



Evaluation of Avian Diversity and Indigenous Bird Species along the Por River near Haramba, Chamorshi, Gadchiroli District (M.S.) India.

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Abstract: The purpose of this research was to record the real avifauna species data along the Por river, and it was carried out over the course of one year, beginning in March 2023 and ending in February 2024. This research is based on the identification of several kinds of birds that are native to the area. Avian species were categorized in three habitats Wetland, Terrestrial, and Lentic. For the purpose of making observations, binoculars with a magnification of (10×50) were used, and images were captured using a digital Nikon camera that was fitted with an appropriate zoom lens. At the beginning of each month, photographs were taken between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. in the morning, and between 4:00 p.m and 6:00 p.m. in the evening. Throughout the course of this investigation, a total of 54 different species of birds representing 15 orders and 36 families were seen and documented at four distinct places along the Por river.

Keywords: *Avifauna, Por river, Identification and Nikon camera.*

Introduction:

Birds have an important helpfulness role in the ecosystem in addition to their potential pollinators and scavengers. They are called bioindicators to refer to them appropriately. Aquatic birds are an important constituent linked to ecology due to the fact that they are consumers in the trophic levels of such a system. Moreover, they are regarded as one of the indicators of the changes that have taken place in the aquatic environment. Among the natural environment of the Indian subcontinent, birds constitute an important component. There is no off-season of birds in India. Ali and Ripley (1983) indicate that in India, there are 1200 species of birds. They are the birds, who are indigenous at a certain place. Haslem and Bennett (2008) declare that the most important species in an agricultural environment is birds in terms of ensuring an ecological balance between the environment and the species. A study conducted by Ali between 1949 and 1971, gave a detailed account of the positive and negative impacts these factors had on agricultural production. In contrast, the continuously growing population and urbanization which has come along with it have led to disappearance of the agricultural and wet regions respectively. Wetland areas in the area on the other hand are being degraded at a alarming rate due to the pollution they are undergoing of various types of pollutants and the rise in the activities of which they are concerned with development. This is causing the wetland to become incapable of supporting the aquatic species and the other creatures which depend on the birds. Since birds form a significant and efficient organism in reducing the population of pests that are encountered in the farmlands, farmers incorporate birds in their daily activities.

Materials and Methods:

Photos were click once in a month during morning 7.30 am to 10.30 am and at evening 4.00 pm to 6.00 pm. Diverse species of birds were observed with binoculars (10×50). Photographs were taken with appropriate zoom lens of Digital camera Nikon and identified with the help of standard keys and method suggested by (Salim Ali 1996), (Kiran Purandare 2014), (Maruti Chitampalli 2014), and (Manakadan 2011). The scientific names, common names, family sequence and IUCN status were done with the help of Bird Life international (Grimmet et al., 2011).

Results and Discussion:

During present study, total 54 species of birds belonging to 15 orders and 36 families were recorded. Out of which 23 species belong to order Passeriformes, 6 species each of belong to order Choradriiformes and order Pelecaniformes, 5 species belong to order Coraciiformes, 3 species belong to order Columbiformes, 2 species belong to order Gruiformes and 1 species each of belong to order Ciconiiformes, Cuculiformes, Anseriformes, Piciformes, Psittaciformes, Bucerotiformes, Suliformes, Strigiformes, and Accipitriformes. The investigation revealed that Passeriformes was the dominant order among those recorded. These species are as follows:

Saxicola caprata, *Prinia inornata*, *Dicrurus macrocercus*, *Copsychus fulicatus*, *Acrocephalus orientalis*, *Luscinia svecica*, *Cinnyris asiaticus*, *Pycnonotus cafer*, *Acridotheres tristis*, *Gracupica contra*, *Phoenicurus ochruros*, *Argya striata*, *Argya caudate*, *Euodice malabarica*, *Aegithina tiphia*, *Ploceus philippinus*, *Pachycephala rufiventris*, *Lonchura punctulata*, *Prinia socialis*, *Lanius schach*, *Chrysomma sinense*, *Sturnia pagodarum*, *Plocealauda assamica*, *Rostratula benghalensis*, *Metopidius indicus*, *Vanellus duvaucelii*, *Vanellus indicus*, *Himantopus himantopus*, *Thinornis dubius*, *Alcedo meninting*, *Coracias benghalensis*, *Merops orientalis*, *Alcedo atthis*, *Halcyon smyrnensis*, *Ardea alba*, *Pseudibis papillosa*, *Egretta garzetta*, *Ardea purpurea*, *Ardeola grayii*, *Bubulcus ibis*, *Anastomus oscitans*, *Treron phoenicopterus*, *Spilopelia chinensis*, *Spilopelia senegalensis*, *Porphyrio poliocephalus*, *Zapornia fusca*, *Centropus sinensis*, *Dendrocygna javanica*, *Chrysocolaptes festivus*, *Psittacula cyanocephala*, *Upupa eopops*, *Microcarbo niger*, *Athene brama* and *Elanus caeruleus*.

In a similar manner, a number of studies reported similar discoveries. Of these, Kumar and Bohara (2002) recorded 103 species of birds and 13 orders and 43 families in Udhwa lake of Jharkhand state. Bhadja and Vaghela (2013) found that the majority of the months during the period of the inquiry were resident bird months with the winter season being the month in which migratory birds were seen most frequently. Through the report it was observed that Pardi Lake, Gadchiroli had fifty different types of birds around and within its lake, Patil and Chavhan (2022). Chavan et al., (2025) recorded 43 species of birds belonging to 10 order and 28 families along the Wainganga river, near Chichdoh Barrage at Chamorshi, Dist.Gadchiroli. According to Yadav et al., (2023) 59 birds were observed and recorded from the research areas, namely, Yamunanagar, Panipat and Faridabad (riverine region). These birds are from eight orders and fourteen families. The order Anseriformes had the greatest number of species with fifteen species, followed by the order Charadriiformes with thirteen species, and the order Gruiformes with nine species. Fifty-nine species of birds have been reported in Yamuna Riverine region of Haryana. The birds are from 14 families and 8 orders. Ellen K. Ponsian et al., (2025) mentioned that 3,219 species of birds were spotted across the six habitats. A total of 21 orders and 67 families of birds were included in these, with 266 species.

Table 1. Avian Diversity and Indigenous Bird species along the Por river, near Haramba, Chamorshi, District Gadchiroli

Sr. No.	Order	Family	Common Name	Scientific Name
1	Passeriformes	Muscicapidae	Pied Bushchat	<i>Saxicola caprata</i>
2	Passeriformes	Muscicapidae	Blue Throat Bird	<i>Luscinia svecica</i>
3	Passeriformes	Muscicapidae	Black Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>
4	Passeriformes	Muscicapidae	Indian robin	<i>Copsychus fulicatus</i>
5	Passeriformes	Cisticolidae	Plain Prinia	<i>Prinia inornata</i>
6	Passeriformes	Cisticolidae	Ashy Prinia	<i>Prinia socialis</i>
7	Passeriformes	Dicruridae	Black Drongo	<i>Dicrurus macrocercus</i>

8	Passeriformes	Acrocephalidae	Oriental reed warbler	<i>Acrocephalus orientalis</i>
9	Passeriformes	Sturnidae	Common Myna	<i>Acridotheres tristis</i>
10	Passeriformes	Sturnidae	Indian Pied Myna	<i>Gracupica contra</i>
11	Passeriformes	Sturnidae	Brahminy Starling	<i>Sturnia pagodarum</i>
12	Passeriformes	Nectariniidae	Purple Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris asiaticus</i>
13	Passeriformes	Pycnonotidae	Red Vented Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus cafer</i>
14	Passeriformes	Leiothrichidae	Jungle Babbler	<i>Argya striata</i>
15	Passeriformes	Leiothrichidae	Common Babbler	<i>Argya caudata</i>
16	Passeriformes	Estrildidae	Indian silverbill	<i>Euodice malabarica</i>
17	Passeriformes	Aegithinidae	Common lora	<i>Aegithina tiphia</i>
18	Passeriformes	Ploceidae	Baya Weaver	<i>Ploceus philippinus</i>
19	Passeriformes	Pachycephalidae	Rufous whistler	<i>Pachycephala rufiventris</i>
20	Passeriformes	Estrildidae	Scaly Breasted Munia	<i>Lonchura punctulata</i>
21	Passeriformes	Laniidae	Long Tailed Shrike	<i>Lanius schach</i>
22	Passeriformes	Paradoxornithidae	Yellow Eyed Babbler	<i>Chrysomma sinense</i>
23	Passeriformes	Alaudidae	Bengal bush lark	<i>Plocealauda assamica</i>
24	Charadriiformes	Rostratulidae	Greater Painted snipe	<i>Rostratula benghalensis</i>
25	Charadriiformes	Jacaniidae	Bronze-winged Jacana	<i>Metopidius indicus</i>
26	Charadriiformes	Charadriidae	River lapwing	<i>Vanellus duvaucelii</i>
27	Charadriiformes	Charadriidae	Red Wattled Lapwing	<i>Vanellus indicus</i>
28	Charadriiformes	Charadriidae	Little ringed plover	<i>Thinornis dubius</i>
29	Charadriiformes	Recurvirostridae	Black Winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>
30	Pelecaniformes	Threskiornithidae	Red-naped Ibis	<i>Pseudibis papillosa</i>
31	Pelecaniformes	Ardeidae	Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>
32	Pelecaniformes	Ardeidae	Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>
33	Pelecaniformes	Ardeidae	Purple Herone	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>
34	Pelecaniformes	Ardeidae	Indian pond Heron	<i>Ardeola grayii</i>
35	Pelecaniformes	Ardeidae	Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>
36	Coraciiformes	Alcedinidae	Blue-eared Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo meninting</i>
37	Coraciiformes	Alcedinidae	Common Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>
38	Coraciiformes	Alcedinidae	White Throated Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon smyrnensis</i>

39	Coraciiformes	Coraciidae	Indian Roller	<i>Coracias benghalensis</i>
40	Coraciiformes	Meropidae	Little Green Bee Eater	<i>Merops orientalis</i>
41	Columbiformes	Columbidae	Yellow-footed green pigeon	<i>Treron phoenicopterus</i>
42	Columbiformes	Columbidae	Spotted Dove	<i>Spilopelia chinensis</i>
43	Columbiformes	Columbidae	Laughing Dove	<i>Spilopelia senegalensis</i>
44	Gruiformes	Rallidae	Grey-headed Swamphen	<i>Porphyrio poliocephalus</i>
45	Gruiformes	Rallidae	Ruddy-breasted Crake	<i>Zapornia fusca</i>
46	Ciconiiformes	Ciconiidae	Asian Open Bill	<i>Anastomus oscitans</i>
47	Cuculiformes	Cuculidae	Greater Coucal	<i>Centropus sinensis</i>
48	Anseriformes	Anatidae	Lesser Whistling Duck	<i>Dendrocygna javanica</i>
49	Piciformes	Picidae	White-naped Woodpecker	<i>Chrysocolaptes festivus</i>
50	Psittaciformes	Psittaculidae	Plum Headed Parakeet	<i>Psittacula cyanocephala</i>
51	Bucerotiformes	Upupidae	Eurasian hoopoe	<i>Upupa eopops</i>
52	Suliformes	Phalacrocoracidae	Little Cormorant	<i>Microcarbo niger</i>
53	Strigiformes	Strigidae	Spotted owl	<i>Athene brama</i>
54	Accipitriformes	Accipitridae	Black-winged Kite	<i>Elanus caeruleus</i>

Conclusion:

Multiple orders of occurrence suggest a high diversity of taxa observed in the region and it was found that the Por River ecosystem is able to support a variety of ecological niches including wetland, terrestrial and lentic habitats. The diversity of riverine bird species in the riverine environment is indicative of the ecological health of the riverine environment and the ability of it to support birds with different feeding strategies, nesting requirements, and habitat preferences. Ecological integrity of the riverine ecosystem has been shown by the presence of such diversity and the importance of the riverine ecosystem as a habitat for resident bird species. But to maintain the balance of the environment in the Por River and protect the large bird diversity found there, conservation measures must be taken and regular monitoring campaigns must be conducted.

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