

Nepal

Feb. 28th to April 19th 1994

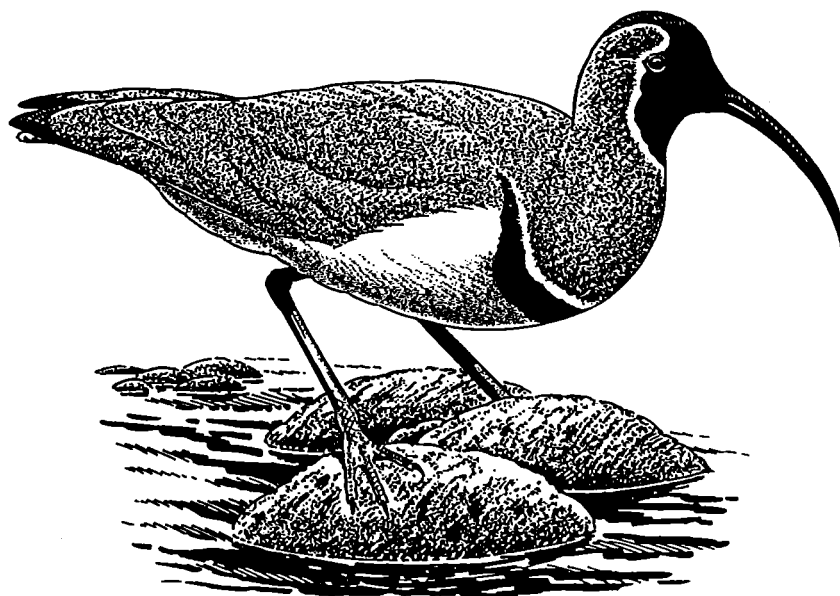


André Weiss
Badgasse 1
CH-8400 Winterthur
Switzerland

Walter Wettstein
Simmlersteig 18
CH-8038 Zürich
Switzerland

Contents

1. Introduction	1
2. Itinerary.....	1
3. Lists.....	2
3.1 Birds.....	2
3.2 Mammals	9
3.3 Butterflies	10
4. Sites.....	11
4.1 Kathmandu Valley.....	13
4.2 Royal Chitwan National Park.....	17
4.3 Langtang National Park.....	19
4.4 Kosi Barrage and Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve.....	21
4.5 Dharan	23
4.6 Hetauda.....	24
5. Bibliography.....	25
5.1. Maps.....	25



1. Introduction

We travelled through the Kingdom of Nepal in spring 1994. During this seven weeks we saw a lot of this beautiful country between the plains of the Ganges and the peaks of the Himalayas. We met a lot of nice and helpful people, poor in our sense but rich in their hearts.

There are a lot of books about Nepal, especially a lot of guides. We made this report as an addition to *The Birdwatcher's Guide to Nepal* by Carol Inskipp and tried to add more actual information and better maps for some sites. If you have more questions, just ask us:

André Weiss
Badgasse 1
8400 Winterthur
Switzerland

Walter Wettstein
Simmlersteig 18
8038 Zürich
Switzerland

There is a lot more to see in Nepal than only birds. Don't miss the rest !

Informations about culture, history, population etc. you will find in any guide about Nepal. For a birdwatcher it's important to know, that over 840 species have been recorded here. There are several different habitats close to each other. Be sure to visit the lowland (the Terai), eg. Chitwan National Park and/or Kosi Barrage and Dharan, and the Himalayas (eg. Langtang). Some species are found in the area between, in the hills. You can see a lot of this birds around Kathmandu (Phulchowki, Sheopuri).

Find a nice place to sleep is no problem in Kathmandu, there are thousands of hotels, lodges, guesthouses etc. In small villages it can be a problem. We indicate our lodges in chapter 4.

2. Itinerary

- 28.2. Arrival in Kathmandu
- 1.3. Excursion in the surroundings of Kathmandu
- 2.3. Kathmandu - Hetauda
- 3.3. Hetauda
- 4.3. Hetauda - Kosi Barrage
- 5.3. Kosi Barrage
- 6.3. Kosi Barrage - Koshi Tappu Wildlife Resort
- 7.3. Koshi Tappu - Dharan
- 8.-9.3. Dharan
- 10.3. Dharan - Biratnagar
- 11.3. Biratnagar - Narayanghat - Chitwan
- 12.-17.3. Chitwan National Park
- 18.3. Chitwan - Kathmandu
- 19.-26.3. Kathmandu, Trips to Sheopuri and Phulchowki
- 27.3. Kathmandu - Dhunche
- 28.3.-9.4. Trekking in Langtang National Park
- 10.4. Syabrubensi - Kathmandu
- 11.-18.4. Kathmandu, Trips to Phulchowki
- 19.4. Leaving for Europe

3. Lists

3.1 Birds

Index to the sites:

H: Hetauda (2.-3.3.)

KB: Kosi Barrage (4.-6.3.)

KT: Koshi Tappu (6.-7.3.)

D: Dharan (8.-9.3.)

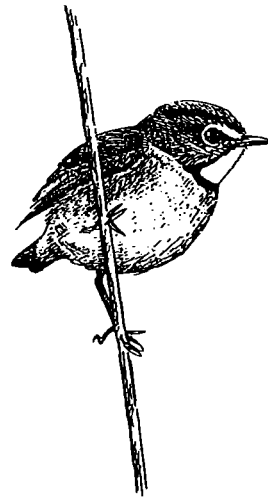
C: Chitwan (12.-17.3.)

L: Langtang-Trek (26.3.-10.4.)

K: Kathmandu, Baghmati River, Manora River (1.3.+25.3.)

S: Sheopuri (19.3.)

P: Phulchowki (20.3.,21.3.,23.3.,12.4.,14.4.,17.4.)



Used identification books:

Ali, S. and Ripley, S.D.(1983): A Pictorial Guide to the birds of the Indian Subcontinent, Bombay

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

The used English names are following Inskipp !

Little Grebe	Tachybaptus ruficollis	KB,KT
Great Crested Grebe	Podiceps cristatus	KB
Black-necked Grebe	Podiceps nigricollis	KB
Great Cormorant	Phalacrocorax carbo	H,KB,KT,C
Little Cormorant	Phalacrocorax niger	KB,KT
Darter	Anhinga melanogaster	KT,C
Eurasian Bittern	Botaurus stellaris	KB
Cinnamon Bittern	Ixobrychus cinnamomeus	C
Black-crowned Night Heron	Nycticorax nycticorax	C
Green-backed Heron	Butorides striatus	KB,C
Indian Pond Heron	Ardeola grayii	H,KB,KT,C,K
Cattle Egret	Bubulcus ibis	KB,KT,C,K,P
Little Egret	Egretta garzetta	H,KB,KT,C,K
Intermediate Egret	Egretta intermedia	KB,KT,C
Great Egret	Egretta alba	KB,KT
Grey Heron	Ardea cinerea	KB,KT
Purple Heron	Ardea purpurea	KB,KT
Asian Openbill Stork	Anastomus oscitans	KB,KT
Black Stork	Ciconia nigra	C
Woolly-necked Stork	Ciconia episcopus	C
Black-necked Stork	Ephippiorhynchus asiaticus	KT
Lesser Adjutant Stork	Leptoptilos javanicus	KB,KT,C
Red-naped Ibis	Pseudibis papillosa	H,KT,C
Oriental White Ibis	Threskiornis melanocephalus	KB,KT
Eurasian Spoonbill	Platalea leucorodia	KB,KT
Lesser Whistling Duck	Dendrocygna javanica	KB
Bar-headed Goose	Anser indicus	KB,KT
Ruddy Shelduck	Tadorna ferruginea	H,KB,KT,C
Cotton Pygmy Goose	Nettapus coromandelianus	KB
Eurasian Wigeon	Anas penelope	KB
Falcated Duck	Anas falcata	KB
Gadwall	Anas strepera	KB
Common Teal	Anas crecca	KB,C
Spotbill	Anas poecilorhyncha	KT
Northern Pintail	Anas actua	KB
Garganey	Anas querquedula	KB,KT

Bronze-winged Jacana		KB
Painted Snipe		KT,C
Ibisbill		H,L
Northern Stone-curlew		C
Little Pratincole		KB,KT,C
Little Ringed Plover		H,C,K
Kentish Plover		KB,KT
River Plover		H,KB,C
Red-wattled Plover		KB,KT,D,C
Northern Lapwing		KB
Temminck's Stint		KB,KT,C
Common Snipe		C
Solitary Snipe		L
Eurasian Curlew		KB
Spotted Redshank		C
Common Redshank		C
Common Greenshank		H,KB,KT,C
Green Sandpiper		H,KT,C,K
Common Sandpiper		H,C
Great Black-headed Gull		KB,KT
Common Black-headed Gull		KB,C
Gull-billed Tern		KB
River Tern		KB,KT
Rock Pigeon		L
Snow Pigeon		L
Speckled Woodpigeon		P
Eurasian Collared Dove		KT,C
Red Turtle Dove		C
Oriental Turtle Dove		L,S,P
Spotted Dove		H,KB,KT,D,C
Emerald Dove		C
Orange-breasted Green Pigeon		C
Pompadour Green Pigeon		D
Wedge-tailed Green Pigeon		P
Alexandrine Parakeet		H,C
Ring-necked Parakeet		H,P
Slaty-headed Parakeet		C
Blossom-headed Parakeet		H,D,C
Moustached Parakeet		C
Common Hawk-Cuckoo		H,C
Large Hawk-Cuckoo		P
Banded Bay Cuckoo		C
Indian Cuckoo		P
Common Cuckoo		L,K,P
Oriental Cuckoo		P
Lesser Cuckoo		P
Common Koel		P
Green-billed Malkoha		C
Greater Coucal		KB,KT,C
Lesser Coucal		C
Jungle Owlet		KT,D,C,P
Larg-tailed Nightjar		C
Jungle Nightjar		L
Alpine Swift		C
Little Swift		H,D,L,K,S,P
Crested Tree Swift		D,C
White-breasted Kingfisher		H,KB,KT,C,K
Stork-billed Kingfisher		KB,C
Common Kingfisher		H,KB,KT,C
Pied Kingfisher		H,KT,C
Metopidius indicus		
Rostratula benghalensis		
Ibidorhyncha struthersii		
Burhinus oedicephalus		
Glareola lactea		
Charadrius dubius		
Charadrius alexandrinus		
Hoplopterus duvaucelii		
Hoplopterus indicus		
Vanellus vanellus		
Calidris temminckii		
Gallinago gallinago		
Gallinago solitaria		
Numenius arquata		
Tringa erythropus		
Tringa totanus		
Tringa nebularia		
Tringa ochropus		
Actitis hypoleucos		
Larus ichthyaetus		
Larus ridibundus		
Gelochelidon nilotica		
Sterna aurantia		
Columba livia		
Columba leuconota		
Columba hodgsonii		
Streptopelia decaocto		
Streptopelia tranquebarica		
Streptopelia orientalis		
Streptopelia chinensis		
Chalcophaps indica		
Treron bicincta		
Treron pompadora		
Treron sphenura		
Psittacula eupatria		
Psittacula krameri		
Psittacula himalayana		
Psittacula cyanocephala		
Psittacula alexandri		
Hierococcyx varius		
Hierococcyx sparveoides		
Cacomantis sonneratii		
Cuculus micropterus		
Cuculus canorus		
Cuculus saturatus		
Cuculus poliocephalus		
Eudynamys scolopacea		
Phaenicophaeus tristis		
Centropus sinensis		
Centropus bengalensis		
Glaucidium radiatum		
Caprimulgus macrurus		
Caprimulgus indicus		
Apus melba		
Apus affinis		
Hemiprocne coronata		
Halcyon smyrnensis		
Pelargopsis capensis		
Alcedo atthis		
Ceryle rudis		

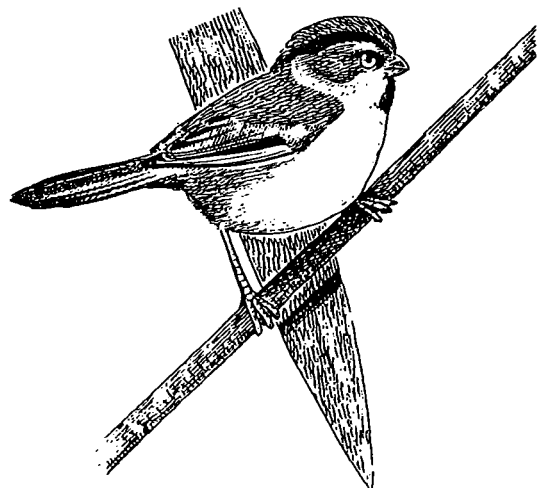
Northern Shoveler	<i>Anas clypeata</i>	KB,KT
Red-crested Porchard	<i>Netta rufina</i>	KB
Common Porchard	<i>Aythya ferina</i>	KB,KT
Ferruginous Duck	<i>Aythya nyroca</i>	KT
Tufted Duck	<i>Aythya fuligula</i>	KB,KT
Goosander	<i>Mergus merganser</i>	H
Crested Honey Buzzard	<i>Pernis ptilorhynchus</i>	D,C,P
Black-shouldered Kite	<i>Elanus caeruleus</i>	KB,KT,C
Black Kite	<i>Milvus migrans</i>	H,KB,KT,C,K,S,P
White-tailed Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus albicilla</i>	KT
Lesser Fishing Eagle	<i>Ichthyophaga nana</i>	C
Grey-headed Fishing Eagle	<i>Ichthyophaga ichthyaetus</i>	C
Lammergeier	<i>Gypaetus barbatus</i>	L
Oriental White-backed Vulture	<i>Gyps bengalensis</i>	H,KB,KT,C
Long-billed Vulture	<i>Gyps indicus</i>	H,K
Himalayan Griffon Vulture	<i>Gyps himalayensis</i>	L,P
Short-toed Eagle	<i>Circus gallicus</i>	KT
Crested Serpent Eagle	<i>Spilornis cheela</i>	C
Eurasian Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>	KB,KT
Hen Harrier	<i>Circus cyaneus</i>	KB,K
Pallid Harrier	<i>Circus macrourus</i>	KT
Montagu's Harrier	<i>Circus pygargus</i>	KB,KT
Pied Harrier	<i>Circus melanoleucus</i>	KB,KT,C
Northern Goshawk	<i>Accipiter gentilis</i>	L
Besra	<i>Accipiter virgatus</i>	D
Northern Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter nisus</i>	C,S
Shikra	<i>Accipiter badius</i>	D,C
White-eyed Buzzard	<i>Buteo teesa</i>	KT,C
Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	K
Upland Buzzard	<i>Buteo hemilasius</i>	L
Black Eagle	<i>Ictinaetus malayensis</i>	S,P
Lesser Spotted Eagle	<i>Aquila pomarina</i>	KB,C
Greater Spotted Eagle	<i>Aquila clanga</i>	KB
Steppe Eagle	<i>Aquila nipalensis</i>	H,C,K
Booted Eagle	<i>Hieraetus pennatus</i>	S
Mountain Hawk-Eagle	<i>Spizaetus nipalensis</i>	S
Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	KB,KT
Red-thighed Falconet	<i>Microhierax caerulescens</i>	D
Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	H,KB,Kt,L,K
Red-necked Falcon	<i>Falco chicquera</i>	KB
Amur Falcon	<i>Falco amurensis</i>	L
Peregrine	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	KB
Tibetean Snowcock	<i>Tetraogallus tibetanus</i>	L
Black Francolin	<i>Francolinus francolinus</i>	C,L
Swamp Francolin	<i>Francolinus gularis</i>	KT
Common Hill Partridge	<i>Arborophila torqueola</i>	P
Blood Pheasant	<i>Ithaginis cruentus</i>	L
Himalayan Monal	<i>Lophophorus impejanus</i>	L
Red Junglefowl	<i>Gallus gallus</i>	D,C
Kalij Pheasant	<i>Lophura leucomelana</i>	C,S,P
Blue Peafowl	<i>Pavo cristatus</i>	D,C
Water Rail	<i>Rallus aquaticus</i>	KB,KT
Ruddy-breasted Crake	<i>Porzana fusca</i>	KB,KT,C
Brown Crake	<i>Amaurornis akool</i>	C
White-breasted Waterhen	<i>Amaurornis phoenicurus</i>	KT,C
Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>	KB,KT,C
Purple Gallinule	<i>Porphyrio porphyrio</i>	KB
Common Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>	KB,KT
Bengal Florican	<i>Houbaropsis bengalensis</i>	C
Pheasant-tailed Jacana	<i>Hydrophasianus chirurgus</i>	KB

Northern Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>	L
Rufous-breasted Accentor	<i>Prunella strophiatea</i>	L
Altai Accentor	<i>Prunella himalayana</i>	L
Siberian Rubythroat	<i>Luscinia calliope</i>	H,KT
Bluethroat	<i>Luscinia svecica</i>	KB,KT,C
Orange-flanked Bush-Robin	<i>Tarsiger cyanurus</i>	L
Asian Magpie-Robin	<i>Copsychus saularis</i>	KB,KT,C,K,S,P
White-rumped Shama	<i>Copsychus malabaricus</i>	D,C
Black Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>	KB
Blue-fronted Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus frontalis</i>	L
Plumbeous Redstart	<i>Rhyacornis fuliginosus</i>	H,L,S
Common Stonechat	<i>Saxicola torquata</i>	KB,KT,C,L
White-tailed Stonechat	<i>Saxicola leucura</i>	C
Pied Bushchat	<i>Saxicola caprata</i>	C,K
Grey Bushchat	<i>Saxicola ferrea</i>	L,P
White-capped Redstart	<i>Chaimarrornis leucocephalus</i>	H,L,S
Chestnut-bellied Rock-Trush	<i>Monticola rufiventris</i>	L,P
Blue Whistling Trush	<i>Myiophoneus caeruleus</i>	C,L,P
Scaly Trush	<i>Zoothera dauma</i>	P
Tickell's Trush	<i>Turdus unicolor</i>	P
Grey-winged Blackbird	<i>Turdus boulboul</i>	C,L,P
Black-throated Trush	<i>Turdus ruficollis atrogularis</i>	H,P
Little Forktail	<i>Enicurus scouleri</i>	L
Black-backed Forktail	<i>Enicurus immaculatus</i>	C
Spotted Forktail	<i>Enicurus maculatus</i>	L,S,P
Chestnut-headed Tesia	<i>Tesia castaneocoronata</i>	P
Grey-bellied Tesia	<i>Tesia cyaniventer</i>	L,P
Pale-footed Bush Warbler	<i>Cettia pallidipes</i>	C
Aberrant Bush Warbler	<i>Cettia flavolivacea</i>	P
Fan-tailed Cisticola	<i>Cisticola juncidis</i>	C
Plain Prinia	<i>Prinia inornata</i>	KB,C
Yellow-bellied Prinia	<i>Prinia flaviventris</i>	KB,C
Striated Prinia	<i>Prinia criniger</i>	C,L,S,P
Greycapped Prinia	<i>Prinia cinereocapilla</i>	C
Common Tailorbird	<i>Orthotomus sutorius</i>	KB,KT,C,S
Striated Marsh Warbler	<i>Megalurus palustris</i>	KB
Paddyfield Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus agricola</i>	KB,KT
Blyth's Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus dumetorum</i>	KB
Golden-spectacled Warbler	<i>Seicercus burkii</i>	L,P
Chestnut-crowned Warbler	<i>Seicercus castaniceps</i>	P
Grey-hooded Warbler	<i>Seicercus xanthoschistos</i>	L,S,P
Black-faced Warbler	<i>Abroscopus schisticeps</i>	P
Blyth's Crowned Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus reguloides</i>	D,C,L,P
Western Crowned Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus occipitalis</i>	P
Greenish Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochiloides</i>	KT,D
Large-billed Leaf Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus magnirostris</i>	L
Orange-barred Leaf Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus pulcher</i>	S,P
Grey-faced Leaf Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus maculipennis</i>	L
Pallas's Leaf Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus proregulus</i>	D,S,P
Yellow-browed Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus inornatus</i>	L
Hume's Yellow-browed Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus humei</i>	P
Dusky Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus fuscatus</i>	H,KB,KT
Smoky Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus fulgiventis</i>	C
Tickell's Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus affinis</i>	KB,KT,L
Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>	C,K
Small Niltava	<i>Niltava macgrigoriae</i>	L,P
Rufous-bellied Niltava	<i>Niltava sundara</i>	L,P
Pale-chinned Flycatcher	<i>Cyornis poliogenys</i>	C
Hill Blue Flycatcher	<i>Cyornis banyumas</i>	L
Pygmy Blue Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapella hodgsoni</i>	P

Blue-bearded Bee-eater	<i>Nyctornis athertoni</i>	D,C
Green Bee-eater	<i>Merops orientalis</i>	H,KB,KT,C
Chestnut-headed Bee-eater	<i>Merops leschenaulti</i>	H,D,C
Indian Roller	<i>Coracias benghalensis</i>	H,KB,D,C
Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>	KB,KT,C,L
Oriental Pied Hornbill	<i>Anthracoceros coronatus</i>	D,C
Great Pied Hornbill	<i>Buceros bicornis</i>	C
Great Barbet	<i>Megalaima virens</i>	P
Lineated Barbet	<i>Megalaima lineata</i>	C
Golden-throated Barbet	<i>Megalaima franklinii</i>	L
Blue-eared Barbet	<i>Megalaima australis</i>	D
Coppersmith Barbet	<i>Megalaima haemacephala</i>	D
Orange-rumped Honeyguide	<i>Indicator xanthonotus</i>	L
Eurasian Wryneck	<i>Jynx torquilla</i>	KB,KT
Speckled Piculet	<i>Picumnus innominatus</i>	C
Lesser Yellow-naped Woodpecker	<i>Picus chlorolopus</i>	D,C,P
Greater Yellow-naped Woodpecker	<i>Picus flavinucha</i>	H
Grey-headed Woodpecker	<i>Picus canus</i>	C,L,P
Streak-throated Green Woodpecker	<i>Picus myrmecophoneus</i>	C
Himalayan Golden-backed Woodp.	<i>Dinopium shorii</i>	C
Greater Golden-backed Woodpecker	<i>Chrysocolaptes lucidus</i>	H
Darjeeling Pied Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos darjellensis</i>	L
Fulvous-breasted Pied Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos macei</i>	C,S
Grey-capped Pygmy Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos canicapillus</i>	D,C
Bengal Bush Lark	<i>Mirafrassina assamica</i>	KB,C
Ashy-crowned Finchlark	<i>Eremopterix grisea</i>	KT,C
Sandlark	<i>Calandrella raytal</i>	H,KB,C
Oriental Skylark	<i>Alauda gulgula</i>	C,K
Brown-throated Sand Martin	<i>Riparia palludicola</i>	H,C,KB,K
Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	H,KB,KT,K,S,P
Red-rumped Swallow	<i>Hirundo daurica</i>	S
Nepal House-Martin	<i>Delichon nipalensis</i>	L
Richard's Pipit	<i>Anthus novaeseelandiae</i>	H,KB,C,K
Olive-backed Pipit	<i>Anthus hodgsoni</i>	H,KB,C,K
Rosy Pipit	<i>Anthus roseatus</i>	KB,C,L,K
Upland Pipit	<i>Anthus sylvanus</i>	L
Yellow Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava</i>	KB
Citrine Wagtail	<i>Motacilla citreola</i>	KB,C
Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>	H,KB,C,L,S
White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>	H,KB,KT,C,L,K
White-browed Wagtail	<i>Motacilla maderaspatensis</i>	H,C
Common Woodshrike	<i>Tephrodornis pondicerianus</i>	D,C
Large Woodshrike	<i>Tephrodornis gularis</i>	D,C
Bar-winged Flycatcher-shrike	<i>Hemipus picatus</i>	D,C
Large Cuckoo-shrike	<i>Coracina novaehollandiae</i>	H,D,C
Scarlet Minivet	<i>Percrocotus flammeus</i>	D,C,S
Long-tailed Minivet	<i>Percrocotus ethologus</i>	D,L,P
Grey-chinned Minivet	<i>Percrocotus solaris</i>	P
Small Minivet	<i>Percrocotus cinnamomeus</i>	D
Striated Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus striatus</i>	P
Black-crested Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus melanicterus</i>	D,C
Red-whiskered Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus jocosus</i>	KT,P
White-cheeked Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus leucogenys</i>	D,L,S,P
Red-vented Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus cafer</i>	H,KB,KT,C,K,S
Mountain Bulbul	<i>Hypsipetes mcclllandii</i>	P
Black Bulbul	<i>Hypsipetes madagascariensis</i>	C,L,S,P
Common Iora	<i>Aegithina tiphia</i>	D,C
Golden-throated Leafbird	<i>Chloropsis aurifrons</i>	D,C
Orange-bellied Leafbird	<i>Chloropsis hardwickii</i>	P
Brown Dipper	<i>Cinclus pallasii</i>	L

Black-hooded Oriole	Oriolus xanthornus	KB,KT,D,C
Brown Shrike	Lanius cristatus	H,KB
Long-tailed Shrike	Lanius schach	KB,KT,C,L,K,S,P
Grey-backed Shrike	Lanius tephronotus	KB,P
Black Drongo	Dicrurus macrocercus	H,KB,KT,C,K,S
Ashy Drongo	Dicrurus leucophaeus	P
White-bellied Drongo	Dicrurus caerulescens	D
Crow-billed Drongo	Dicrurus annectans	C
Bronzed Drongo	Dicrurus aeneus	D,C,L,P
Lesser Racket-tailed Drongo	Dicrurus remifer	P
Spangled Drongo	Dicrurus hottentottus	H,C
Ashy Woodswallow	Artamus fuscus	D
Eurasian Jay	Garrulus glandarius	P
Yellow-billed Blue Magpie	Urocissa flavirostris	L
Red-billed Blue Magpie	Urocissa erythrorhyncha	D,C
Green Magpie	Cissa chinensis	C
Rufous Treepie	Dendrocitta vagabunda	H,KB,KT,C
Grey Treepie	Dendrocitta formosae	S,P
Eurasian Nutcracker	Nucifraga caryocatactes	L
Alpine Chough	Pyrrhocorax graculus	L
Red-billed Chough	Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax	L
House Crow	Corvus splendens	H,KB,KT,K,S,P
Jungle Crow	Corvus macrorhynchos	H,D,C,L,P
Common Raven	Corvus corax	L
Spot-winged Stare	Saroglossa spiloptera	C
Chestnut-tailed Starling	Sturnus malabaricus	D,C
Asian Pied Starling	Sturnus contra	KB,KT
Common Mynah	Acridotheres tristis	H,KT,D,C,K,S,P
Bank Mynah	Acridotheres ginginianus	KB
Jungle Mynah	Acridotheres fuscus	D,C,S,P
Hill Mynah	Gracula religiosa	D
House Sparrow	Passer domesticus	H,KB,KT,C,K,SP
Spanish Sparrow	Passer hispaniolensis	KB
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	Passer montanus	H,L,K,P
Red Avadavat	Amandava amandava	KT,C
Yellow-breasted Greenfinch	Carduelis spinoides	S,P
Plain Mountain-Finch	Leucosticte nemoricola	L
Common Rosefinch	Carpodacus erythrinus	L
Beautiful Rosefinch	Carpodacus pulcherrimus	L
Pink-browed Rosefinch	Carpodacus rhodochrus	L
Scarlet Finch	Haematoaspiza sipahi	P
Red-headed Bullfinch	Pyrrhula erythrocephala	L
Spot-winged Grosbeak	Mycerobas melanozanthos	L
Black-faced Bunting	Emberiza spodocephala	KB
Little Bunting	Emberiza pusilla	P
Yellow-breasted Bunting	Emberiza aureola	KB,KT
Crested Bunting	Melophus lathami	KT,C,L

Total 383 species



Verditer Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa thalassina</i>	D,L,P
Asian Sooty Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa sibirica</i>	P
Rufous-tailed Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa ruficauda</i>	C,P
Slaty-blue Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula tricolor</i>	L,S,P
Orange-gorgetted Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula strophata</i>	L,P
Red-breasted Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula parva</i>	H,KT,D,C,P
Grey-headed Flycatcher	<i>Culiciapa ceylonensis</i>	L,P
Yellow-bellied Fantail	<i>Rhipidura hypoxantha</i>	L,P
White-throated Fantail	<i>Rhipidura albicollis</i>	C
White-browed Fantail	<i>Rhipidura aureola</i>	KB
Puff-throated Babbler	<i>Pellorneum ruficeps</i>	C
Rusty-cheeked Scimitar-Babbler	<i>Pomatorhinus erythrogeus</i>	P
Greater Scaly-breasted Wren-Babbler	<i>Pnoepyga albiventer</i>	L
Black-chinned Babbler	<i>Stachyris pyrrhops</i>	P
Grey-throated Babbler	<i>Stachyris nigriceps</i>	P
Striped Tit-Babbler	<i>Macronous gularis</i>	C
Red-capped Babbler	<i>Timalia pileata</i>	C
Yellow-eyed Babbler	<i>Chrysomma sinense</i>	C
Black-throated Parrotbill	<i>Paradoxornis nipalensis</i>	L
Spiny Babbler	<i>Turdoides nipalensis</i>	P
Striated Babbler	<i>Turdoides earlei</i>	KB,KT
Slender-billed Babbler	<i>Turdoides longirostris</i>	C
Jungle Babbler	<i>Turdoides striatus</i>	C
White-throated Laughing-trush	<i>Garrulax albogularis</i>	L,P
Lesser Necklaced Laughing-trush	<i>Garrulax monileger</i>	C
Striated Laughing-trush	<i>Garrulax striatus</i>	L,P
Variiegated Laughing-trush	<i>Garrulax variegatus</i>	L
Rufous-chinned Laughing-trush	<i>Garrulax rufogularis</i>	P
Rufous-necked Laughing-trush	<i>Garrulax ruficollis</i>	C
Streaked Laughing-trush	<i>Garrulax lineatus</i>	L
Chestnut-crowned Laughing-trush	<i>Garrulax erythrocephalus</i>	L,P
Chestnut-tailed Minla	<i>Minla strigula</i>	L,S,P
Rufous-winged Fulvetta	<i>Alcippe castaneiceps</i>	P
White-browed Fulvetta	<i>Alcippe vinipectus</i>	L,P
Nepal Fulvetta	<i>Alcippe nipalensis</i>	S,P
Black-capped Sibia	<i>Heterophasia capistrata</i>	L,S,P
Stripe-throated Yuhina	<i>Yuhina gularis</i>	L,S
Rufous-vented Yuhina	<i>Yuhina occipitalis</i>	L,P
Black-browed Tit	<i>Aegithalos iouschistos</i>	L
Black-throated Tit	<i>Aegithalos concinnus</i>	L,S,P
Rufous-naped Black Tit	<i>Parus rufonuchalis</i>	L
Coal Tit	<i>Parus ater</i>	L
Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>	D,C,P
Green-backed Tit	<i>Parus monticolus</i>	L,S,P
Black-lored Tit	<i>Parus xanthogenys</i>	L,S,P
Velvet-fronted Nuthatch	<i>Sitta frontalis</i>	D,C
White-tailed Nuthatch	<i>Sitta himalayensis</i>	L,P
Chestnut-bellied Nuthatch	<i>Sitta castanea</i>	D,C
Wallcreeper	<i>Tichodroma muraria</i>	H
Rusty-flanked Treecreeper	<i>Certhia nipalensis</i>	P
Purple Sunbird	<i>Nectarinia asiatica</i>	C,P
Mrs. Gould's Sunbird	<i>Aethopyga gouldiae</i>	L,P
Green-tailed Sunbird	<i>Aethopyga nipalensis</i>	L,P
Black-throated Sunbird	<i>Aethopyga saturata</i>	L,S,P
Crimson Sunbird	<i>Aethopyga siparaja</i>	C
Fire-tailed Sunbird	<i>Aethopyga ignicauda</i>	S
Yellow-bellied Flowerpecker	<i>Dicaeum melanoxanthum</i>	P
Buff-bellied Flowerpecker	<i>Dicaeum ignipectus</i>	L,P
Oriental White-eye	<i>Zosterops palpebrosa</i>	D,C,S,P
Maroon Oriole	<i>Oriolus trailii</i>	L,P

3.3 Butterflies

Identification Book: Smith, C. (1993): Illustrated Checklist of Nepal's Butterflies, Lashkar

Nepal Skipper	<i>Spialia nepalensis</i>	Common around Kyangjin Gompa
Restricted Demon	<i>Notocrypta curvifascia</i>	1 ex Phulchowki
Common Blue Apollo	<i>Parnassius hardwickei</i>	First generation, above Langtang
Six-Bar Sworotail	<i>Pathysa eurous</i>	1 ex Phulchowki
Glassy Bluebottle	<i>Graphium cloanthus</i>	Some on Phulchowki
Tailed Jay	<i>Graphium agamemnon</i>	1 ex Chitwan
Common Yellow Swallowtail	<i>Papilio machaon</i>	1 ex Rhimche
Blue Peacock	<i>Papilio arcturus</i>	Godaveri, Phulchowki
Spangle	<i>Papilio protenor</i>	Godaveri
Common Rose	<i>Pachliopta aristolochiae</i>	1 ex Godaveri
Common Windmill	<i>Atrophaneura polyeuctes</i>	Syabru, Godaveri, Phulchowki
Great Windmill	<i>Atrophaneura dasarada</i>	1 ex Phulchowki, lower slopes
Birdwing	<i>Troides sp.</i>	Godaveri
Large Cabbage White	<i>Pieris brassicae</i>	Common
Indian Cabbage White	<i>Pieris canidia</i>	Common
Bath White	<i>Pontia daplidice</i>	Common along the Bagmati River
Hill Jezebel	<i>Delias belladonna</i>	Godaveri, Phulchowki
Yellow Jezebel	<i>Delias agostina</i>	Godaveri
Lesser Brimstone	<i>Gonepteryx aspasia</i>	Below Rhimche
Common Grass Yellow	<i>Terias hecabe</i>	Common
Pale clouded Yellow	<i>Colias erate</i>	Godaveri, Phulchowki
Dark clouded Yellow	<i>Colias fieldii</i>	Common
Centaur Oakblue	<i>Amblopala pseudocentaurus</i>	Dharan, in dry riverbed
Silver-Grey Silverline	<i>Spindasis nipalicus</i>	1 ex Phulchowki
Bispost Royal	<i>Ancema ctesia</i>	1 ex Phulchowki
Common Flash	<i>Rapala nissa</i>	1 ex Syabru, 1 ex Phulchowki
Eastern Blue Sapphire	<i>Heliophorus oda</i>	Below Langtang
Peablu	<i>Lampides boeticus</i>	Common in the Kathmandu Valley
Large Hedge-Blue	<i>Celastrina huegellii</i>	Phulchowki
Break	<i>Libythea sp.</i>	Phulchowki
Tailed Punch	<i>Dodona eugenes</i>	Phulchowki
Mixed Punch	<i>Dodona ouida</i>	Phulchowki
Dark Judy	<i>Abisara fiella</i>	Phulchowki
Punchinello	<i>Zemerus flegyas</i>	1 ex Godaveri
Queen of Spain Fritillary	<i>Issoria issaea</i>	Along the Langtang-trek
Spotted Jester	<i>Symbrenthia hypselis</i>	Phulchowki
Painted Lady	<i>Vanessa cardui</i>	Common
Indian Red Admiral	<i>Vanessa indica</i>	Common
Indian Tortoiseshell	<i>Aglais cashmirensis</i>	Common
Blue Admiral	<i>Kaniska canace</i>	Phulchowki
Peacock Pansy	<i>Precis almana</i>	Godaveri, Phulchowki
Grey Pansy	<i>Precis altlites</i>	Kosi Barrage
Chocolate Pansy	<i>Precis iphita</i>	Common
Great Eggfly	<i>Hypolimnas bolina</i>	Common
Common Sailer	<i>Neptis hylas</i>	Godaveri
Common Map	<i>Cyrestis thyodamas</i>	1 ex Phulchowki
Dark Evening Brown	<i>Melanitis phedima</i>	Common
Treble Silverstripe	<i>Lethe baladeva</i>	Phulchowki
Stright-Banded Treebrown	<i>Lethe verma</i>	Godaveri, Phulchowki
Common Woodbrown	<i>Zophoessa sidonis</i>	Phulchowki
Plain Tiger	<i>Danaus chrysippus</i>	Chitwan
Common Tiger	<i>Danaus genutia</i>	Kosi Barrage, Chitwan, Kathmandu
Dark Blue Tiger	<i>Trimalia linmiace</i>	Godaveri
Blue Glassy Tiger	<i>Trimalia septentrionis</i>	
Striped Blue Crow	<i>Euploea mulciber</i>	
Common Indian Crow	<i>Euploea core</i>	

3.2 Mammals

Index to the sites:

KT: Koshi Tappu

D: Dharan

C: Chitwan

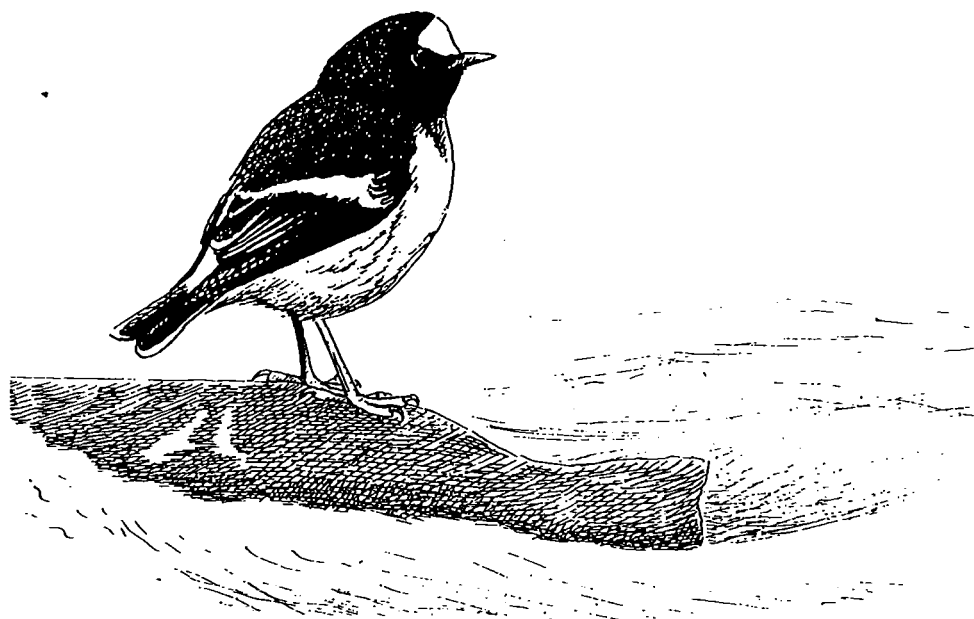
P: Phulchowki

L: Langtang-Trek

Used for identification:

Majupuria, T.C. (1982): Wild is Beautiful, Devi India

Bats spec.		KT,D,C,P
Rhesus Macaque	<i>Macaca mulatta</i>	D
Grey Langur	<i>Presbytis entellus</i>	D,C,L
Golden Jackal	<i>Canis aureus</i>	C
Sloth Bear	<i>Melursus ursinus</i>	C
Weasel spec.	<i>Mustela spec.</i>	L
Common Palm Civet	<i>Paradoxurus hermaphroditus</i>	D
Mongoose spec.	<i>Herpestes spec.</i>	C
Indian Rhinoceros	<i>Rhinoceros unicornis</i>	C
Wild Boar	<i>Sus scrofa</i>	C
Indian Muntjac	<i>Muntiacus muntjak</i>	C
Chital	<i>Cervus axis</i>	D,C
Hog Deer	<i>Cervus porcinus</i>	C
Sambar	<i>Cervus unicolor</i>	C
Water Buffalo	<i>Bubalus bubalis</i>	KT
Orange-bellied Squirrel	<i>Dremomys lokriah</i>	L
Flying Squirrel spec.		P
Royle's Pika	<i>Ochotana royley</i>	



28.3 - 9.4 1994

Andre Weiss and Walter Weltstein,
Switzerland.

4.3 Langtang National Park

Trekking in the Langtang Valley is easy. There are a lot of lodges and food is available in every village. Beside the birds, the scenery in the upper valley is most spectacular.

Observed Birds:

Lammergeier
Himalayan Griffon Vulture
Upland Buzzard
Amur Falcon
Tibetan Snowcock
Blood Pheasant
Himalayan Monal
Ibisbill
Solitary Snipe
Snow Pigeon
Jungle Nightjar
Golden-throated Barbet
Orange-rumped Honeyguide
Darjeeling Pied Woodpecker

Nepal House-Martin
Upland Pipit
Brown Dipper
Rufous-breasted Accentor
Altai Accentor
Orange-flanked Bush-Robin
Blue-fronted Redstart
Little Forktail
Large-billed Leaf Warbler
Grey-faced Leaf Warbler
Yellow-browed Warbler
Small Niltava
Rufous-bellied Niltava
Hill Blue Flycatcher

Greater Scaly-breasted Wren-Babbler
Black-throated Parrotbill
Variegated Laughing-trush
Streaked Laughing-trush
Black-browed Tit
Yellow-bellied Blue Magpie
Red-billed Chough
Plain Mountain Finch
Common Rosefinch
Beautiful Rosefinch
Pink-browed Rosefinch
Red-headed Bullfinch
Spot-winged Grosbeak

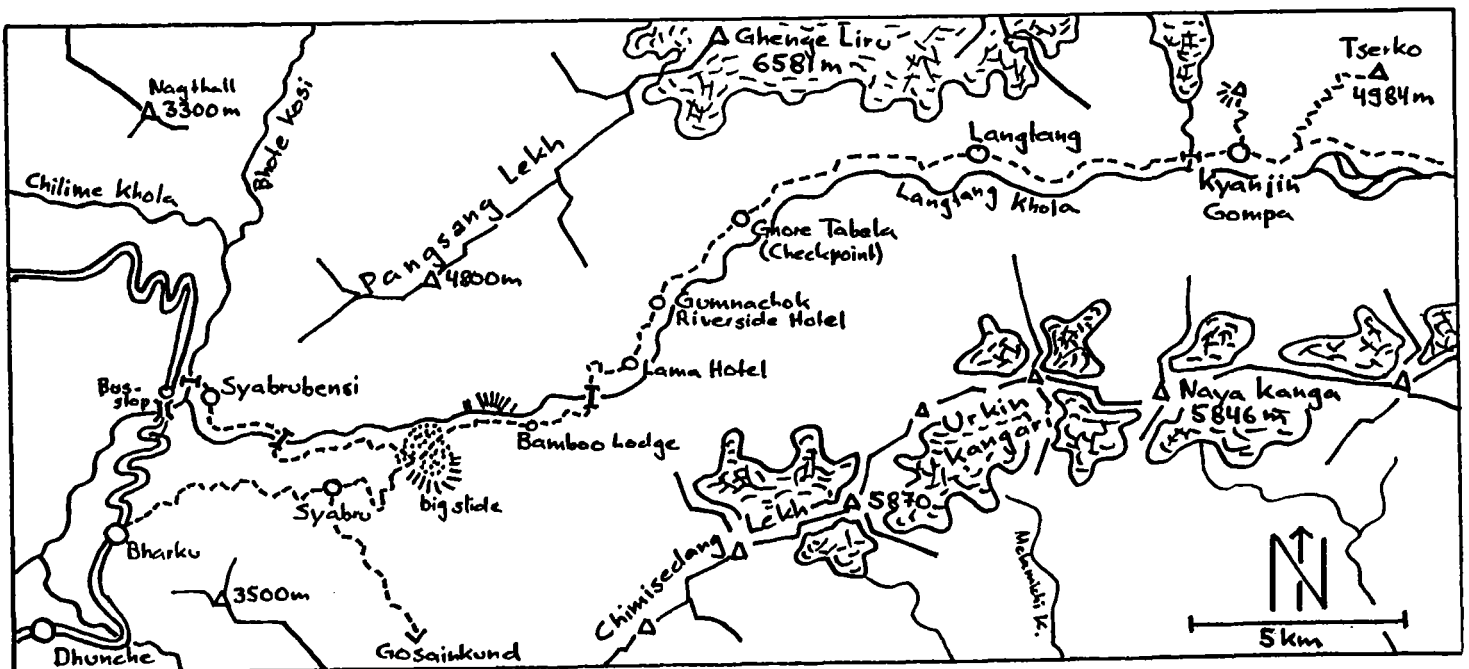
above
Kyangjin
Gompa
4200m

107 near Syabru

You can reach Dhunche or Syabrubensi by Bus from Kathmandu. You will need about 7hrs, including several stops at checkpoints. From Dhunche you can reach Kyangjin Gompa in two days if you want. We recommend the following route:

- Day 1 Dhunche - Syabru
- Day 2 Syabru - Bamboo Lodge
- Day 3 Bamboo Lodge - Riverside Hotel
- Day 4 Riverside Hotel - Langtang
- Day 5 Langtang - Kyangjin Gompa
- Day 6 Spending around Kyangjin Gompa
- Day 7 Kyangjin Gompa - Riverside Hotel
- Day 8 Riverside Hotel - Syabrubensi

Like this, you will have a lot of time for birdwatching. If you have time, stay perhaps one day in Syabru (searching for the Satyr Tragopan) and one or even two days more in Kyangjin Gompa, exploring the upper Langtang Valley.



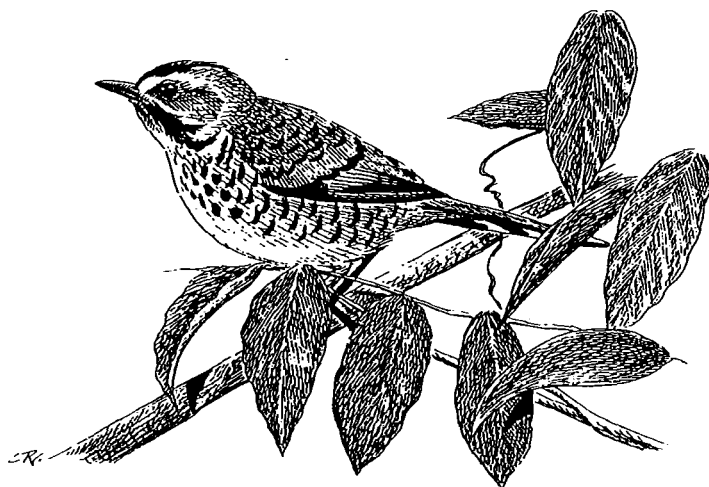
There are a lot of lodges on your way. We definitely recommend the Bamboo Lodge and the Riverside Hotel, both with very friendly and helpfull staff. We definitely warn you from the Hotel Langtang View in Dhunche. It looks nice, but we got terribly sick of the food there.

While trekking, birdlife can change quite fast when entering in a new habitat. In Kyangjin Gompa we found the Upland Buzzard, the Tibetean Snowcocks (on the mountains surrounding the village), the Blood Pheasant (in the leaf-forest on the left side of the valley, just opposite the village), the Ibisbill, the Solitary Snipe (look out in the stony riverplains for this two species) and the Plain Mountain Finches.

The Orange-rumped Honeyguide we found in a gorge between Syabru and the Bamboo Lodge (see on the map). The Upland Pipit and the Jungle Nightjar are found around Dhunche, the Brown Dipper in the first river you cross after Dhunche and the Amur Falcon in Syabru. Most birds like the Himalayan Monal or the Griffon Vulture are easy to see.

Take a warm sleeping bag with you, it can be very cold. We had snowfall in Kjanjin Gompa. Food and drinking water is available everywhere, but gets more and more expensive with the height. Take enough money with you !

For this trek (and all others) you need a permit. You can obtain it at the Immigration Office in Thamel, Kathmandu.



The two ponds south of the road to Itahari are good for jacanas and other reed birds. The way to the Pink Tower is very worthwhile, on your right side you can see the lake, where we saw the Falcated Duck, on the left lies marshland with storks and crakes. The dam on the eastside is good for marshbirds. Don't forget to watch the skies carefully for migrating raptors. We also explored the sandy island south of the western village, but it wasn't worth it.

Koshi Tappu

Koshi Tappu is a Wildlife Reserve, about 10kms north of Kosi Barrage. The main habitats are grassland, scrub and degraded riverine forests.

There is simple accomodation at the headquarter in Kusaha, we paid 20Rs each. You can even get meals there (Dal Bhat), but quite expensive ones. There is no safe drinking water at the headquarter!

To visit the reserve you need a permit. You can get it at the headquarter for 650 Rs (good for two days). Best is, you arrive in the afternoon, make an evening excursion and on the next day one in the morning. Staying one night should be enough to cover the area around Kusaha. In early morning you should watch out for the Swamp Francolins on the dam. They are easy to see. On the flood plains you can see Waterbuffalos, the last wild ones in Nepal.

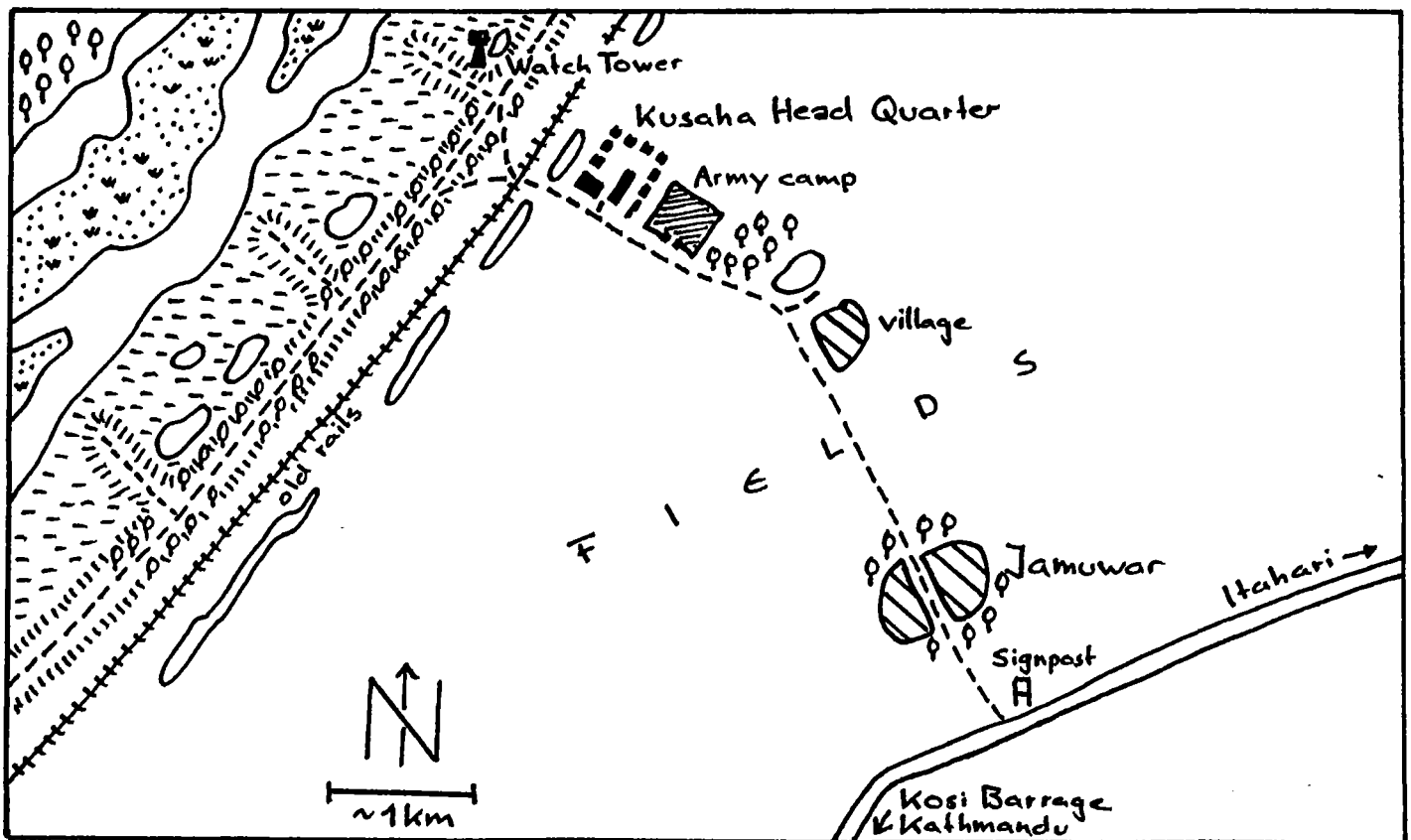
Observed Birds:

Egrets and Herons
 Black-necked Stork
 Spotbill
 White-tailed Eagle

Short-toed Eagle
 White-eyed Buzzard
 Swamp Francolin
 Painted Snipe

Siberian Rubythroat
 Red Avadavat
 Yellow-breasted Bunting
 Ashy-crowned Finchlark (Jamuwar)

It's easy to connect a trip to Kosi Barrage with an additional night at Koshi Tappu. At Kosi Barrage, take a bus or a truck in direction to Itahari. About 6km after Kosi Barrage you will see on the left side a signpost marked "Koshi Tappu 2.6 km". Get off there and walk then, passing the village of Jamuwar and an army-camp to the Kusaha Headquarter.



4.4 Kosi Barrage and Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve

Kosi Barrage

The area around Kosi Barrage is the largest wetland in Nepal and holds a rich variety of migrating wildfowl, waders and marsh birds. It's also a good spot for vagrants.

Observed Birds:

Little Cormorant
Green-backed Heron
Egrets and Herons
Asian Openbill Stork
Lesser Adjutant Stork
Oriental White Ibis
Lesser Whistling Duck
Bar-headed Goose
Cotton Pygmy Goose
Falcated Duck
Pied Harrier
Osprey
Red-necked Falcon

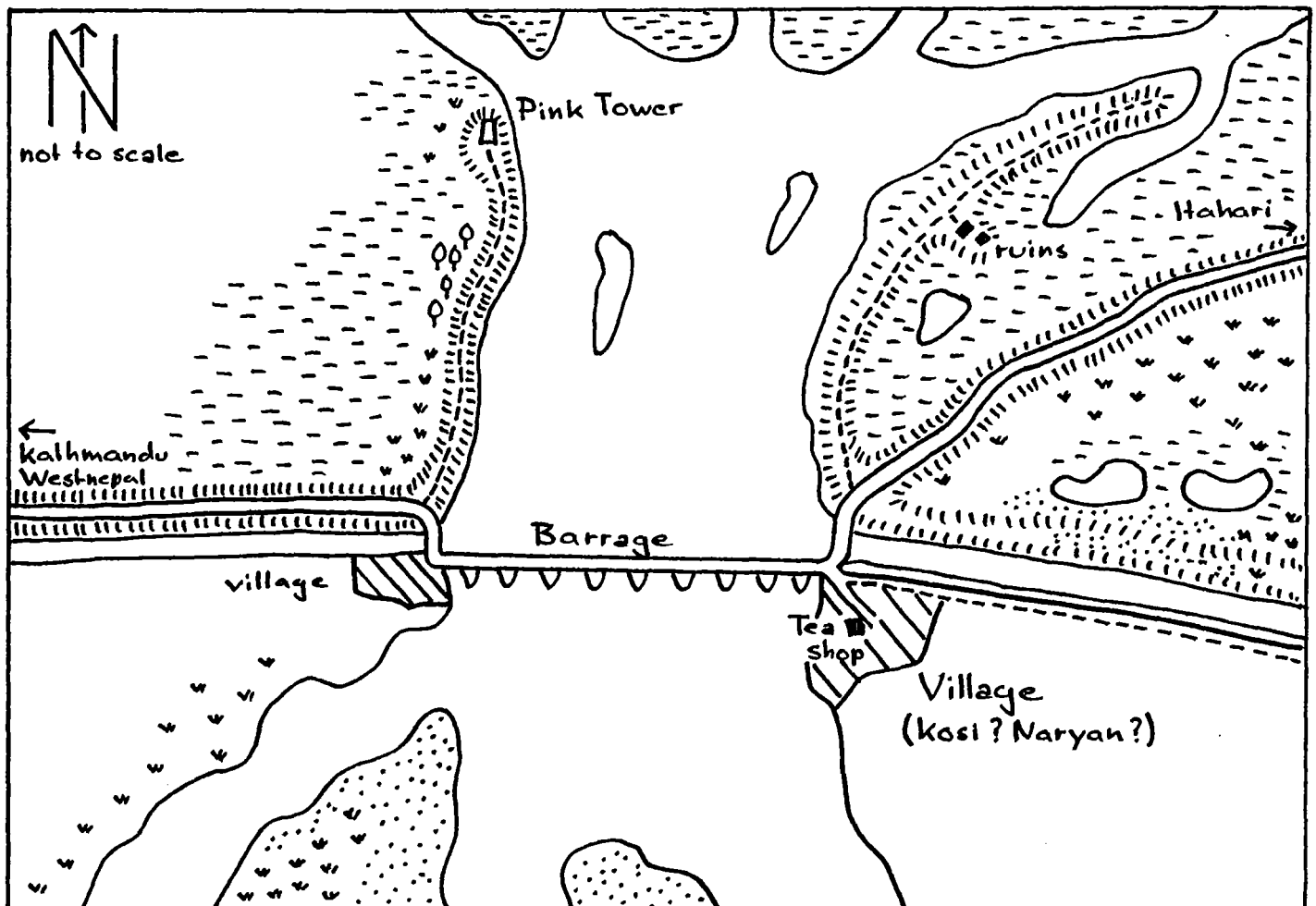
Ruddy-breasted Crake
Pheasant-tailed Jacana
Bronze-winged Jacana
Little Pratincole
Great Black-headed Gull
River Tern
Greater Coucal
Stork-billed Kingfisher
Bengal Bush Lark
Sandlark
Citrine Wagtail
Plain Prinia

Yellow-bellied Prinia
Striated Marsh Warbler
Paddyfield Warbler
Blyth's Reed Warbler
Dusky Warbler
Striated Babbler
Black hooded Oriole
Asian Pied Starling
Bank Mynah
Spanish Sparrow
Black-faced Bunting
Yellow-breasted Bunting

You can reach Kosi Barrage by bus. All Busses from central Nepal to the East have to pass there. From Kathmandu you need at least 12 hrs. There are also Nightcoaches to Biratnagar or Dharan, just explain them where you want to get out.

In the little village at the eastside of the barrage you can find accomodation in a little tea-shop. Just ask there, they have also a logbook with interesting observations. It's also the place where you can get food, but don't expect more then Dal Baht and fried rice. To eat during the daytime we recommend to bring some food from Kathmandu.

You can easily explore the area by foot, but make sure to take enough drinking water. It can be very hot !



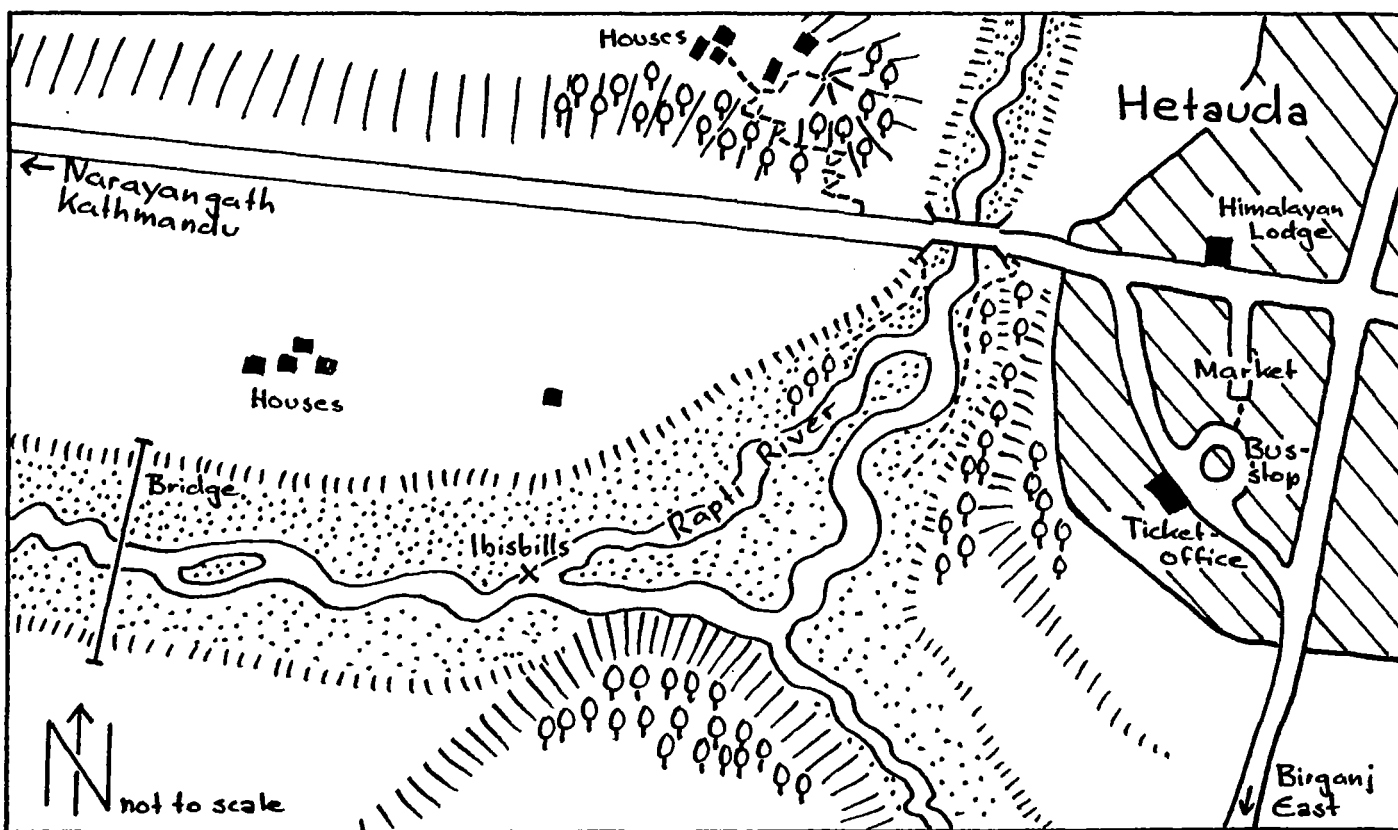
4.6 Hetauda

The Rapti River at Hetauda (or Hetaura) is a famous spot for wintering Ibisbills.

Observed Birds:

Goosander	Common Hawk-Cuckoo	Siberian Rubythroat
Long-billed Vulture	Chestnut-headed Bee-eater	Black-throated Trush
Ibisbill	Greater Yellow-naped Woodp.	Wallcreeper
River Plover	Greater Golden-backed Woodp.	Brown Shrike
Alexandrine Parakeet	White-browed Wagtail	Spangled Drongo
Ring-necked Parakeet		

You can reach Hetauda from Kathmandu by Bus. There are a few hotels, we stayed at the Himalayan Lodge (80RS). Local food is available, we found one restaurant, serving of course only Dal Baht.



We found the Ibisbills after ca. 3.5 km down the river. It's not easy to cross the river, but on the right side you don't need to. We made also a trip to the hills around the town which are interesting for the view and for woodpeckers.

We stayed two nights, enough to cover the area and to find the Ibisbills.

4.5 Dharan

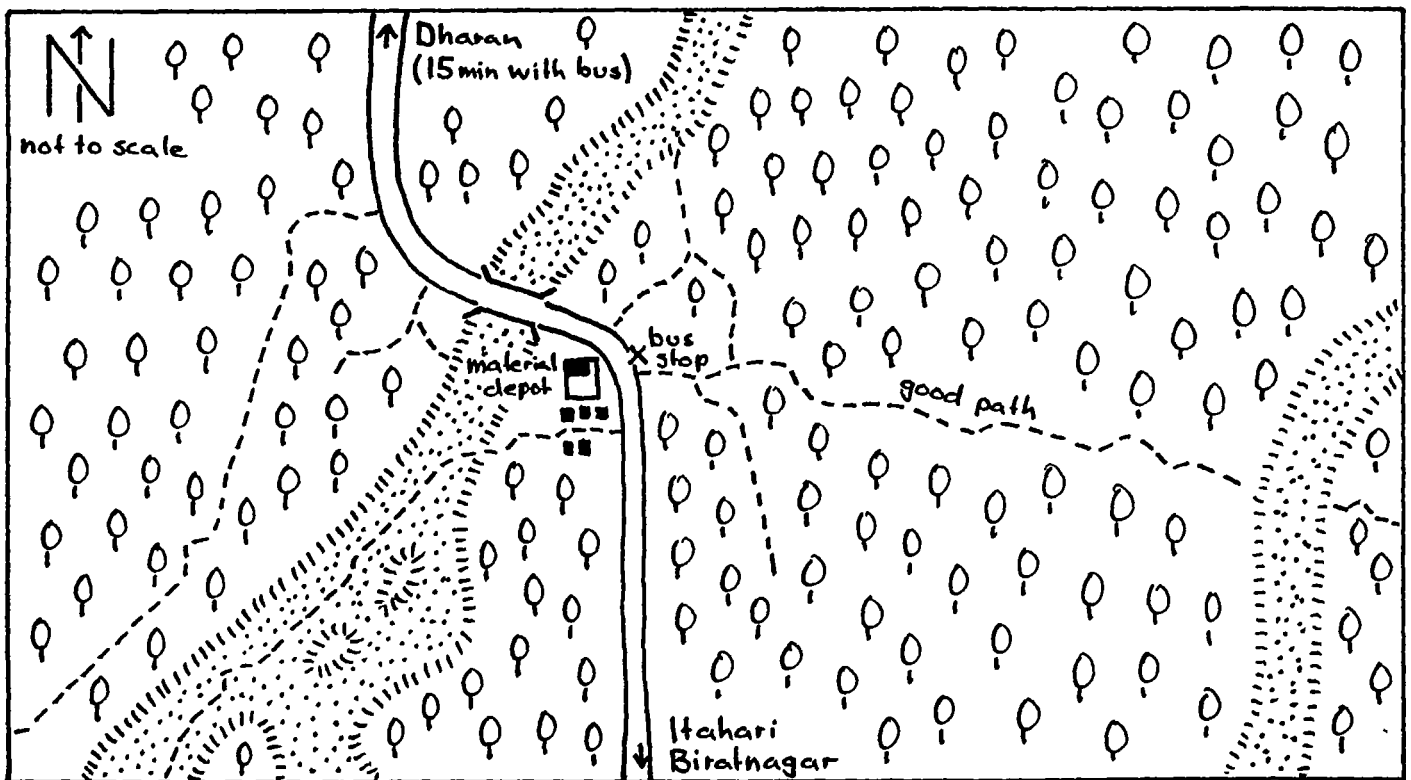
Dharan is a nice city in eastern Nepal. South of the town remains one of the biggest sal forests in the Terai.

You can reach Dharan by bus quite easy, there are even nightcoaches from and to Kathmandu. You will need 15hrs or more! If you are coming from Kosi Barrage, take a bus to Itahari and change there to a bus to Dharan.

There are some hotels and lodges, we stayed in the Hotel Evergreen, for 150Rs the double with bathroom. There are also enough restaurants, be sure to try the "Dharan Restaurant and Bar" at the marketplace. There are also enough foodshops, but there is no possibility to change money. The only places in eastern Nepal where you can change are probably Biratnagar and Karkavitta.

Observed Birds:

Crested Honey Buzzard	Jungle Owlet	Small Minivet
Besra	Crested Tree Swift	Black-crested Bulbul
Shikra	Blue-bearded Bee-eater	Greenish Warbler
Red-thighed Falconet	Oriental Pied Hornbill	White-bellied Drongo
Red Junglefowl	Blue-eared Barbet	Ashy Woodswallow
Blue Peafowl	Coppersmith Barbet	Red-billed Blue Magpie
Pompadour Green Pigeon	Common and Large Woodshrike	Chestnut-tailed Starling
Blossom-headed Parakeet	Bar-winged Flycatcher-shrike	Hill Mynah



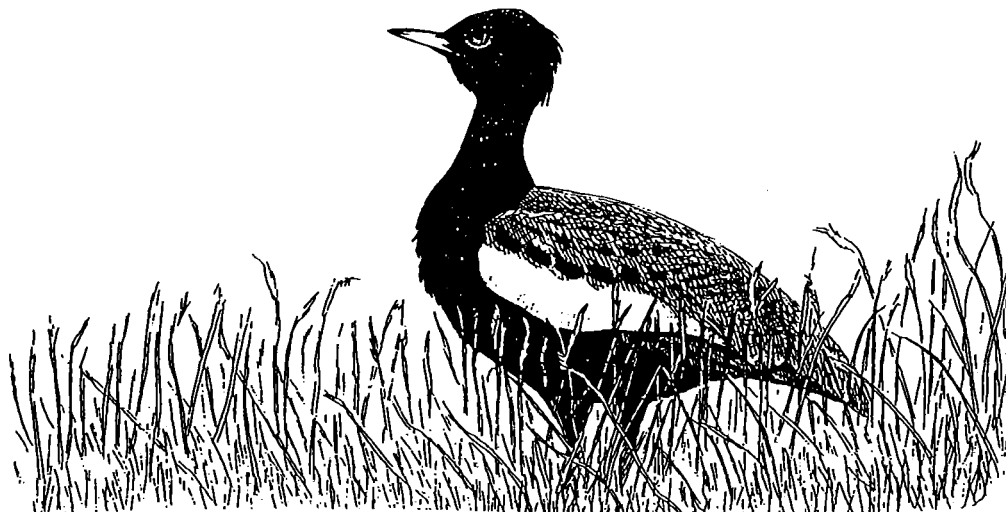
Busses run very frequently between Dharan and Itahari, about every ten minutes. There is a stop at the materials depot, get off there and explore the numerous paths into the forest. We made also a trip to the northern end of the forest, just south of Dharan, where the forest is heavily degraded.

An evening trip to the hills above Dharan is nice for the view and good for warblers, bulbuls and the Ashy Woodswallow.

Appendix: Special observations

The following list includes all species known as rare or vagrants, we have seen.
(On the list of Inskipp marked with a "5" for rare or a "v" for vagrant.)

Black-necked Grebe	5.3. 3 at Kosi Barrage
Falcated Duck	5.3. 1 male Kosi Barrage
White-tailed Eagle	7.3. 1 at Kosi Tappu
Lesser Fishing Eagle	13.3. 1 Chitwan NP
Grey-headed Fishing Eagle	14.3. and 17.3. Chitwan NP Both species were found near rivers
Upland Buzzard	4.4. above Kyanjin Gompa at 4200m. First only identified as Buteo spec., later with the help of "Birds of China" identified as Upland Buzzard.
<i>Amur Falcon</i>	<i>30.3. 1 subad. above Syabru</i>
Red-necked Falcon	5.3. 1 at Kosi Barrage, on the way to the Pink Tower
Swamp Francolin	7.3. 3 on the dam at Kosi Tappu Easy to see there.
Water Rail	5.3. 1 Kosi Barrage 6.3. 1 Kosi Tappu, near the Watchtower This two observations suggest two different birds. The Water Rail is a vagrant for Nepal
Bengal Florican	14.3. 1 female between Bhimle and Sukebar, Chitwan NP. This species is perhaps the rarest and most endangered of all bustards.
Blue-eared Barbet	9.3. 1 in the Sal-forest south of Dharan
Hill Blue Flycatcher	28.3. 1 male near Syabru
Spanish Sparrow	5.3. 1 male of this species in a flock of House Sparrows at Kosi Barrage. Vagrant for Nepal



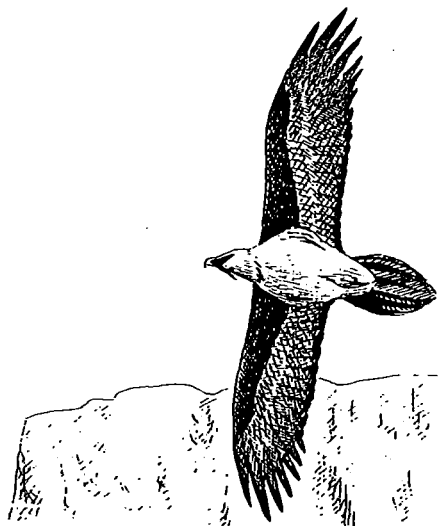
5. Bibliography

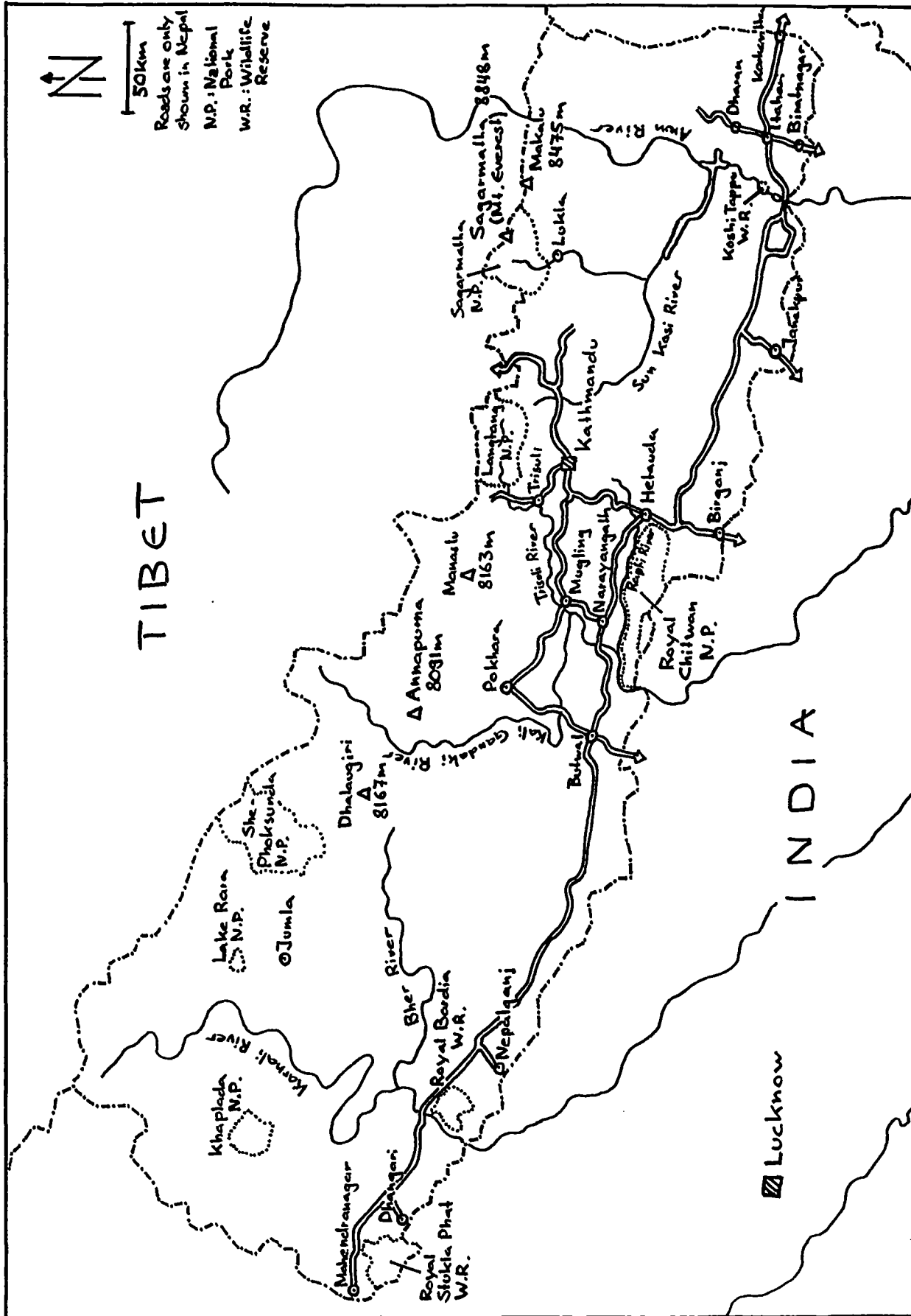
- Ali, S. (1977): Field Guide to the Birds of the Eastern Himalayas, Bombay
- Ali, S. and Ripley, S.D. (1983): A pictorial Guide to the Birds of the Indian Subcontinent, Bombay
Essential for your trip to Nepal
- Ali, S. (1985): The Fall of a Sparrow, Oxford
- Fleming, R.L.Sr. et al (1985): Birds of Nepal, Avalok
Not very useful
- Gurung, K.K. (1983): Heart of the Jungle, published by Deutsch, A., London
Interesting storys about Chitwan National Park
- Inskipp, C. and Inskipp, T.P. (1985): A Guide to the Birds of Nepal,
Essential for Leaf Warblers and Prinias
- Inskipp, C. (1988): A Birdwatchers' Guide to Nepal, Sandy UK
Essential for a sucesfull trip
- Krack, R. (1992): Nepal Handbuch, Bielefeld
A good guide (german)
- Majupuria, T.C. (1982): Wild is beautiful, Devi India
Useful for mammal identification
- Smith, C. (1993): Illustrated checklist of Nepal's Butterflies, Rohit Kumar, Lashkar, India

5.1. Maps

For the trekking areas like Langtang, Jomson or the Everest Sanctuary you can buy maps in Kathmandu. They just show villages, names and some heights. Better maps you have to buy in Europe. We can recommend the Nellesmap for hole Nepal and the maps from the Arbeitsgemeinschaft für vergleichende Hochgebirgsforschung in Munich. The maps have european quality standards. 1994 8 maps were published:

- Nr.1 Kathmandu Valley 1:50'000
 - Nr.2 Khumbu Himal 1:50'000
 - Nr.3 Lapchi Kang 1:50'000
 - Nr.4 Rolwaling Himal 1:50'000
 - Nr.5 Shorong/Hinku 1:50'000
 - Nr.6 Tamba Kosi 1:50'000
 - Nr.7 Dudh Kosi 1:50'000
 - Nr.8 Helambu - Langtang 1:100'000
- Commissioner is: Nelles Verlag, Munich, Germany.





4. Sites

On the following pages you will find descriptions and maps to the sites we visited in Nepal. For each site we show a list of birds we have seen there. This lists are not complete, they just show rare, interesting or very typical birds we saw. Common birds are not mentioned, you find them on the list in chapter 3.

All informations and prices refer to 1994. Prices may change and hotels may be closed or new ones will be open when you are there.








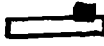
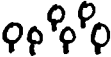









Travelling around is quite easy, but needs some time. Busses run frequently, are cheap, but extremely slow. Some examples:

Kathmandu - Hetauda	200km	120Rs.	6.5 h
Biratnagar - Narayangath	400km	160Rs.	13h (Nightcoach)
Kathmandu - Dhunche	100km	70Rs.	6h
Meghauri - Narayangath	26km	12Rs.	2h

We never made any reservations, we just went to the busstation and one hour later we were on the way. Around Kathmandu Taxis are much more faster then busses. Be sure to haggle, never pay more than the half the price the driver first wants.

The maps are showing the situation in 1994 as well. Especially in the mountains and around big cities like Kathmandu, things are changing very fast.

Legend for all maps:

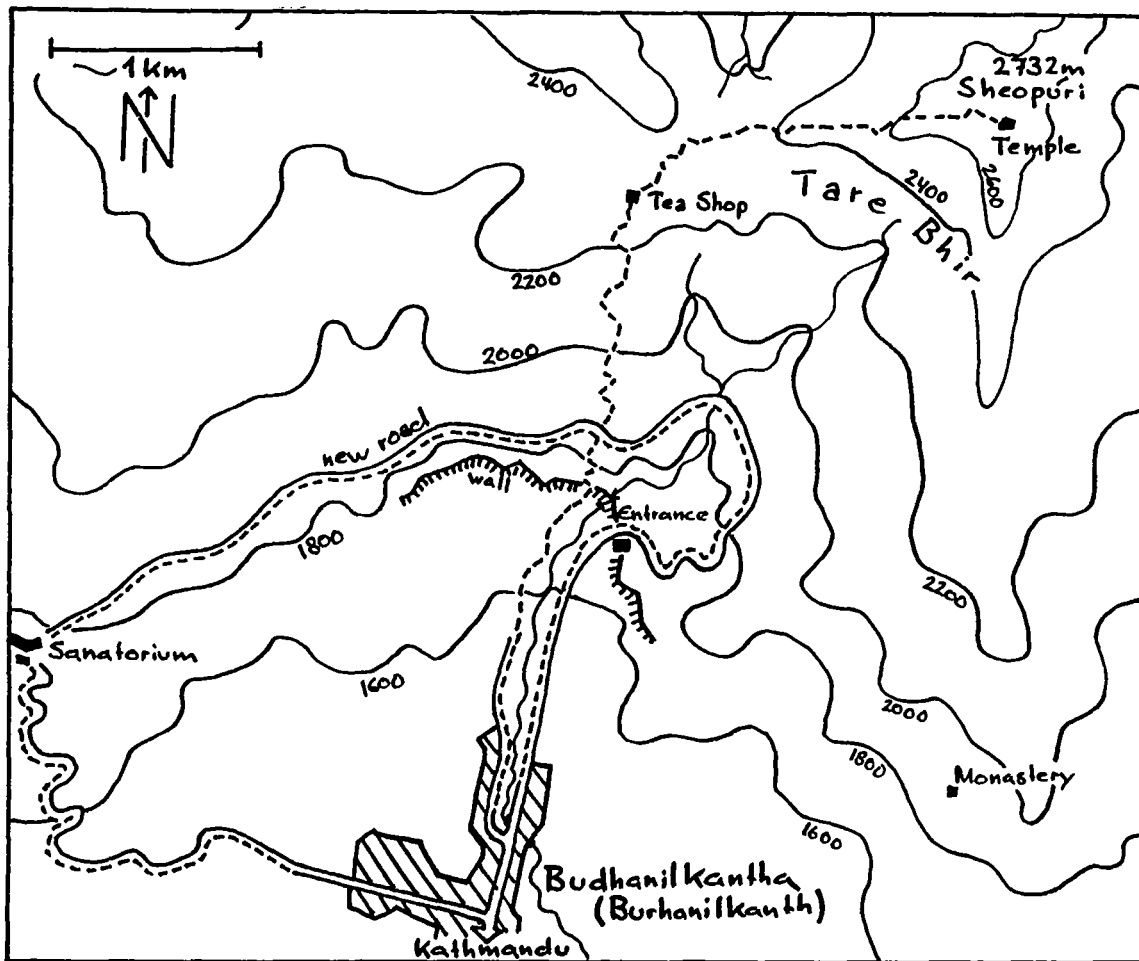
	road		cart-truck
	path		river
	village		houses
	bridge		airfield
	forest		scrub
	swamp		sandy or stony area
	grassland		peak
	glacier		viewing point
	dam		wall

The Sheopuri

Sheopuri (2730m) is a mountain 12km north of Kathmandu. It's a Wildlife Reserve with a protecting boundary for saving the forest. Especially on the higher slopes you will still find rich forest and a lot of forest and scrub species.

Take a minibus or a taxi to Budhanilkantha (or Burhanilkanth) and walk from there to the Sheopuri. There are different ways (see the map), on the right side of the little river you can enter the reserve officially (perhaps paying a fee), on the left side you just go in on a small path. At 2350m there is a teeshop, but take some food and drink from Kathmandu. You will need a full day to cover the area.

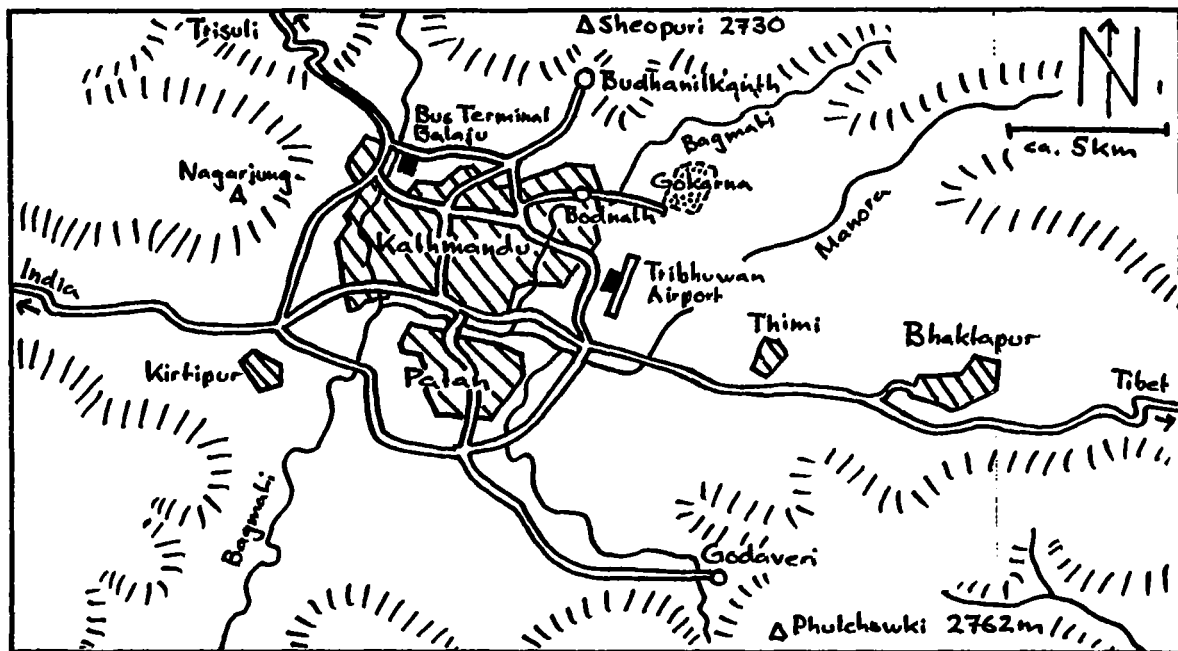
Sheopuri:



4.1 Kathmandu Valley

Kathmandu is a good base for exploring the valley on day trips. There are hundreds of hotels, we can recommend "The Friendly Home" at Ombahal (near Freak Street) and the "Annapurna Lodge" at Jhochan Thole (Freakstreet too). Both are cheap, clean and managed by a friendly staff. Public transport in and around Kathmandu is cheap, but the busses and minibusses are often very crowded and slow. Taxis can be expensive if you don't haggle.

The Kathmandu Valley



Some sites, eg. the fields around the Bagmati and the Manora River, will soon be destroyed by the fast growing of Kathmandu. The future of the Gokarna Safari Park, the last forest in the plain, seems to be unsafe as well. In spring 1994 the park was closed.

Birds we saw around Kathmandu are:

Crested Honey Buzzard	Chestnut-bellied Rocktrush	Black-chinned Babbler
Black Eagle	Scaly Trush	Grey-throated Babbler
Steppe Eagle	Tickell's Trush	Spiny Babbler
Booted Eagle	Black-throated Trush	Rufous-chinned Laughing-trush
Mountain Hawk-Eagle	Chestnut-headed Tesia	Chestnut-tailed Minla
Kalji Pheasant	Grey-bellied Tesia	Rufous-winged Fulvetta
Speckled Woodpigeon	Aberrant Bush Warbler	White-browed Fulvetta
Oriental Turtle Dove	Striated Prinia	Nepal Fulvetta
Wedge-tailed Green Pigeon	Golden-spectacled Warbler	Black-capped Sibia
Ring-necked Parakeet	Chestnut-crowned Warbler	Black-lored Tit
Large Hawk-Cuckoo	Grey-hooded Warbler	Rusty-flanked Treecreeper
Indian Cuckoo	Black-faced Warbler	Fire-tailed Sunbird
Oriental Cuckoo	Western Crowned Warbler	Yellow-bellied Flowerpecker
Lesser Cuckoo	Orange-barred Leaf Warbler	Ashy Drongo
Great Barbet	Pallas's Leaf Warbler	Lesser Racket-tailed Drongo
Red-rumped Swallow	Hume's Yellow-browed Wrb.	Eurasian Jay
Grey-chinned Minivet	Niltavas	Grey Treepie
Striated Bulbul	Pygmy Blue Flycatcher	Yellow-breasted Greenfinch
Mountain Bulbul	Asian Sooty Flycatcher	Scarlet Finch
Orange-bellied Leafbird	Slaty-blue Flycatcher	Little Bunting
Grey Bushchat	Rusty-cheeked Scimitar-Babbler	

Try to visit the Phulchowki in more than one day. We made one trip to the summit, four to the lower slopes and one to the Royal Botanical Gardens in Godaveri, which are famous for butterflies. Near the entrance of the Botanical Gardens is a Tea Shop, at the busstation you can buy something to drink as well. Avoid Saturdays if you can, especially the lower slopes are crowded with local people.

In the first big hairpin-bend (where we found the Scarlet Finch), after the quarries, you will find a small path leading along the river. If you follow this path about 30 minutes, climbing up steeply, you will cross another path at about 2000m. You can follow this path very easily, there are no steep sections and you will have good opportunities for birdwatching. After 40 minutes you will be on the road again, the path crosses the road and continues into a small valley (Tesiya!). After crossing the river you will enter scrub and 30 minutes later a path goes down on the leftside. We highly recommend this paths, we made some pretty good observations there.

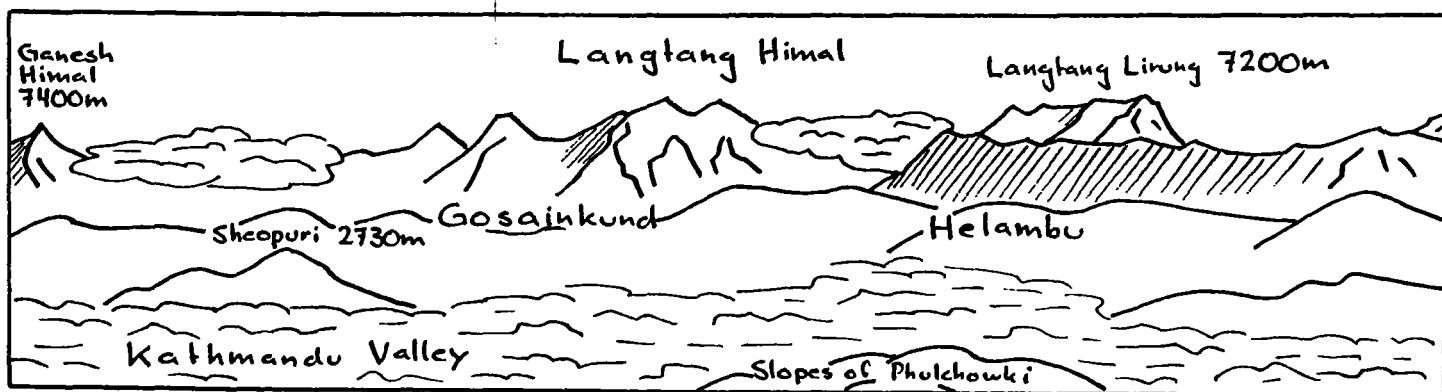
At the Tea Shop, a wide path leads you in a valley, dominated by scrub vegetation. We found here the Spiny Babbler, Nepal's only endemic bird species. It's also worthwhile for laughing-trushes and buntings. You can climb up this valley as well and find the path mentioned above, but it's rather difficult climbing.

Birding along the road to the summit is nice as well. Except Saturdays, there is not very much traffic after the quarries. For exploring the upper slopes, take a taxi to the summit and walk slowly down. In the early morning the view from the summit is extraordinary!

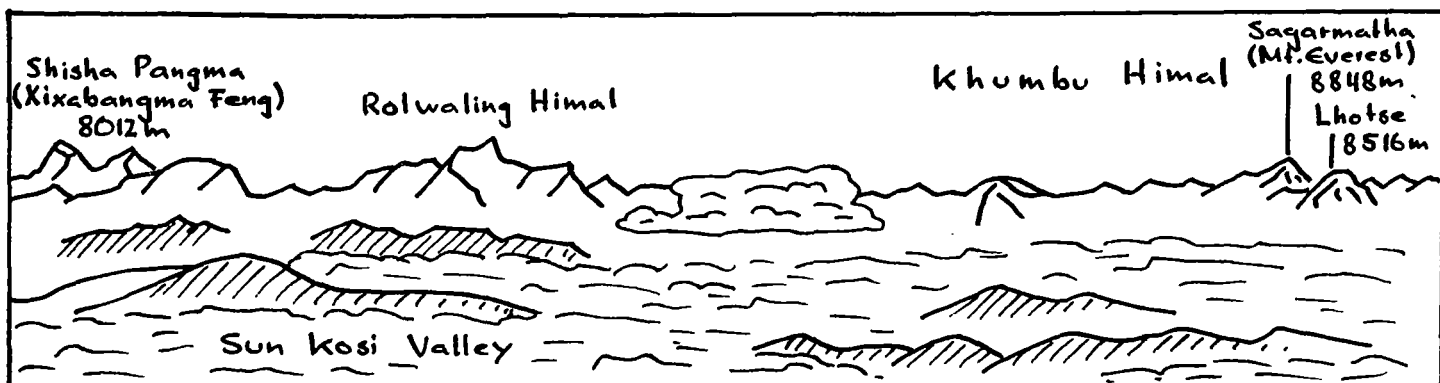
The Royal Botanical Gardens are open from 10am to 5pm. Entrance fee is 2 Rs. and the gardens are quite nice, especially for butterflies, but as well for birds like flycatchers or finches.

View from the summit (Names of mountains without guarantee)

a) View to the North



b) View to the North-East



The Phulchowki

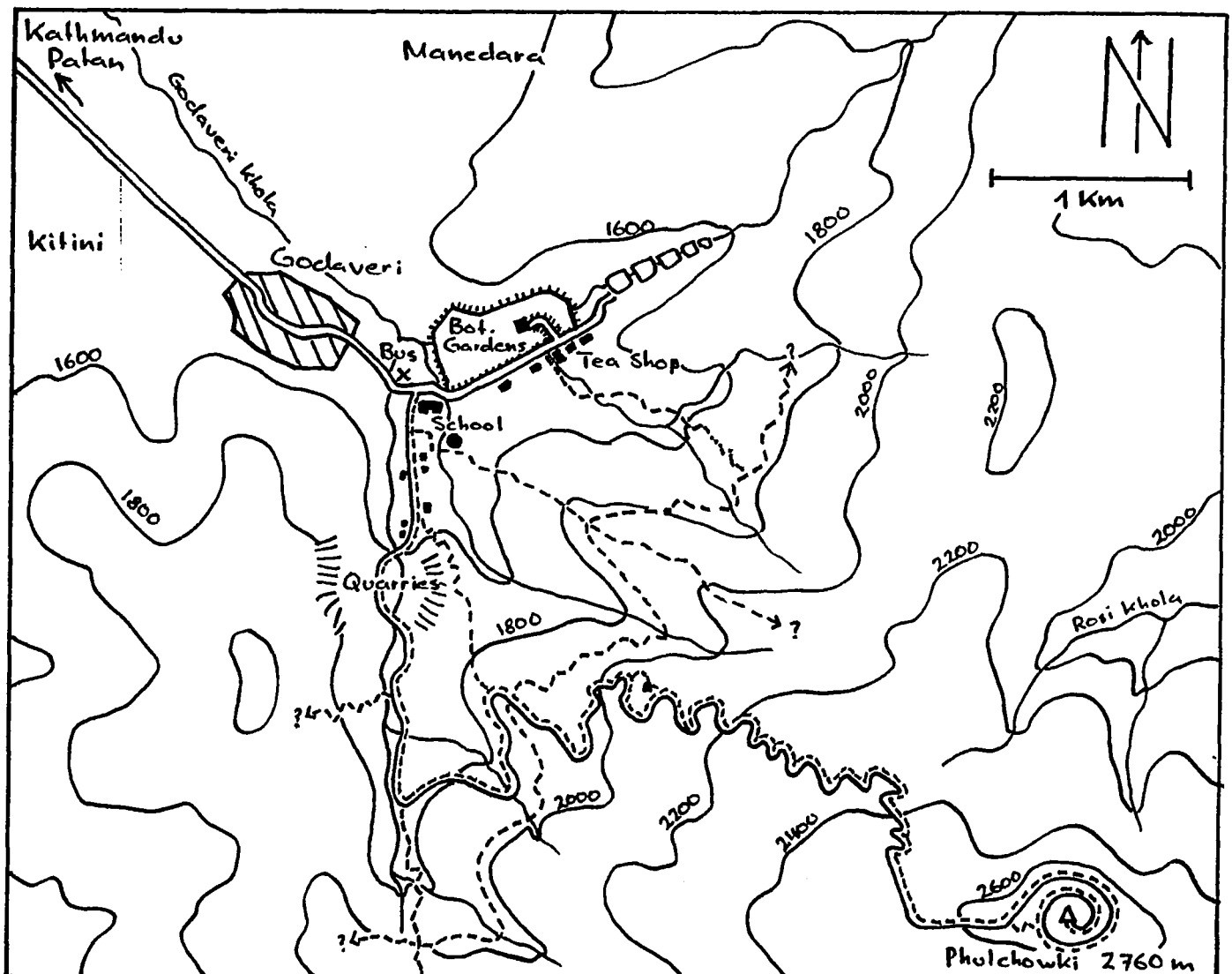
Phulchowki (2760m) is the highest mountain in the valley and the most rewarding site in the Kathmandu valley. Its forests are the richest in wildlife around Kathmandu and the best place to see the birds of this type of subtropical forest. Unfortunately, the area is no reserve and threatened by human activities, especially by the removal of large quantities of wood by local people.

The mountain lies about 20km south east of Kathmandu, a taxi ride from Kathmandu to Godaveri takes about 20 to 30 minutes, the prices in 1994 were between 150 and 200 Rs. If you take a taxi to the summit you have to pay more, we found one for 800 Rs (first price: 1500 Rs!), but choose a better vehicle than we did. Our taxi didn't make it to the summit, at 2500m the ride was finished.

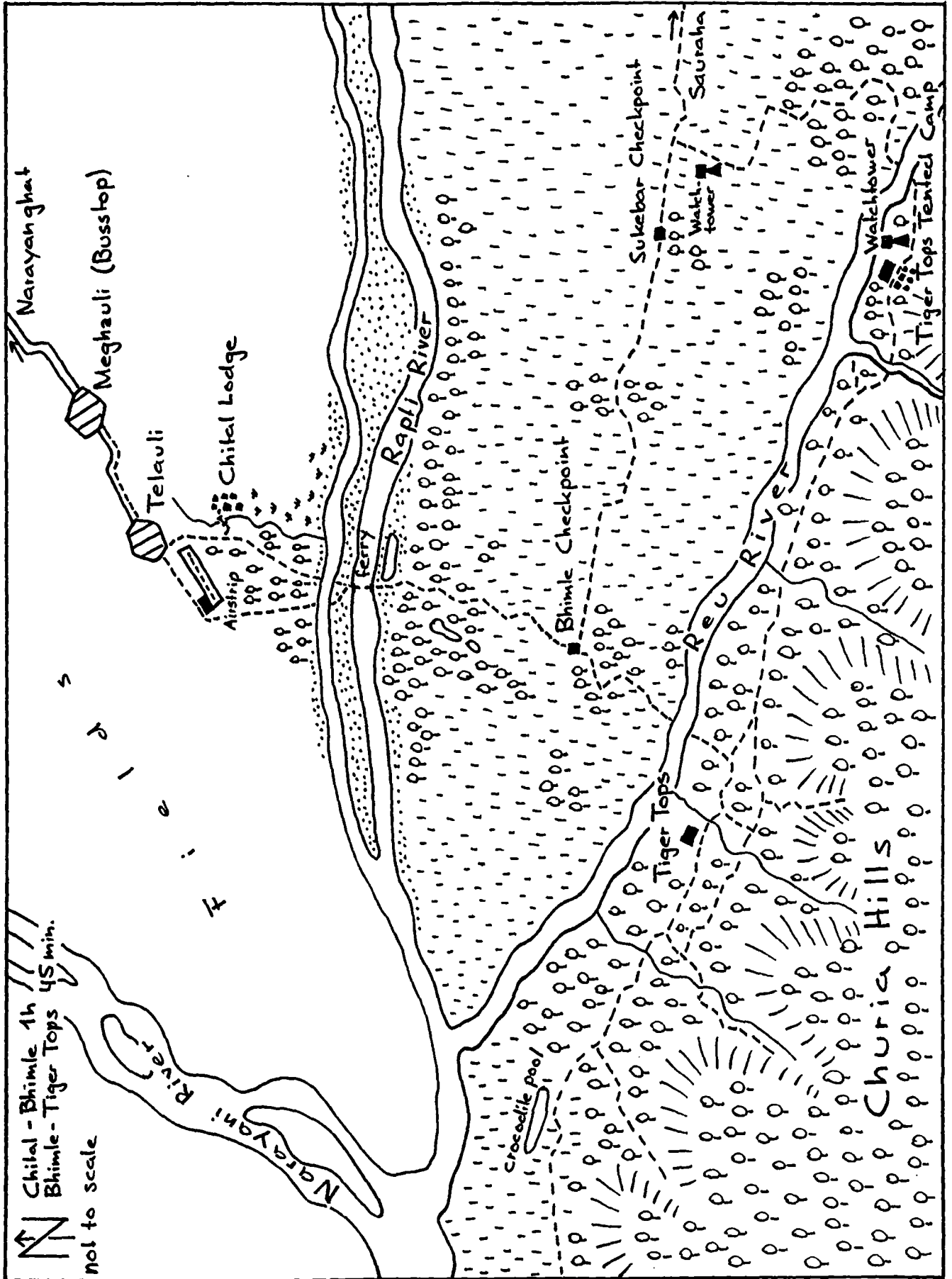
To return in the evening, you can take a bus near the school. You have to change at Lagankehl (Patan), the ride takes more than one hour, but you won't pay more than 10 Rs.

Sometimes taxis are waiting there as well, the ride back to Kathmandu is often cheaper than the one in the morning.

Phulchowki:



Royal Chitwan National Park



4.2 Royal Chitwan National Park

More than 450 species have been recorded in the oldest National Park of Nepal. You will find different habitats here, mostly grassland and sal forest, but also riverine forests, rivers, ponds and swamps.

Observed Birds:

Darter	Emerald Dove	White-tailed Stonechat
Cinnamon Bittern	Orange-breasted Green Pigeon	Black-backed Forktail
Green-backed Heron	Alexandrine Parakeet	Grey-capped Prinia
Egrets	Slaty-headed Parakeet	Smoky Warbler
Black Stork	Moustached Parakeet	Pale-chinned Flycatcher
Wolly-necked Stork	Banded Bay Cuckoo	White-throated Fantail
Lesser Adjutant Stork	Green-billed Malkoha	Puff-throated Babbler
Red-naped Ibis	Greater and Lesser Coucal	Striped Tit-Babbler
Lesser Fishing Eagle	Large-tailed Nightjar	Red-capped Babbler
Grey-headed Fishing Eagle	Crested Tree Swift	Yellow-eyed Babbler
Crested Serpent Eagle	Stork-billed Kingfisher	Slender-billed Babbler
Shikra	Blue-bearded Bee-eater	Jungle Babbler
White-eyed Buzzard	Oriental Pied Hornbill	Lesser Necklaced Laughing-trush
Steppe Eagle	Great Pied Hornbill	Rufous-necked Laughing-trush
Black Francolin	Lineated Barbet	Crimson Sunbird
Red Junglefowl	Speckled Piculet	Crow-billed Drongo
Blue Peafowl	Streak-throated Green Woodp.	Spangled Drongo
Brown Crake	Himalyan Golden-backed Wp.	Green Magpie
White-breasted Waterhen	Larks	Spot-winged Stare
Bengal Florican	Citrine Wagtail	Chestnut-tailed Starling
Painted Snipe	Common + Large Woodshrike	Red Avadavat
Northern Stone-curlew	Golden-throated Leafbird	Crested Bunting
Red Turtle Dove		

You can reach the park by bus. Busses from Kathmandu run frequently, all busses to the east are passing Narayanghat. You will need about 6 hrs.

We recommend the western part of the park, there are not so many other tourists and the area is better for birdwatching. We stayed in the Chital Lodge in Telauli, near the airstrip. You can reach the village by bus from Narayanghat, but only a few busses run each day, the first at 10 am. The bus is quite slow, it took us two hrs. for 25 km. From Meghauri, where the bus stops, you have to walk 15 minutes to Telauli, then you turn left towards the park and you will see the nice Chital Lodge on your left (see the map).

We took a guide for two days. He can show you the paths and some interesting animals as the rhino, the crocodile and good birds like the Bengal Florican. Then we made the same routes once again without guide (meeting some rhinos quite close). You can make this, but it's not without danger, especially in the grassland. Rhinos and bears can be dangerous, just be sure to leave enough space between you and them. Some paths, for eg. the one between Sukebar and the Tiger Tops Tented Camp are very difficult to find without guide.

In the forest it is worthwhile to leave the paths and explore one of the numerous gullies, where you can follow the open water course. For the grassland species try the way to Sukebar, a little checkpoint of the army.

As we didn't stay at the Tiger Tops (250\$ a day or more), we had to leave the park every day at 6 pm. It's dangerous to stay longer, because the army first shoots and then asks. At Bhimle Checkpoint we had to buy a permit for the National park, 650 Rs. for two days. The guide was 200 Rs for one day each person, but the lodge was quite cheap (80 Rs.). As guide we had the boss of the lodge, Jib. He knows the park well and he knows the big birds, the colourful birds and many bird songs.

We always started early in the morning (5am), to reach the park well-timed.