIFORMES: Halcyonidae**

Stork-billed Kingfisher  
White-throated Kingfisher  
Black-capped Kingfisher  
Pied Kingfisher

*Pelargopsis capensis*  
*Halcyon smyrnensis*  
*Halcyon pileata*  
*Ceryle rudis*

**CORACIIFORMES: Meropidae**

Blue-bearded Bee-eater  
Green Bee-eater  
Blue-tailed Bee-eater  
Chestnut-headed Bee-eater

*Nyctyornis athertoni* heard only  
*Merops orientalis*  
*Merops philippinus*  
*Merops leschenaulti*

**CORACIIFORMES: Coraciidae**

Black-billed Roller

*Coracias [benghalensis] affinis*

**CORACIIFORMES: Upupidae**

Eurasian Hoopoe

*Upupa epops*

**CORACIIFORMES: Bucerotidae**

Oriental Pied Hornbill  
Great Hornbill  
Wreathed Hornbill

*Anthracoceros albirostris*  
*Buceros bicornis*  
*Aceros undulatus*

**PICIFORMES: Capitonidae**

Lineated Barbet  
Green-eared Barbet  
Moustached Barbet  
Blue-eared Barbet  
Coppersmith Barbet

*Megalaima lineata hodgsoni*  
*Megalaima faiostricta* heard only  
*Megalaima incognita*  
*Megalaima australis cyanotis*  
*Megalaima haemacephala indica*

**PICIFORMES: Picidae**

White-browed Piculet  
Grey-capped Woodpecker  
Spot-breasted Woodpecker  
Rufous-bellied Woodpecker  
Rufous Woodpecker  
Greater Yellownape  
Black-headed Woodpecker  
Common Flameback  
Greater Flameback  
Great Slaty Woodpecker

*Sasia ochracea*  
*Dendrocopos canicapillus delacouri*  
*Dendrocopos [macei] analis*  
*Dendrocopos hyperythrus*  
*Celeus brachyurus*  
*Picus flavinucha archon*  
*Picus erythrogygius*  
*Dinopium javanense intermedium*  
*Chrysocolaptes lucidus guttacristatus*  
*Mulleripicus pulverulentus*

**PASSERIFORMES: Eurylaimidae**

Long-tailed Broadbill

*Psarisomus dalhousiae*

**PASSERIFORMES: Pittidae**

Blue Pitta

*Pitta cyanea*

**PASSERIFORMES: Alaudidae**

Australasian Bushlark

*Mirafra javanica*

Indochinese Bushlark  
Oriental Skylark

*Mirafra erythrocephala*  
*Alauda gulgula*

**PASSERIFORMES: Hirundinidae**

Sand Martin  
Barn Swallow  
Red-rumped Swallow

*Riparia riparia ijimae*  
*Hirundo rustica gutturalis*  
*Cecropis daurica japonica*

**PASSERIFORMES: Motacillidae**

Forest Wagtail  
White Wagtail  
Mekong Wagtail  
Eastern Yellow Wagtail  
Grey Wagtail  
Paddyfield Pipit  
Richard's Pipit  
Olive-backed Pipit  
Red-throated Pipit

*Dendronanthus indicus*  
*Motacilla alba leucopsis*  
*Motacilla samveasnae*  
*Motacilla [flava] macronyx macronyx*  
*Motacilla cinerea*  
*Anthus rufulus*  
*Anthus richardi*  
*Anthus hodgsoni*  
*Anthus cervinus*

**PASSERIFORMES: Campephagidae**

Large Cuckooshrike  
Indochinese Cuckooshrike  
Black-winged Cuckooshrike  
Swinhoe's Minivet  
Ashy Minivet  
Small Minivet  
Scarlet Minivet  
Grey-chinned Minivet  
Bar-winged Flycatcher Shrike

*Coracina macei*  
*Coracina polioptera*  
*Coracina melaschistos*  
*Pericrocotus cantonensis*  
*Pericrocotus divaricatus*  
*Pericrocotus cinnamomeus*  
*Pericrocotus speciosus*  
*Pericrocotus solaris deignani*  
*Hemipus picatus*

**PASSERIFORMES: Pycnonotidae**

Black-headed Bulbul  
Black-crested Bulbul  
  
Red-whiskered Bulbul  
Sooty-headed Bulbul  
Stripe-throated Bulbul  
Yellow-vented Bulbul  
Streak-eared Bulbul  
Puff-throated Bulbul  
Grey-eyed Bulbul  
Bare-faced Bulbul

*Pycnonotus atriceps*  
*Pycnonotus melanicterus johnsoni*  
*Pycnonotus melanicterus vantynei*  
*Pycnonotus jocosus*  
*Pycnonotus aurigaster germani*  
*Pycnonotus finlaysoni eous*  
*Pycnonotus goiavier jambu*  
*Pycnonotus blanfordi conradi*  
*Alophoixus pallidus khmerensis*  
*Iole propinqua simulator*  
*Pycnonotus hualon*

**PASSERIFORMES: Chloropseidae**

Blue-winged Leafbird  
Golden-fronted Leafbird

*Chloropsis c. cochinchinensis*  
*Chloropsis aurifrons inornata*

**PASSERIFORMES: Aegithinidae**

Common Iora  
Great Iora

*Aegithina tiphia*  
*Aegithina lafresnayeii*

**PASSERIFORMES: Turdidae**

White-throated Rock Thrush  
Blue Rock Thrush  
Blue Whistling Thrush  
Orange-headed Thrush  
Eye-browed Thrush

*Monticola gularis*  
*Monticola solitarius pandoo*  
*Myophonus caeruleus*  
*Zoothera citrina*  
*Turdus obscurus*

**PASSERIFORMES: Cisticolidae**

Zitting Cisticola  
Bright-capped Cisticola  
Brown Prinia  
Rufescent Prinia  
Grey-breasted Prinia  
Yellow-bellied Prinia  
Plain Prinia

*Cisticola juncidis*  
*Cisticola exilis*  
*Prinia polychroa cooki*  
*Prinia rufescens beavani*  
*Prinia hodgsonii erro*  
*Prinia flaviventris delacouri*  
*Prinia inornata herberti*

**PASSERIFORMES: Sylviidae**

Pallas's Grasshopper Warbler	<i>Locustella certhiola</i>
Black-browed Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus bistrigiceps</i>
Manchurian Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus tangorum</i>
Oriental Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus orientalis</i>
Common Tailorbird	<i>Orthotomus sutorius</i>
Dark-necked Tailorbird	<i>Orthotomus atrogularis</i>
Cambodian Tailorbird	<i>Orthotomus chaktomuk</i>
Dusky Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus fuscatus</i>
Radde's Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus schwarzi</i>
Yellow-browed Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus inornatus</i>
Two-barred Leaf Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus plumbeitarsus</i>
Pale-legged Leaf Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus tenellipes</i>
Limestone Leaf Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus calciatilis</i>
Kloss's Leaf Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus ogilviegranti intensor</i>
Alstrom's Warbler	<i>Seicercus soror</i>
Striated Grassbird	<i>Megalurus palustris</i>

**PASSERIFORMES: Muscipidae**

Dark-sided Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa sibirica</i>	
Asian Brown Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa dauurica</i>	
Mugimaki Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula mugimaki</i>	
Taiga Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula albicilla</i>	
Verditer Flycatcher	<i>Eumyias thalassina</i>	
Hainan Blue Flycatcher	<i>Cyornis hainanus</i>	
Pale Blue Flycatcher	<i>Cyornis unicolor</i>	
Siberian Rubythroat	<i>Luscinia calliope</i>	heard only
Bluethroat	<i>Luscinia svecica</i>	
Siberian Blue Robin	<i>Luscinia cyane</i>	
Oriental Magpie Robin	<i>Copsychus saularis</i>	
White-rumped Shama	<i>Copsychus malabaricus</i>	
Siberian Stonechat	<i>Saxicola maura stejnegeri</i>	
Pied Bushchat	<i>Saxicola caprata</i>	

**PASSERIFORMES: Rhipiduridae**

White-throated Fantail	<i>Rhipidura albicollis</i>
White-browed Fantail	<i>Rhipidura aureola</i>
Pied Fantail	<i>Rhipidura javanica</i>

**PASSERIFORMES: Monarchidae**

Black-naped Monarch	<i>Hypothymis azurea</i>
Asian Paradise Flycatcher	<i>Terpsiphone paradisi</i>

**PASSERIFORMES: Timaliidae**

White-crested Laughingthrush	<i>Garrulax leucolophus</i>	
Puff-throated Babbler	<i>Pellorneum ruficeps</i>	
Large Scimitar Babbler	<i>Pomatorhinus hypoleucos</i>	heard only
White-browed Scimitar Babbler	<i>Pomatorhinus schisticeps annamensis</i>	
Streaked Wren Babbler	<i>Napothera brevicaudata</i>	
Sooty Babbler	<i>Stachyris herberti</i>	
Grey-throated Babbler	<i>Stachyris nigriceps</i>	
Pin-striped Tit Babbler	<i>Macronous gularis lutescens</i>	
Chestnut-capped Babbler	<i>Timalia pileata</i>	
Black-browed Fulvetta	<i>Alcippe grotei</i>	

**PASSERIFORMES: Acanthizidae**

Golden-bellied Gerygone	<i>Gerygone sulphurea</i>	heard only
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**PASSERIFORMES: Paridae**

Cinereous Tit	<i>Parus cinereus templorum</i>	heard only
Green-backed Tit	<i>Parus monticolus</i>	heard only

**PASSERIFORMES: Sittidae**

Neglected Nuthatch	<i>Sitta neglecta</i>
Velvet-fronted Nuthatch	<i>Sitta frontalis</i>

**PASSERIFORMES: Nectariniidae**

Purple Sunbird  
Olive-backed Sunbird  
Ruby-cheeked Sunbird  
Purple-naped Sunbird  
Black-throated Sunbird  
Crimson Sunbird  
Little Spiderhunter

*Cinnyris asiaticus*  
*Cinnyris jugularis*  
*Aethopyga singalensis koratensis*  
*Hypogramma hypogrammicum*  
*Aethopyga saturata ochra*  
*Aethopyga siparaja mangini*  
*Arachnothera longirostra*

**PASSERIFORMES: Dicaeidae**

Thick-billed Flowerpecker  
Plain Flowerpecker  
Fire-breasted Flowerpecker  
Scarlet-backed Flowerpecker

*Dicaeum agile*  
*Dicaeum concolor*  
*Dicaeum ignipectus cambodianum*  
*Dicaeum cruentatum*

**PASSERIFORMES: Zosteropidae**

Oriental White-eye

*Zosterops palpebrosus siamensis*

**PASSERIFORMES: Oriolidae**

Black-naped Oriole  
Black-hooded Oriole

*Oriolus chinensis diffusus*  
*Oriolus xanthornus*

**PASSERIFORMES: Irenidae**

Asian Fairy Bluebird

*Irena puella*

**PASSERIFORMES: Laniidae**

Brown Shrike  
Burmese Shrike  
Grey-backed Shrike

*Lanius cristatus*  
*Lanius colluriooides nigricapillus*  
*Lanius tephronotus*

**PASSERIFORMES: Prionopidae**

Large Woodshrike  
Common Woodshrike

*Tephrodornis gularis*  
*Tephrodornis pondicerianus*

**PASSERIFORMES: Dicruridae**

Black Drongo  
Ashy Drongo  
Lesser Racket-tailed Drongo  
Hair-crested Drongo  
Greater Racket-tailed Drongo

*Dicrurus macrocercus thai*  
*Dicrurus leucophaeus bondi*  
*Dicrurus remifer*  
*Dicrurus hottentottus hottentottus*  
*Dicrurus paradiseus*

**PASSERIFORMES: Corvidae**

Red-billed Blue Magpie  
Indochinese Green Magpie  
Rufous Treepie  
Racket-tailed Treepie  
Eastern Jungle Crow

*Urocissa erythrorhyncha magnirostris*  
*Cissa hypoleuca*  
*Dendrocitta vagabunda sakeratensis*  
*Crypsirina temia*  
*Corvus leuallantii macrorhynchos*

**PASSERIFORMES: Sturnidae**

Common Hill Myna  
White-vented Myna  
Common Myna  
Vinous-breasted Myna  
Black-collared Starling  
Asian Pied Starling  
White-shouldered Starling  
Chestnut-tailed Starling

*Gracula religiosa*  
*Acridotheres grandis*  
*Acridotheres tristis*  
*Acridotheres [burmannicus] leucocephalus*  
*Gracupica nigricollis*  
*Gracupica contra*  
*Sturnia sinensis*  
*Sturnia malabarica nemoricola*

**PASSERIFORMES: Ploceidae**

Baya Weaver

*Ploceus philippinus philippinus*

**PASSERIFORMES: Estrildidae**

Red Avadavat  
White-rumped Munia  
Scaly-breasted Munia

*Amandava amandava*  
*Lonchura striata*  
*Lonchura punctulata*

**PASSERIFORMES: Vireonidae**

Blyth's Shrike Babler  
Erpornis

*Pteruthius aeralatus ricketi*  
*Erpornis zantholeuca*

**MAMMALS**

Lyle's Flying Fox  
Long-tailed Macaque  
Pileated Gibbon  
Irrawaddy Dolphin  
Pallas' Squirrel  
Variable Squirrel  
Cambodian Striped Squirrel  
Eastern Striped Squirrel

*Pteropus lylei*  
*Macaca fascicularis*  
*Hylobates pileatu*  
*Orcaella brevirostris*  
*Callosciurus erythraeus flavimanus*  
*Callosciurus finlaysonii*  
*Tamiops rodolphei*  
*Tamiops maritimus*

heard only

**300 species recorded including 10 heard only**

**Bird-of-the-tour**

- 1 Chestnut-headed Partridge
- 2 Blue Pitta
- 3 Limestone Leaf Warbler
- 3= Bengal Florican
- 5 Giant Ibis
- 5= Bare-faced Bulbul

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