

Avifauna of Bara Gali Summer Campus, University of Peshawar, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

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Abstract : Survey of avian fauna of Bara Gali Summer Campus, University of Peshawar situated in Abbottabad was conducted from April to October, 2013. A total of 21 species belonging to 5 orders and 15 families were recorded. Out of these, 6 were resident, 12 summer visitor and 3 rare. Order Passeriformes was represented by 16 species which are *Certhia himalayana*, *Megalaima virens*, *Phylloscopus trochiloides*, *Garrulax lineatus*, *Passer rutilans*, *Corvus macrorhynchos*, *Hypsipetes leucocephalus*, *Acridotheres tristis*, *Delichon dasypus cashmeriensis*, *Hirundo rustica*, *Muscicapa thalassina*, *Saxicola ferrea*, *Myiophoneus caeruleus*, *Parus melonolophus*, *Parus rufonuchalis*, *Parus monticolus*, belonging to 11 families. Two species *Dendrocopos himalayensis* and *Picus squamatus* belong to only one family Picidae of order Piciformes. Among rest of the three orders each is represented by only a single species; Accipitriformes by *Accipiter virgatus*, Coraciiformes by *Upupa epops* while order Psittaciformes has been represented by *Psittacula himalayana*. The distribution and abundance varied with season and maximum number of species were found during the monsoon season when most of the birds migrate for breeding. Some habits and behaviors like nesting, feeding, breeding and vocalizations were also studied which are very unique from other birds found at lower elevations. Among bird species adapted to diverse habitat in the field, Himalayan Jungle Crow, Common Mynas, Bulbuls, Barn Swallows, barbets were prominent. Interesting feature of the avian fauna is its familiarity with flora, was also observed during the present studies that some birds are very quick and active in their movement on a tree surface i.e *Certhia himalayana*.

Keywords : avifauna diversity, distribution, Bara Gali, Abbottabad

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