

# **NEPAL**

**28 FEBRUARY-16 MARCH 1997**

## **TOUR REPORT**

**LEADERS:** SIMON HARRAP and SUCHIT BASNET

**GROUP MEMBERS:** PHIL ADLINGTON, WALT BORDEN AND JOHN THOMPSON.

Species which were heard but not seen are indicated by the symbol (H).

Species which were not personally recorded by the leaders are indicated by the symbol (NL).

#### PODICIPEDIDAE

Great Crested Grebe *Podiceps cristatus*

Little Grebe *Podiceps nigricollis*

#### PELECANIDAE

Spotted-billed Pelican (Spot-billed Pelican) *Pelecanus philippensis*: a group of five birds seen a couple of times at Kosi.

#### PHALACROCORACIDAE

Cormorant (Great Cormorant) *Phalacrocorax carbo*

Little Cormorant *Phalacrocorax niger*

Oriental Darter *Anhinga melanogaster*: a few at Kosi and at Chitwan.

#### ARDEIDAE

Grey Heron *Ardea cinerea*

Purple Heron *Ardea purpurea*

Little Green Heron (Striated Heron) *Butorides striatus*: numerous sightings at Kosi, and also seen at Chitwan.

Pond Heron (Indian Pond Heron) *Ardeola grayii*

Cattle Egret *Bubulcus ibis*

Large Egret (Great White Egret) *Egretta alba*

Smaller Egret (Intermediate Egret) *Egretta intermedia*

Little Egret *Egretta garzetta*

Night Heron (Black-crowned Night Heron) *Nycticorax nycticorax*: large numbers roosting around Lami Tal in Chitwan.

Chestnut Bittern (Cinnamon Bittern) *Ixobrychus cinnamomeus*: up to seven at Kosi, and one in Chitwan.

Yellow Bittern *Ixobrychus sinensis*: two on two dates at the 'watchtower pond' at Kosi.

Black Bittern *Ixobrychus flavicollis*: a single bird seen twice at Kosi.

#### CICONIIDAE

Openbill Stork (Asian Openbill) *Anastomus oscitans*

White-necked Stork (Woolly-necked Stork) *Ciconia episcopus*: just two, a single en route to Chitwan, and one at Meghauli.

Black Stork *Ciconia nigra*: small numbers at Kosi and Chitwan.

Black-necked Stork *Ephippiorhynchus asiaticus*: up to three at Kosi.

Lesser Adjutant *Leptoptilos javanicus*

#### THRESKIORNITHIDAE

Black-headed Ibis (White Ibis) *Threskiornis melanocephalus*: only at Kosi.

Black Ibis (Red-naped Ibis) *Pseudibis papillosa*

Spoonbill (Eurasian Spoonbill) *Platalea leucorodia*: several parties at Kosi.

## ANATIDAE

Bar-headed Goose *Anser indicus*: up to 12 at Kosi.

Lesser Whistling Teal *Dendrocygna javanica*

Ruddy Shelduck *Tadorna ferruginea*

Common Shelduck *Tadorna tadorna*: three at Kosi.

Pintail (Northern Pintail) *Anas acuta*

Common Teal *Anas crecca*

Spot-billed Duck (Spotbill) *Anas poecilorhyncha*: nice views of a flock of around 40 at Kosi.

Mallard *Anas platyrhynchos*

Gadwall *Anas strepera*

Falcated Teal (Falcated Duck) *Anas falcata*: two drakes and a duck at Kosi.

Wigeon (Eurasian Wigeon) *Anas penelope*

Garganey *Anas querquedula*

Shoveler (Northern Shoveler) *Anas clypeata*

Red-crested Pochard *Netta rufina*: up to 25 at Kosi.

Common Pochard *Aythya ferina*

Ferruginous Duck (White-eyed Pochard) *Aythya nyroca*: over 100 at Kosi.

Tufted Duck *Aythya fuligula*

Cotton Teal (Cotton Pygmy-goose) *Nettapus coromandelianus*: nice views of several birds on a roadside pool at Kosi.

Comb Duck *Sarkidiornis melanotos*: up to 12 at Kosi.

Long-tailed Duck *Clangula hyemalis*: a single at Kosi Barrage had been present there for some time (perhaps only the third record for Nepal).

Goosander (Common Merganser) *Mergus merganser*

## ACCIPITRIDAE

Black-winged Kite (Black-shouldered Kite) *Elanus caeruleus*

Crested Honey Buzzard *Pernis ptilorhynchus*: up to three in Chitwan, and then a pair en route to Kathmandu.

Black Kite *Milvus migrans*

Shikra *Accipiter badius*

Crested Goshawk *Accipiter trivirgatus*: a pair at Kosi.

Sparrowhawk (Eurasian Sparrowhawk) *Accipiter nisus*

Besra Sparrowhawk *Accipiter virgatus*: calling birds seen circling at Godaveri.

Japanese Buzzard (Common Buzzard) *Buteo buteo*

White-eyed Buzzard-Eagle (White-eyed Buzzard) *Butastur teesa*: up to four at Kosi and Chitwan.

Changeable Hawk-Eagle *Spizaetus cirrhatus*

Hodgson's Hawk-Eagle (Mountain Hawk-Eagle) *Spizaetus nipalensis*: good views of a pair circling over Phulchowki.

Steppe Eagle *Aquila nipalensis*

Lesser Spotted Eagle *Aquila pomarina*: two in a tree at dawn near Chitwan Jungle Lodge, and one at meghauli.

Black Eagle *Ictinaetus malayensis*: seen a couple of times over Phulchowki.

Grey-headed Fishing Eagle *Ichthyophaga ichthyaetus*: an immature at Lami Tal in Chitwan caused some initial debate over its identification, but there were no such problems with an adult seen a couple of times at the Tiger Tops end of the park.

King Vulture (Red-headed Vulture) *Sarcogyps calvus*: just one, en route to Kathmandu.

Cinereous Vulture (Eurasian Black Vulture) *Aegypius monachus*: one at Kosi and also a single en route to Kathmandu.

Griffon Vulture (Eurasian Griffon Vulture) *Gyps fulvus*: good views of grounded birds at Kosi and en route to Chitwan, and then a party of about eight in the air between Chitwan and Kathmandu.

Indian Long-billed Vulture (Long-billed Vulture) *Gyps indicus*: just two, between Chitwan and Kathmandu.

Indian White-backed Vulture (White-rumped Vulture) *Gyps bengalensis*

Hen Harrier *Circus cyaneus*: ringtails at Kosi and Chitwan.

Pied Harrier *Circus melanoleucos*: males seen every day at Kosi, and then a pair at Chitwan.

Marsh Harrier (Western Marsh Harrier) *Circus aeruginosus*

Short-toed Eagle *Circaetus gallicus*: one in a tree on the river trip at Kosi.

Crested Serpent Eagle *Spilornis cheela*

Osprey *Pandion haliaetus*

#### FALCONIDAE

Red-breasted Falconet (Collared Falconet) *Microhierax caerulescens*: good views at Lami Tal and near Tiger Tops Tented Camp.

Peregrine Falcon *Falco peregrinus*: a single at Kosi.

Merlin *Falco columbarius*: a single at Kosi.

Kestrel (Common Kestrel) *Falco tinnunculus*

#### PHASIANIDAE

Black Partridge (Black Francolin) *Francolinus francolinus*: seen on the island at Kosi, and heard at Chitwan (where just one was seen).

Swamp Partridge (Swamp Francolin) *Francolinus gularis*: good views of up to four at Kosi, with one skulking in a bush at the Pink Tower.

Common Hill Partridge (Hill Partridge) *Arborophila torqueola*: heard on Phulchowki.

Kaleej Pheasant (Kalij Pheasant) *Lophura leucomelana*: great views of up to seven at Nagarjung, and a couple also at Phulchowki.

Red Junglefowl *Gallus gallus*

Common Peafowl *Pavo cristatus*

## GRUIDAE

Common Crane *Grus grus*: four at Kosi.

## RALLIDAE

Water Rail *Rallus aquaticus*: one or two glimpsed at Kosi.

Baillon's Crake *Porzana pusilla*: a single at Kosi.

Ruddy Crake (Ruddy-breasted Crake) *Porzana fusca*: one or two briefly at Kosi.

Brown Crake *Amaurornis akool*: singles in Chitwan.

White-breasted Waterhen *Amaurornis phoenicurus*

Water Cock *Gallicrex cinerea*: one seen very well in flight at the 'watchtower pond' at Kosi.

Moorhen (Common Moorhen) *Gallinula chloropus*

Purple Moorhen (Purple Swamp-hen) *Porphyrio porphyrio*: just a couple at Kosi.

Coot (Eurasian Coot) *Fulica atra*

## OTIDIDAE

Bengal Florican *Eupodotis bengalensis*: a stunning male in the early morning near Chitwan Jungle Lodge, even indulging in short display flights. Voted joint bird of the trip.

## JACANIDAE

Pheasant-tailed Jacana *Hydrophasianus chirurgus*: a single on a roadside pool at Kosi.

Bronze-winged Jacana *Metopidius indicus*: three at Kosi.

## RECURVIROSTRIDAE

Avocet *Recurvirostra avosetta*: three at Kosi.

## IBIDORHYNCHIDAE

Ibisbill *Ibidorhyncha struthersii*: eight at Hetauda and another two on the Trisuli River. Not surprisingly, joint bird of the trip.

## BURHINIDAE

Stone Curlew (Eurasian Thick-knee) *Burhinus oedicephalus*: a single at Kosi and a pair in Chitwan.

## GLAREOLIDAE

Small Indian Pratincole (Small Pratincole) *Glareola lactea*: hundreds at Kosi.

## CHARADRIIDAE

Lapwing (Northern Lapwing) *Vanellus vanellus*

Grey-headed Lapwing *Vanellus cinereus*: four distant birds at the Pink Tower at Kosi.

Red-wattled Lapwing *Vanellus indicus*

River Lapwing *Vanellus duvaucelii*  
Little Ringed Plover *Charadrius dubius*  
Kentish Plover *Charadrius alexandrinus*: around 20 at Kosi.  
Curlew (Eurasian Curlew) *Numenius arquata*  
Greenshank (Common Greenshank) *Tringa nebularia*  
Green Sandpiper *Tringa ochropus*  
Common Sandpiper *Tringa hypoleucos*  
Fantail Snipe (Common Snipe) *Gallinago gallinago*: just one, at Chitwan.  
Temminck's Stint *Calidris temminckii*: around 20 at Kosi, and a single at Chitwan.

#### LARIDAE

Great Black-headed Gull (Pallas's Gull) *Larus ichthyaetus*: up to 10 at Kosi.  
Brown-headed Gull *Larus brunnicephalus*: around six at Kosi.  
Black-headed Gull (Common Black-headed Gull) *Larus ridibundus*  
Caspian Tern *Hydroprogne caspia*: up to five at Kosi.  
Indian River Tern (River Tern) *Sterna aurantia*: good numbers at Kosi.  
Black-bellied Tern *Sterna acuticauda*: again, only at Kosi, but good views of some  
vociferous birds.  
Little Tern *Sterna albifrons*

#### COLUMBIDAE

Wedge-tailed Green Pigeon *Treron sphenura*: good 'scope views of a pair at Chitwan.  
Pompadour Green Pigeon *Treron pompadora*: at least three at Chitwan.  
Orange-breasted Green Pigeon *Treron bicincta*  
Yellow-legged Green Pigeon (Yellow-footed Pigeon) *Treron phoenicoptera*  
Blue Rock Pigeon (Rock Dove) *Columba livia*  
Speckled Wood Pigeon *Columba hodgsonii*: a flock of about eight over the ravine at  
Phulchowki.  
Ashy Wood Pigeon *Columba pulchricollis*: several singles on Phulchowki, but all seen a  
little too briefly.  
Bar-tailed Cuckoo-Dove (Barred Cuckoo-Dove) *Macropygia unchall*: three at Nagarjung.  
Rufous Turtle Dove (Oriental Turtle Dove) *Streptopelia orientalis*  
Indian Ring Dove (Collared Dove) *Streptopelia decaocto*  
Red Turtle Dove *Streptopelia tranquebarica*: only at Chitwan.  
Spotted Dove *Streptopelia chinensis*  
Emerald Dove (green-winged Pigeon) *Chalcophaps indica*: small numbers in Chitwan.

#### PSITTACIDAE

Alexandrine Parakeet *Psittacula eupatria*: odd birds at Kosi and Chitwan.  
Rose-ringed Parakeet *Psittacula krameri*  
Red-breasted Parakeet (Moustached Parakeet) *Psittacula alexandri*: common in Chitwan.  
Blossom-headed Parakeet (Plum-headed Parakeet) *Psittacula cyanocephala*: small

numbers in Chitwan, including of a pair 'up to no good'.

#### CUCULIDAE

Large Hawk-Cuckoo *Cuculus sparveroides* (H): a singleton calling on Phulchowki.

Common Hawk-Cuckoo *Cuculus varius*: common at Kosi and Chitwan.

Indian Banded Bay Cuckoo (Banded Bay Cuckoo) *Cacomantis sonneratii*: one seen briefly at Chitwan, and one or two others heard there.

Large Green-billed Malkoha (Green-billed Malkoha) *Rhopodytes tristis*: good views of one at Chitwan.

Coucal (Greater Coucal) *Centropus sinensis*

Lesser Coucal *Centropus toulou*: singles at Kosi and Chitwan.

#### STRIGIDAE

Oriental Scops Owl *Otus sunia*: called commonly at Tiger Tops Tented Camp, and excellent views of a pair by torchlight.

Collared Scops Owl *Otus bakkamoena* (H): heard calling at Tiger Tops Tented Camp, but only persistently at 2 am, when we were tucked up in bed.

Brown Fish Owl *Bubo zeylonensis*: two or three near Chitwan Jungle Lodge, one giving stunning views (thank/John!).

Collared Pygmy Owlet (Collared Owlet) *Glaucidium brodiei*: great views of one at Nagarjung.

Jungle Owlet *Glaucidium radiatum*: several at Chitwan.

Barred Owlet (Asian Barred Owlet) *Glaucidium cuculoides*: just one seen, at Godaveri.

Brown Hawk-Owl *Ninox scutulata*: good views at the bar at Kosi, and also a roosting pair found nearby, and several seen well at Chitwan.

Spotted Owlet *Athene brama*: just one, at Kosi.

Short-eared Owl *Asio flammeus*: one briefly south of Kosi Barrage.

#### CAPRIMULGIDAE

Long-tailed Nightjar *Caprimulgus macrurus*: good flight views at Chitwan.

Franklin's Nightjar (Savanna Nightjar) *Caprimulgus affinis*: seen well in flight near Chitwan Jungle Lodge (as we listened to fighting rhinos).

#### APODIDAE

Himalayan Swiftlet *Collocalia brevirostris*: small numbers over Phulchowki.

Cochinchina Spinetail Swift (White-vented Needletail) *Chaetura cochinchinensis*: one flew past as we were searching for Large Grass Warbler at Chitwan.

Alpine Swift *Apus melba*: small numbers en route to Kathmandu.

Large White-rumped Swift (Fork-tailed Swift, Pacific Swift) *Apus pacificus*: a good flock en route to Kathmandu.

House Swift (Little Swift) *Apus affinis*: just a few in Kathmandu, and also small numbers en route there from Chitwan.

Crested Tree Swift *Hemiprocne longipennis*: some high-flying birds in Chitwan.

#### ALCEDINIDAE

Lesser Pied Kingfisher (Pied Kingfisher) *Ceryle rudis*

Common Kingfisher *Alcedo atthis*

Stork-billed Kingfisher *Pelargopsis capensis*: a few at Kosi and Chitwan.

White-breasted Kingfisher (White-throated Kingfisher) *Halcyon smyrnensis*

#### MEROPIDAE

Chestnut-headed Bee-eater *Merops leschenaulti*: abundant in Chitwan.

Green Bee-eater (Little Green Bee-eater) *Merops orientalis*

Blue-bearded Bee-eater *Nyctyornis athertoni*: one seen at Tiger Tops Tented Camp, and heard on Phulchowki.

#### CORACIIDAE

Indian Roller *Coracias benghalensis*

#### UPUPIDAE

Hoopoe (Eurasian Hoopoe) *Upupa epops*

#### BUCEROTIDAE

Common Grey Hornbill *Tockus birostris*: two glimpsed from the bus near Kosi Tappu.

Indian Pied Hornbill (Oriental Pied Hornbill) *Anthracoceros malabaricus*: up to three at Chitwan.

Great Pied Hornbill (Great Hornbill) *Buceros bicornis*: two seen in the early morning at Chitwan.

#### CAPITONIDAE

Great Hill Barbet (Great Barbet) *Megalaima virens*: heard commonly on Phulchowki, and a pair seen at Nagarjung.

Lineated Barbet *Megalaima lineata*

Golden-throated Barbet *Megalaima franklinii* (H): heard on the lower slopes of Phulchowki.

Blue-throated Barbet *Megalaima asiatica*: one seen at Nagarjung, and heard in Chitwan.

Crimson-breasted Barbet (Coppersmith Barbet) *Megalaima haemacephala*: one seen at Meghauli airstrip.

#### PICIDAE

Speckled Piculet *Picumnus innominatus*: several seen at Godaveri.

Rufous Piculet (White-browed Piculet) *Sasia ochracea*: good views of two in Chitwan.

Rufous Woodpecker *Micropterus brachyurus*: a pair at Nagarjung.

Little Scaly-bellied Green Woodpecker (Streak-throated Woodpecker) *Picus*



*myrmecophoneus*: two on the island at Kosi.

Black-naped Green Woodpecker (Grey-headed Woodpecker) *Picus canus*

Large Yellow-naped Woodpecker (Greater Yellownape) *Picus flavinucha*: up to three in Chitwan.

Small Yellow-naped Woodpecker (Lesser Yellownape) *Picus chlorolophus*: just a couple at Chitwan.

Lesser Golden-backed Woodpecker (Black-rumped Flameback) *Dinopium benghalense*: up to three at Kosi.

Himalayan Golden-backed Woodpecker (Himalayan Flameback) *Dinopium shorii*

Rufous-bellied Sapsucker (Rufous-bellied Woodpecker) *Hypopicus hyperythrus*: one, all too briefly, on Phulchowki.

Darjeeling Pied Woodpecker *Picoides darjellensis*

Crimson-breasted Pied Woodpecker *Picoides cathpharius*: a male and female on single dates on Phulchowki.

Brown-fronted Pied Woodpecker *Picoides auriceps*: one at Nagarjung.

Fulvous-breasted Pied Woodpecker *Picoides macei*

Grey-crowned Pygmy Woodpecker (Grey-capped Woodpecker) *Picoides canicapillus*: up to four in Chitwan.

#### ALAUDIDAE

Bush Lark (Rufous-winged Bush Lark) *Mirafra assamica*

Ashy-crowned Finch-Lark *Eremopterix grisea*

Sand Lark *Calandrella raytal*

Eastern Skylark (Oriental Skylark) *Alauda gulgula*: a few singing birds at Kosi.

#### HIRUNDINIDAE

Plain Sand Martin (Plain Martin) *Riparia paludicola*: abundant in Chitwan.

Swallow (Barn Swallow) *Hirundo rustica*

Red-rumped Swallow *Hirundo daurica*: a handful around Godaveri.

#### LANIIDAE

Grey-backed Shrike *Lanius tephronotus*: singles at Godaveri and in Chitwan.

Rufous-backed Shrike (Long-tailed Shrike) *Lanius schach*

Brown Shrike *Lanius cristatus*: only at Kosi.

#### ORIOOLIDAE

Black-headed Oriole (Black-hooded Oriole) *Oriolus xanthornus*

Maroon Oriole *Oriolus traillii*: seen on two dates on Phulchowki.

#### DICRURIDAE

Black Drongo *Dicrurus macrocercus*

Bronzed Drongo *Dicrurus aeneus*

Lesser Racket-tailed Drongo *Dicrurus remifer*: great views of this, the best of all drongos, in Chitwan and on Phulchowki.

Hair-crested Drongo *Dicrurus hottentottus*: extra-ordinarily common in Chitwan.

Greater Racket-tailed Drongo *Dicrurus paradiseus*: up to three with mixed flocks in Chitwan.

#### ARTAMIDAE

Ashy Swallow-Shrike (Ashy Wood-Swallow) *Artamus fuscus*: singles at Kosi and Chitwan, and a pair at the 'vulture stop' en route to Kathmandu.

#### STURNIDAE

Spotted-winged Stare (Spot-winged Starling) *Saroglossa spiloptera*: good views of up to four at Chitwan.

Grey-headed Myna (Chestnut-tailed Starling) *Sturnus malabaricus*

Pied Myna (Asian Pied Starling) *Sturnus contra*

Common Myna *Acridotheres tristis*

Bank Myna *Acridotheres ginginianus*: a few at Kosi.

Jungle Myna *Acridotheres fuscus*: flocks of thousands in Chitwan.

Hill Myna *Gracula religiosa*: heard calling at Chitwan Jungle Lodge, and then two seen on two dates at Tiger Tops.

#### CORVIDAE

Red-crowned Jay (Eurasian Jay) *Garrulus glandarius*

Black-throated Jay (Lanceolated Jay) *Garrulus lanceolatus*: great views of three birds on Phulchowki.

Green Magpie *Cissa chinensis*: prolonged looks at two noisy birds at Chitwan. Stunning !

Red-billed Blue Magpie (Blue Magpie) *Cissa flavirostris*: up to eight at Nagarjung.

Indian Tree Pie (Rufous Treepie) *Dendrocitta vagabunda*

Himalayan Tree Pie (Grey Treepie) *Dendrocitta formosae*

House Crow *Corvus splendens*

Jungle Crow *Corvus macrorhynchos*

#### CAMPEPHAGIDAE

Pied Flycatcher-Shrike (Bar-winged Flycatcher-shrike) *Hemipus picatus*

Large Wood Shrike *Tephrodornis virgatus*: one flock in Chitwan.

Common Wood Shrike *Tephrodornis pondicerianus*: only in Chitwan.

Large Cuckoo-Shrike *Coracina novaehollandiae*

Smaller Grey Cuckoo-Shrike (Black-winged Cuckoo-shrike) *Coracina melaschistos*: singles at Kosi and Chitwan.

Scarlet Minivet *Pericrocotus flammeus*

Long-tailed Minivet *Pericrocotus ethologus*

Yellow-throated Minivet (Grey-chinned Minivet) *Pericrocotus solaris*: one on two dates

at Phulchowki.

Small Minivet *Pericrocotus cinnamomeus*: just four, in Chitwan.

#### IRENIDAE

Common Iora *Aegithina tiphia*

Orange-bellied Leaf Bird *Chloropsis hardwickii*: a couple on Phulchowki.

#### PYCNONOTIDAE

Black-headed Yellow Bulbul (Black-crested Bulbul) *Pycnonotus flaviventris*: two in Chitwan.

Red-whiskered Bulbul *Pycnonotus jocosus*

White-cheeked Bulbul (Himalayan Bulbul) *Pycnonotus leucogenys*

Red-vented Bulbul *Pycnonotus caffer*

Striated Green Bulbul (Striated Bulbul) *Pycnonotus striatus*: one or two on Phulchowki on our last day.

Rufous-bellied Bulbul (Mountain Bulbul) *Hypsipetes maclellandi*: common around 'bottle brush' flowers on Phulchowki.

Black Bulbul *Hypsipetes madagascariensis*

#### TIMALIIDAE

Spotted Babbler (Puff-throated Babbler) *Pellorneum ruficeps*: good views in Chitwan.

Slaty-headed Scimitar Babbler (White-browed Scimitar-Babbler) *Pomatorhinus schisticeps*: excellent views of three calling birds at Chitwan.

Rufous-necked Scimitar Babbler (Streak-breasted Scimitar-Babbler) *Pomatorhinus ruficollis*: seen well on two dates at Phulchowki.

Rusty-cheeked Scimitar Babbler *Pomatorhinus erythrocyne*

Scaly-breasted Wren-Babbler *Pnoepyga albiventer*: great views of a calling bird at Godaveri.

Lesser Scaly-breasted Wren-Babbler (Pygmy Wren-Babbler) *Pnoepyga pusilla*: one seen briefly on Phulchowki, and better looks at a singing bird at Godaveri.

Red-billed Babbler (Black-chinned Babbler) *Stachyris pyrrhops*

Black-throated Babbler (Grey-throated Babbler) *Stachyris nigriceps*: seen at Godaveri (after a chase through the bushes), and one in Chitwan.

Yellow-breasted Babbler (Striped Tit-Babbler) *Macronous gularis*

Red-capped Babbler (Chestnut-capped Babbler) *Timalia pileata*: several parties of this smart babbler in Chitwan.

Yellow-eyed Babbler *Chrysomma sinense*

Orange Suthora (Black-throated Parrotbill) *Paradoxornis nipalensis*: a party of about ten near the summit of Phulchowki. Brilliant.

Striated Babbler *Turdoides earlei*

Slender-billed Babbler *Turdoides longirostris*: three 'scoped for some minutes at Chitwan.

Jungle Babbler *Turdoides striatus*  
 Spiny Babbler *Turdoides nipalensis*: good views at very close range of a pair at Godaveri.  
 White-throated Laughing Thrush *Garrulax albogularis*  
 Necklaced Laughing Thrush (Lesser Necklaced Laughingthrush) *Garrulax moniligerus*: a volatile party at Chitwan.  
 Black-gorgeted Laughing Thrush (Greater Necklaced Laughingthrush) *Garrulax pectoralis*: around three seen with the previous species at Chitwan.  
 Striated Laughing Thrush *Garrulax striatus*: good views of this 'floppy crested' species on Phulchowki.  
 White-crested Laughing Thrush *Garrulax leucolophus*: seen at Phulchowki and Nagarjung.  
 Rufous-chinned Laughingthrush *Garrulax rufogularis*: two on our first morning at Phulchowki.  
 Rufous-necked Laughing Thrush *Garrulax ruficollis*: a single party at Tiger Tops.  
 Streaked Laughing Thrush *Garrulax lineatus*: some shy birds on the upper slopes of Phulchowki.  
 Red-headed Laughing Thrush (Chestnut-crowned Laughingthrush) *Garrulax erythrocephalus*  
 Red-billed Leiothrix *Leiothrix lutea*: a few at Godaveri, and a party of about six at Nagarjung.  
 Nepal Cutia (Cutia) *Cutia nipalensis*: good views of four on Phulchowki.  
 Hoary Barwing *Actinodura nipalensis*: a couple on Phulchowki.  
 Bar-throated Siva (Bar-throated Minla) *Minla strigula*  
 Blue-winged Siva (Blue-winged Minla) *Minla cyanouroptera*: two singles on Phulchowki.  
 Yellow-naped Yuhina (Whiskered Yuhina) *Yuhina flavicollis*: small numbers on Phulchowki.  
 Stripe-throated Yuhina *Yuhina gularis*  
 White-bellied Yuhina *Yuhina xantholeuca*: a few at Nagarjung and in Chitwan.  
 Chestnut-headed Tit-Babbler (Rufous-winged Fulvetta) *Alcippe castaneiceps*: up to 15 on Phulchowki.  
 White-browed Tit-Babbler(White-browed Fulvetta) *Alcippe vinipectus*  
 Nepal Babbler (Nepal Fulvetta) *Alcippe nipalensis*  
 Black-capped Sibia (Rufous Sibia) *Heterophasia capistrata*

#### MUSCICAPIDAE

Red-breasted Flycatcher *Muscicapa parva*  
 Orange-gorgeted Flycatcher (Rufous-gorgeted Flycatcher) *Muscicapa strophiiata*  
 Rufous-breasted Blue Flycatcher (Snowy-browed Flycatcher) *Muscicapa hyperythra* (H): one heard at Chitwan.  
 Rusty-breasted Blue Flycatcher (Slaty-backed Flycatcher) *Muscicapa hodgsonii*: a pair on a couple of dates at Godaveri.

Slaty Blue Flycatcher *Muscicapa leucomelanura*: just one elusive male in Chitwan.  
 Small Niltava *Muscicapa macgrigoriae*: singing birds on the last day at Godaveri and Phulchowki.  
 Rufous-bellied Niltava *Muscicapa sundara*: one at Nagarjung, and two on the last day at Phulchowki.  
 Brooks's Flycatcher (Pale-chinned Flycatcher) *Muscicapa poliogenys*: common in Chitwan.  
 Verditer Flycatcher *Muscicapa thalassina*  
 Grey-headed Flycatcher *Culicicapa ceylonensis*  
 Yellow-bellied Fantail Flycatcher (Yellow-bellied Fantail) *Rhipidura hypoxantha*  
 White-browed Fantail Flycatcher (White-browed Fantail) *Rhipidura aureola*: one at Kosi and then two in Chitwan.  
 White-throated Fantail Flycatcher (White-throated Fantail) *Rhipidura albicollis*

#### SYLVIIDAE

Dull Slaty-bellied Ground Warbler (Grey-bellied Tesia) *Tesia cyaniventer*: one seen at Nagarjung.  
 Chestnut-headed Ground Warbler (Chestnut-headed Tesia) *Tesia castaneocoronata*: three seen well but briefly on Phulchowki, and others heard.  
 Large Bush Warbler (Chestnut-crowned Bush-Warbler) *Cettia major*: at least three seen in Chitwan (one very well), and at least three more heard there.  
 Pale-footed Bush Warbler (Blanford's Bush Warbler) *Cettia pallidipes*: a couple seen at Chitwan, with one giving good views.  
 Aberrant Bush Warbler *Cettia flavolivacea*  
 Rufous-capped Bush Warbler (Grey-sided Bush Warbler) *Cettia brunnifrons*  
 Spotted Bush Warbler *Bradypterus thoracicus*: up to four seen at Kosi (where it is common), and one seen at Chitwan, with another singing nearby.  
 Fantail Warbler (Bright-capped Cisticola) *Cisticola exilis*: one or two at Chitwan.  
 Streaked Fantail Warbler (Zitting Cisticola) *Cisticola juncidis*  
 Hodgson's Wren-Warbler (Grey-capped Prinia) *Prinia cinereocapilla*  
 Franklin's Wren-Warbler (Grey-breasted Prinia) *Prinia hodgsonii*: common in Chitwan.  
 Streaked Wren-Warbler (Graceful Prinia) *Prinia gracilis*: several on the island at Kosi.  
 Plain Wren-Warbler (Plain Prinia) *Prinia inornata*: common in the grasslands at Chitwan.  
 Ashy Wren-Warbler (Ashy Prinia) *Prinia socialis*: just a couple in Chitwan.  
 Yellow-bellied Wren-Warbler (Yellow-bellied Prinia) *Prinia flaviventris*: only at Kosi.  
 Large Grass Warbler *Graminicola bengalensis*: up to three near Chitwan Jungle Lodge, and shy and elusive in the tall grass, although sometimes giving excellent close views.  
 Tailor Bird (Common Tailorbird) *Orthotomus sutorius*  
 Striated Marsh Warbler *Megalurus palustris*: good views at Kosi.  
 Thick-billed Warbler *Acrocephalus aedon*: two at Kosi.  
 Indian Great Reed Warbler (Clamorous Reed Warbler) *Acrocephalus stentoreus*: just a

couple at Kosi.

Blyth's Reed Warbler *Acrocephalus dumetorum*

Paddyfield Warbler *Acrocephalus agricola*: common at Kosi.

Chiffchaff *Phylloscopus collybita*

Tickell's Leaf Warbler *Phylloscopus affinis*: a few at Kosi.

Smoky Willow Warbler (Smoky Warbler) *Phylloscopus fulgiventor*: up to four at Kosi, and a couple at Chitwan.

Dusky Leaf Warbler (Dusky Warbler) *Phylloscopus fuscatus*: abundant at Kosi.

Orange-banded Leaf Warbler (Buff-banded Warbler) *Phylloscopus pulcher*: common on Phulchowki, especially on the upper slopes.

Yellow-browed Leaf Warbler (Yellow-browed Warbler) *Phylloscopus inornatus*: very few seen.

Lemon-rumped Warbler *Phylloscopus chloronotus*

Grey-faced Leaf Warbler (Ashy-throated Warbler) *Phylloscopus maculipennis*: a few stunning birds on Phulchowki.

Dull Green Leaf Warbler (Greenish Warbler) *Phylloscopus trochiloides*: only at Kosi and Chitwan.

Large Crowned Leaf Warbler (Western Crowned Warbler) *Phylloscopus occipitalis*: a few in Chitwan.

Blyth's Leaf Warbler *Phylloscopus reguloides*: good numbers at Godaveri, Nagarjung and Chitwan.

Black-browed Flycatcher-Warbler (Golden-spectacled Warbler) *Seicercus burkii*

Grey-headed Flycatcher-Warbler (Grey-hooded Warbler) *Seicercus xanthoschistus*

Chestnut-headed Flycatcher-Warbler (Chestnut-crowned Warbler) *Seicercus castaniceps*: two at Godaveri and one of Phulchowki. A little stunner.

Black-faced Flycatcher-Warbler (Black-faced Warbler) *Abroscopus schisticeps*: several parties on Phulchowki.

## TURDIDAE

Rubythroat (Siberian Rubythroat) *Erithacus calliope*: surprisingly common at Kosi.

Bluethroat *Erithacus svecicus*: a few at Kosi and Chitwan.

Himalayan Rubythroat (White-tailed Rubythroat) *Erithacus pectoralis*: good views of a female at Chitwan, and a male seen there more briefly.

Orange-flanked Bush Robin (Red-flanked Bluetail) *Erithacus cyanurus*: just one, a female-type, on Phulchowki.

Golden Bush Robin *Erithacus chrysaeus*: one seen briefly at Godaveri.

Magpie-Robin (Oriental Magpie-Robin) *Copsychus saularis*

Shama (White-rumped Shama) *Copsychus malabaricus*: several in Chitwan.

Blue-headed Redstart (Blue-capped Redstart) *Phoenicurus caeruleocephalus*: a male near the summit of Phulchowki.

Black Redstart *Phoenicurus ochruros*: just one, on the bund at Kosi.

Hodgson's Redstart *Phoenicurus hodgsoni*: one or two at Godaveri. and a male on the

Trisuli River.

Blue-fronted Redstart *Phoenicurus frontalis*: several at Godaveri.

Plumbeous Redstart *Rhyacornis fuliginosus*

White-tailed Blue Robin (White-tailed Robin) *Cinclidium leucurum*: great 'scope views of a female at Chitwan.

Black-backed Forktail *Enicurus immaculatus*: one seen well in Chitwan.

Spotted Forktail *Enicurus maculatus*: sadly, only seen briefly at Phulchowki.

Stonechat (Common Stonechat) *Saxicola torquata*

White-tailed Stonechat *Saxicola leucura*: around four on the river trip at Kosi.

Pied Bush Chat *Saxicola caprata*

Dark-grey Bush Chat (Grey Bushchat) *Saxicola ferrea*

White-capped Redstart *Chaimarrornis leucocephalus*

Chestnut-bellied Rock Thrush *Monticola rufiventris*: males on Phulchowki and at Nagarjung.

Blue Rock Thrush *Monticola solitarius*: one on the Trisuli River.

Blue Whistling Thrush *Myiophonus caeruleus*

Orange-headed Ground Thrush *Zoothera citrina*: a singleton at Kosi Tappu.

Golden Mountain Thrush (Scaly Thrush, White's Thrush) *Zoothera dauma*: one at Godaveri, and then great 'scope views of five birds at Nagarjung.

Tickell's Thrush *Turdus unicolor*: a male at Godaveri.

Grey-winged Blackbird *Turdus bouboul*: three at Nagarjung, and singles at Kosi and Chitwan.

Black-throated Thrush (Dark-throated Thrush) *Turdus ruficollis*: just one or two at all sites.

CINCLIDAE

Brown Dipper *Cinclus pallasi*: several along the Trisuli River, including an adult feeding a very spotty recently-fledged juvenile.

PRUNELLIDAE

Rufous-breasted Accentor *Prunella strophiatea*: good views of two on the upper slopes of Phulchowki.

PARIDAE

Grey Tit (Great Tit) *Parus major*

Green-backed Tit *Parus monticolus*: just a couple at Godaveri, and one or two on the slopes of Phulchowki.

Yellow-cheeked Tit (Black-lored Tit) *Parus xanthogenys*

Yellow-browed Tit *Sylviparus modestus*: one seen briefly at Phulchowki.

Red-headed Tit (Black-throated Tit) *Aegithalos concinnus*

SITTIDAE

Chestnut-bellied Nuthatch *Sitta castanea*

White-tailed Nuthatch *Sitta himalayensis*

Velvet-fronted Nuthatch *Sitta frontalis*: eventually, some nice, eye-level views in Chitwan.

Wall Creeper *Tichodroma muraria*: great views of a male sunning itself by the Trisuli River.

#### CERTHIIDAE

Sikkim Tree Creeper (Brown-throated Treecreeper) *Certhia discolor*: one singing bird on Phulchowki.

#### MOTACILLIDAE

Indian Tree Pipit (Olive-backed Pipit) *Anthus hodgsoni*

Paddyfield Pipit *Anthus rufulus*

Richard's Pipit *Anthus richardi*: a couple at Kosi and four in Chitwan.

Tawny Pipit *Anthus campestris*: two south of Kosi Barrage were identified by their dark lores and call.

Vinaceous-breasted Pipit (Rosy Pipit) *Anthus roseatus*: one or two at Kosi, and then common at Chitwan, where coming into roost in the grasslands.

Yellow-headed Wagtail (Citrine Wagtail) *Motacilla citreola*: just three, at Meghauli.

Grey Wagtail *Motacilla cinerea*

Pied Wagtail *Motacilla alba*

Large Pied Wagtail (White-browed Wagtail) *Motacilla madaraspatensis*

#### DICAEIDAE

Yellow-vented Flowerpecker *Dicaeum chrysorrheum*: one seen well at Chitwan Jungle Lodge. A rare bird in Nepal.

Tickell's Flowerpecker (Pale-billed Flowerpecker) *Dicaeum erythrorhynchos*:

Fire-breasted Flowerpecker (Buff-bellied Flowerpecker) *Dicaeum ignipectus*: common around Chitwan Jungle Lodge.

#### NECTARINIIDAE

Purple Sunbird *Nectarinia asiatica*

Nepal Yellow-backed Sunbird (Green-tailed Sunbird) *Aethopyga nipalensis*

Black-breasted Sunbird *Aethopyga saturata*: just one, on Phulchowki.

Yellow-backed Sunbird (Crimson Sunbird) *Aethopyga siparaja*: around five in Chitwan.

Fire-tailed Sunbird *Aethopyga ignicauda*: several out of plumage birds on Phulchowki. --

#### ZOSTEROPIDAE

White-eye (Oriental White-eye) *Zosterops palpebrosa*

#### PLOCEIDAE

House Sparrow *Passer domesticus*



Tree Sparrow (Eurasian Tree Sparrow) *Passer montanus*

Yellow-throated Sparrow (Chestnut-shouldered Petronia) *Petronia xanthocollis*: a couple in Chitwan.

White-backed Munia (White-rumped Munia) *Lonchura striata*: up to 20 around the elephant stables at Tiger Tops.

Spotted Munia (Scaly-breasted Munia) *Lonchura punctulata*: a few at Kosi.

#### FRINGILLIDAE

Spotted-winged Grosbeak (Spot-winged Grosbeak) *Coccothraustes melanozanthos*: around six on Phulchowki, with two or three giving good 'scope views (well spotted Walt).

Nepal Rosefinch (Dark-breasted Rosefinch) *Carpodacus nipalensis*: three on Phulchowki.

Brown Bullfinch *Pyrrhula nipalensis*: a group of around five on Phulchowki moved off before we got anything more than a glimpse.

#### EMBERIZIDAE

Black-faced Bunting *Emberiza spodocephala*: common in the bushes at Kosi.

Crested Bunting *Melophus lathami*: several coming into roost at Kosi, and a pair at Chitwan.

## Mammals

Indian Flying Fox *Pteropus giganteus*: roosting in trees by the King's palace.

Rhesus Macaque *Macaca mulatta*

Assamese Macaque *Macaca assamensis*: two on Phulchowki.

Hanuman Langur (Common Langur) *Presbytis entellus*: common in Chitwan.

Indian Grey Mongoose (Common Mongoose) *Herpestes edwardsii*: several at Kosi.

Indian Rhinoceros *Rhinoceros unicornis*: up to ten at Chitwan, including both victor and vanquished (complete with bloody wound) seen at close range from the jeep at dusk en route back to the lodge (and shortly before the jeep gave up the ghost crossing a stream!).

Wild Boar (Indian Wild Boar) *Sus scrofa*: a couple briefly at Chitwan.

Indian Muntjac (Barking Deer) *Muntiacus muntjak*: one at Nagarjung, and several in Chitwan.

Spotted Deer (Chital) *Cervus axis*

Hog-Deer *Cervus porcinus*

Sambar *Cervus unicolor*: just one party of four at Chitwan.

Water Buffalo *Bubalus arnee*: many wild type animals (long, broad-based horns, white tip to the tail and pale 'stockings') at Kosi.

Gaur (Indian Bison) *Bos gaurus*: Superb. Up to 15, including four very young calves, daily from the verandah at Tiger Tops Tented Camp.

Northern Palm Squirrel (Five-striped Palm Squirrel) *Funambulus pennanti*: one at Kosi.

Irrawaddy Squirrel *Callosciurus pygerythrus*: several in Chitwan.

Orange-bellied Himalayan Squirrel *Dremomys lokriah*: one on Phulchowki.

Indian Hare *Lepus nigricollis* (NL): singles at Kosi and Chitwan.

## REPTILES & AMPHIBIANS

Mugger (Marsh Crocodile) *Crocodylus palustris*: several in Chitwan.

Indo-Gangetic Mud Turtle *Lissemys punctata*: common at Kosi.