



Updated bird list of the Rajshahi University campus, Bangladesh

A.M. Saleh Reza and Selina Parween

Department of Zoology, University of Rajshahi, Rajshahi-6205, Bangladesh

The avifauna of Rajshahi University (RU) campus is most significant among the wildlife fauna and rich in regard to its diversity (Reza *et al.*, 2012). In the previous report (Reza *et al.*, 2012) total 159 species of birds were reported from the RU campus. Those species were members of 102 genera, 36 families and 13 orders; among the species 76 were passerines and 83 were non-passerines. Among those reported birds 121 species of are residents and 38 are migratory (29 winter visitors, 2 summer visitors and 7 passage migrants) of Bangladesh.

The present report is based on field studies at different habitats of the university campus. After sighting a bird, photographs were taken using digital still camera (Nikon D300 DSLR with 300 mm Nikon lens) and video camera (Sony DCR SR68), and field notes were kept.

Bird watching was designed in two categories; a) routine bird watching, and b) casual bird watching. Routine bird watching was carried throughout the year except rainy days. Every day early in the morning different sites of the RU campus were visited by walking, continued for 2-4 hours. Often short visits for 1-2 hours were also made at late afternoon at a definite site. In each visit a definite area of about 1 km was covered in search of birds.

This article provides an additional list of birds of RU campus that was recorded after the year 2012 and continued up to June 2019. During this period total 34 species of birds were added to the previous list of the RU campus. These 34 species are members of 27 genera, 16 families and 7 orders (Table 1). Among these species 12 (35.24%) are non-passerines and 22 (64.7%) are passerine birds. The highest number of species (N=8) recorded from the family Passeridae, and the genus (N=3) from *Lonchura*; the next higher number of species (N=5) are members of the family Sylviidae.

These birds were found at different habitats of the RU campus (Table 2). All the species are

globally **Least Concerned** except for two, they are **Data Deficient** in Bangladesh (Table 2); and the species and *Iduna rama* (Sykes's Warbler), *Phylloscopus humei* (Hume's Leaf Warbler) *Lonchura atricapilla* (Chestnut Munia) are not reported from the country yet.

Ten (32.26%) of 31 species (as report unavailable for three species) are migratory to Bangladesh, of which one is uncommon winter migrant and other one is rare passage migrant, 5 are rare winter migrants and the rest three are common winter migrants. Among the 19 (63.33%) resident species 8 are common residents, 6 are uncommon residents and 4 are rare residents. There are more three species which are vagrant to the country (Table 2). Haque (1976) reported 76 bird species from the RU campus.

Some amendments of the previous report Reza *et al.* (2012): There found a number of species in the previous report of Reza *et al.* (2012), some (N=7) of which were seen only once during the time period from 2005 – 2019, a few were misidentified; and the Bangla name of one species was wrong (Tufted Pochard). Names of these species are *Melaima lineate*, *Bubo bubo*, *Amurnis akool*, *Botaurus stellaris*, *Pericrocotus flammeus*, *Dicrurus ludwigii* and *Nectarina lotenia*. So, total number of bird species of RU campus was 152 instead of 159 as reported in Reza *et al.* (2012).

Conclusion

Because a wide variety of habitats of the Rajshahi University campus, the bird fauna is quite rich here. Department of Zoology, University of Rajshahi trying to conserve the birds and other wildlife species of the campus, that also created some awareness among the students, teachers and staffs of the University to protect these beautiful and magnificent creatures, and the birds found a protected nesting and roosting area for them.

Table 1. Birds recorded from RU campus after 2012 and up to June 2019.

Order / Family	Serial No.	Scientific name	English name	Bangla name
Piciformes / Picidae	1.	<i>Dendrocopos nanus</i> Vigors, 1832	Brown-capped Pygmy Wood-pecker	Badamitupi Bamon Kaththokra
	2.	<i>Dendrocopos atracus</i> (Blyth, 1849)	Stripe-breasted Woodpecker	Dagibuk Kaththokra
Cuculiformes / Cuculidae	3.	<i>Cuculus poliocephalus</i> Latham, 1790	Lesser Cuckoo	Chhoto Papia
Strigiformes / Strigidae	4.	<i>Otus bakkamoena</i> (Hodgson, 1836)	Indian Scops Owl	Desi Konthi Pecha
	5.	<i>Ketupa zeylonensis</i>	Brown Fish Owl	Khoira Mecho Pencha
Columbiformes / Columbidae	6.	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i> Frivaldszky, 1838	Eurasian Collared Dove	Eurasio Konthi Ghughu
	7.	<i>Streptopelia orientalis</i> (Latham, 1790)	Oriental Turtle Dove	Udoi Raj Ghughu
	8.	<i>Treron curvirostra</i> (Gmelin, 1790)	Thick-billed Green Pigeon	Thotmota Horial
Gruiformes / Rallidae	9.	<i>Gallicrex cinerea</i> (Gmelin, 1789)	Watercock	Jol Morog
Ciconiiformes / Jacanidae	10.	<i>Hydrophasianus chirurgus</i> (Scopoli, 1786)	Pheasant-tailed Jacana	Jol Mayur
Charadriidae	11.	<i>Vanellus indicus</i> (Boddaert, 1783)	Red-wattled Lapwing	Lal-hotika Whot Ti Ti
Accipitridae	12.	<i>Pernis ptilorhynchus</i> (Temminck, 1821)	Oriental Honey Buzzard	Udoi Modhubaj
Passeriformes / Laniidae	13.	<i>Lanius tephronotos</i> (Vigors, 1831)	Grey-backed Shrike	Metepith Latora
	14.	<i>Lanius isabellinus</i> (Hemprich & Ehrenberg, 1833)	Isabelline Shrike	-
Corvidae	15.	<i>Dicrurus hottentottus</i> (Linnaeus, 1766)	Spangled Drongo	Keshori Fingey
	16.	<i>Dicrurus remifer</i> (Temminck, 1822)	Lesser Racket-tailed Drongo	Chhoto Bhimraj
	17.	<i>Hypothymis azurea</i> (Boddaert, 1783)	Black-naped Monarch	Kalaghar Rajon
Sturnidae	18.	<i>Gracula religiosa</i> Linnaeus, 1758	Hill Myna	Moyna
Hirundinidae	19.	<i>Hirundo daurica</i> Linnaeus, 1771	Red-rumped Swallow	Lalkomor Ababil
Cisticolidae	20.	<i>Prinia gracilis</i> (Lichtenstein, 1823)	Graceful Prinia	Sundori Prina
Zosteropidae	21.	<i>Zosterops palpebrosus</i> (Temminck, 1824)	Oriental White-eye	Shet-ankhi
Sylviidae	22.	<i>Acrocephalus aedon</i> (Pallas, 1776)	Thick-billed Warbler	Motathot Futki
	23.	<i>Acrocephalus agricola</i> (Jerdon, 1845)	Paddyfield Warbler	Dhani Futki
	24.	<i>Phylloscopus humei</i> (Brooks, 1878)	Hume's Leaf Warbler	-
	25.	<i>Hippolais caligata</i> (Lichtenstein, 1823)	Booted Warbler	Bootpa Futki
	26.	<i>Iduna rama</i> (Sykes's, 1832)	Sykes's Warbler	-
Passeridae	27.	<i>Dendroanthus indicus</i> (Gmelin, 1789)	Forest Wagtail	Bon Khonjon
	28.	<i>Motacilla falva</i> Linnaeus, 1758	Yellow Wagtail	Holday Khonjon
	29.	<i>Anthus hodgsonii</i> Richmond, 1907	Olive-backed Pipit	Jolpai-pith Tulika
	30.	<i>Anthus roseatus</i> Blyth, 1847	Rosy Pipit	Golapi Tulika
	31.	<i>Ploceus philippensis</i> (Linnaeus, 1766)	Baya Weaver	Babui
	32.	<i>Lonchura striata</i> (Linnaeus, 1766)	White-rumped Munia	Dholakomor Munia
	33.	<i>Lonchura punctulata</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)	Scaly-breasted Munia	Tila Munia
	34.	<i>Lonchura atricapilla</i> (Vieillot, 1807)	Chestnut Munia	-

Table 2. Habitat of the recorded birds, their status* and distribution in Bangladesh**

Species	Habitat	Status (IUCN)	Distribution
<i>Dendrocopos nanus</i>	Semi forest area	LC	Vagrant
<i>Dendrocopos atracus</i>	Semi forest area, Scattered trees	LC	Vagrant
<i>Cuculus poliocephalus</i>	Scattered trees	LC	Vagrant
<i>Otus bakkamoena</i>	Big trees	LC	Common Resident
<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	Scattered trees	LC	Common Resident
<i>Streptopelia orientalis</i>	Botanical Garden	LC	Uncommon Resident
<i>Treron curvirostra</i>	Mulberry Bush	LC (data deficient in Bangladesh)	Rare Resident
<i>Gallicrex cinerea</i>	Water edges	LC	Uncommon Resident
<i>Metopidius indicus</i>	Water edges, water areas with vegetation	LC	Uncommon Resident
<i>Pernis ptilorhynchus</i>	Semi forest area	LC (data deficient in Bangladesh)	Rare Resident
<i>Lanius tephronotos</i>	Botanical Garden	LC	Uncommon Winter Visitor
<i>Lanius isabellinus</i>	Shrubs	LC	Rare Winter Visitor
<i>Dicrurus hottentottus</i>	Semi forest area	LC	Rare Winter Visitor
<i>Dicrurus remifer</i>	Semi forest area	LC	Common Resident
<i>Hypothymis azurea</i> (Boddaert, 1783)	Semi forest area	LC	Common Resident
<i>Hirudo daurica</i>	Grassland	LC	Rare Winter Visitor
<i>Gracula religiosa</i>	Botanical Garden	LC	Uncommon Resident
<i>Prinia gracilis</i>	Grassland	LC	Rare Resident
<i>Zosterops palpebrosus</i>	Mixed trees	LC	Rare Resident
<i>Acrocephalus aedon</i>	Botanical Garden	LC	Common Resident
<i>Acrocephalus agricola</i>	Grassland	LC	Rare Winter Visitor
<i>Phylloscopus humei</i>	Grassland	LC	Not reported yet
<i>Hippolais caligata</i>	Small trees	LC	Rare Winter Visitor
<i>Dendroanthus indicus</i>	Semi forest area	LC	Rare Passage Migrant
<i>Motacilla falva</i>	Water edge	LC	Common Winter Visitor
<i>Anthus hodgsonii</i>	Semi forest area, Mango orchard	LC	Common Winter Visitor
<i>Anthus roseatus</i>	Water edge	LC	Common Winter Visitor
<i>Ploceus philippinus</i>	Cropland, Shrubs	LC	Common Resident
<i>Lonchura striata</i>	Shrubs	LC	Uncommon Resident
<i>Lonchura punctulata</i>	Crop field	LC	Common Resident
<i>Lonchura atricapilla</i>	Crop field	LC	Not reported yet

* IUCN (2015), **Siddiqui *et al.* (2008)

References

- IUCN 2015. Red List of Bangladesh **vol 3**. IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature), Bangladesh Country Office, Dhaka.
- Haque, A.K.M.F. 1976. Birds of the Rajshahi University Campus. *Bangladesh J. Zool.* **4**(2): 125-127.
- Reza A.M.S., Hossain M.M., Hasan M.A. and Parween, S. 2012. Annotated checklist of birds of Rajshahi University campus: an update. *Univ. j. zool. Rajshahi Univ.* **31**: 39-47.
- Siddiqui, K.U., Islam, M.A., Kabir, S.M.H., Ahmad, M., Ahmed, A.T.A., Rahman, A.K.A., Haque, E.U., Ahmed, Z.U., Begum, Z.N.T., Hassan, M.A., Khondker, M. and Rahman, M.M. (eds.). 2008. **Encyclopedia of Flora and Fauna of Bangladesh Vol. 26**, Asiatic Soc. Bangladesh, Dhaka.