



सत्यमेव जयते
Government of West Bengal
Post Graduate Department of Zoology
Acharya Brojendra Nath Seal College
Cooch Behar, PIN-736 101, West Bengal, India

OBSERVATION REPORT

EDUCATIONAL EXCURSION AT SHAL BAGAN, COOCH BEHAR

Academic Session: 2021-2022

Background and Aim: The Post Graduate Department of Zoology, Acharya Brojendra Nath Seal College, Cooch Behar had conducted an educational excursion in the form of a day visit to Shal Bagan, Cooch Behar on 31. 03. 22 for its B. Sc. (CBCS) 6th Semester Zoology (Honours) students. The purpose of the educational excursion was to impart knowledge on the practical course: DSE-4 (Wildlife Conservation and Management) of their curriculum as prescribed by the affiliating university, i. e; Cooch Behar Panchanan Barma University.

Composition of team: A group of 21 students, escorted by four faculties as enlisted below attended the educational excursion.

List of escorting teachers of the Department:

1. SRI HEMEN BISWAS, Assistant Professor
2. SRI SATADAL ADHIKARY, Assistant Professor
3. SRI ANIRBAN PANDEY, Assistant Professor
4. SRI KOUSTAV KUNDU, Assistant Professor

List of participating UG CBCS 6th Semester Zoology (Honours) students of the Department:

GIRLS				BOYS			
Sl. No.	Name of the Student	Roll No.	Age (Years)	Sl. No.	Name of the Student	Roll No.	Age (Years)
1.	CHANDRANI KARMAKAR	F-03	20	1.	ARIJIT ROY	M-02	21
2.	SREETI ORAON	F-10	20	2.	ANISUR RAHAMAN	M-07	21
3.	SNEHA GHOSH	F-35	20	3.	DEBAJIT DATTA	M-20	21
4.	PUJA GHOSH	F-38	20	4.	SANJAY MAHANTA	M-26	21
5.	SHRUTI BASUMATA	F-48	20	5.	RAHUL MODAK	M-30	20
6.	MOUSUMI PAUL	F-49	20	6.	ABHIJIT DAS	M-37	20
7.	TANUSHREE TALUKAR	F-51	20	7.	ARKO PRATIM PODDAR	M-40	20
8.	SUCHITRA SARKAR	F-53	21	8.	SAYAK BISWAS	M-41	20
9.	SAMPURNA MAJUMDER	F-57	20	9.	SUBHAYU CHAKRABORTY	M-44	21
-	-	-	-	10.	BHASKAR ROY	M-45	20



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-	-	-	-	11.	DIPAK KUMAR MITRA	M-50	20
-	-	-	-	12.	SWAPAN KUMAR SARKAR	M-54	21

Studies Performed: The educational excursion was aimed at imparting knowledge on some topics of the syllabus, which include:

1. Identification of mammalian fauna, avian fauna and herpeto fauna
2. Demonstration of basic equipments used for wildlife studies
3. Familiarization of animal evidences in the field like pug-marks, hoof marks, scats etc.
4. Trail/Transect monitoring for abundance and diversity estimation of birds

A point transect sampling was performed by the students having 10 points and birds were observed, identified and data were recorded for performing further analysis.

Observations:

1. Avian fauna were identified as observed during point-transect sampling (Table: 1)
2. Pug marks and hoof marks were not found, except a few in the surrounding areas of Shal Bagan, which were of domesticated cattle.
3. The observations of point-transect sampling for birds are recorded as follows.

Observations of point transect sampling for avian fauna

Common Name	Scientific Name	Order	Count	Percentage of Species	Percentage of Birds of Different Orders
BLACK KITE	<i>Milvus migrans</i>	ACCIPITRIFORMES	27	16.8	16.8
BRONZE-WINGED JACANA	<i>Metopidius indicus</i>	CHARADRIIFORMES	1	0.6	0.6
COLLARED DOVE	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	COLUMBIFORMES	11	6.8	6.8
INDIAN ROLLER	<i>Coracias benghalensis</i>	CORACIIFORMES	6	3.7	4.3
WHITE-BREASTED KINGFISHER	<i>Halcyon smyrnensis</i>		1	0.6	
ASIAN PIED STERLING	<i>Gracupica contra</i>	PASSERIFORMES	1	0.6	59
BLACK DRONGO	<i>Dicrurus macrocercus</i>		11	6.8	
BLACK-HOODED ORIOLE	<i>Oriolus xanthornus</i>		2	1.2	
HOUSE CROW	<i>Corvus splendens</i>		2	1.2	
COMMON MYNA	<i>Acridotheres tristis</i>		43	26.7	
COMMON RAVEN	<i>Corvus corax</i>		2	1.2	
JUNGLE BABBLER	<i>Turdoides striata</i>		14	8.7	
JUNGLE MYNA	<i>Acridotheres fuscus</i>		5	3.1	



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RUFOUS TREEPIE	<i>Dendrocitta vagabunda</i>		5	3.1	
SPANGLED DRONGO	<i>Dicrurus bracteatus</i>		9	5.6	
TAILOR BIRD	<i>Orthotomus sutorius</i>		1	0.6	
BLUE-THROATED BARBET	<i>Megalaima asiatica</i>	PICIFORMES	3	1.9	3.7
LESSER FLAMEBACK WOODPECKER	<i>Dinopium benghalense</i>		3	1.9	
ROSE-RINGED PARAKEET	<i>Psittacula krameri</i>	PSITTACIFORMES	14	8.7	8.7

Remarks:

1. The educational excursion was successful in providing the students a hands-on training on the selected parts of their syllabus. It was also felt that a smaller group-size of the students would have provided the teachers better opportunity for precision of the sampling and individual care of the students.
2. At the same time, proper numbering and labeling the trees with common names and botanical names were not found. Appropriate numbering and labeling the trees are to be necessary to the authority in order to ensure better forest management and conservation practices like approximate estimation of ages of the trees, prevention of poaching, etc. of the Shal Bagan.

PHOTOGRAPHIC PLATE



Participating students and escorting teachers involve in group discussion at the excursion field



Excursion team comprising participating students and escorting teachers