Veröffentlichungen ARCO 2022/23

ARCO-Nepal Newsletter 23

ISSN 2567-0786 print version, ISSN 2566-4832 online version

Content **Page**

Membership declarations are posted on our website and on Facebook – just fill the form and send it to us by mail together with your membership fee. You also can make donation on our website by Paypal.

ARCO-Nepal reg. soc. * Amphibian and Reptile Conservation of Nepal
c/o W. Dziakonski / Treasurer, Edlingerstr. 18, D-81543 München. w.dziakonski@yahoo.de
Editor: Prof. Dr. H. Hermann Schleich, Arco-Spain, E-04200 Tabernas/Almería
www.arco-nepal.de email: arco.nepal@gmail.com

Account-no. 1000099984 BIC SSKMDEMMXXX BLZ 70150000
Bank/Credit Institute: Stadtsparkasse Muenchen - IBAN DE95701500001000099984

Membership contributions and any donations from SAARC and Non-European countries please pay directly upon our account at the Himalayan Bank Ltd, Kathmandu (Thamel Branch), Nepal. Account no: 019 0005 5040014 / SWIFT HIMANPKA
SAARC countries please apply directly to trcc.arco@gmail.com

Foreword

Kaluram Rai Khambu

Sun, 19 Jun, 12:56, mail addressed to Ex-president Hermann Schleich

Dear Sir,

Thank you so much for replying me. Now I am very happy and knew that very important changes were done at 25th anniversary of ARCO-Nepal. Really it was Silver jubilee at general assembly of Arco-Nepal which was founded by you. Since its establishment I was follower and run life under your tireless command in the field of Herpetology. So I think it has created a long history of Herpetological Research and Conservation in Nepal as well as in other countries.

I had felt a reliable guardianship during your Presidency of Arco-Nepal and in Nepal we always gained much inspiration from you. Still I am realizing that you are a man of spirit and success.

But Sir, time and tide wait for no man. Likely your age and health was requiring the right follower to transfer the responsibility.

So as you now became Honorary President, and Acting President appointed became Dr. Peter Praschag, Arco-Nepal will have the right follower as you told, he also is a very famous cheloniologist having enough experience on turtle fauna from East Asian countries. Wishing all that he would be good to substitute in your post and amical person for Nepal.

I would like much to congratulate to newly selected President of ARCO-Nepal Dr. Peter Praschag and wish him very successful tenure. I hope he would also keep on the responsibility and continue all the understanding and conservation project implemented by Honorary President and Arco founder Prof. Dr. Hermann Schleich.

I also wish you Sir, that you will visit Nepal with new President Dr. Peter Praschag soon.

I also congratulate to all members of new working committee of Arco-Nepal and wish successful tenure as before.

Stay well Sir,

With best regards,

Sincerely

Prof. Dr. Kaluram Rai, Bhadrapur, Jhapa.
Honorary member of Arco-Nepal &
Country Representative of Arco-Nepal

An Updated Checklist of Amphibians and Reptiles of Nepal

Tapil Prakash Rai, Sabin Adhikari & Pablo Garcia Antón

Abstract

An updated checklist of the herpetofauna of Nepal is presented. In total, the amphibian fauna of Nepal consists of 57 species in 22 genera, 8 families, and 3 orders (Anura: 55 species in 20 genera and 6 families; Caudata: 1 species in 1 genus and 1 family; Gymnophiona: 1 species in 1 genus and 1 family), while the reptilian fauna of Nepal consists of 143 species in 71 genera, 20 families, and 3 orders (Crocodylia: 2 species in 2 genera and 2 families; Squamata: 125 species in 58 genera and 15 families [Sauria: 41 species in 16 genera and 6 families; Serpentes: 84 species in 42 genera and 9 families]; Testudines: 16 species in 11 genera and 3 families). There is a very low level of endemism, with only 19 species being endemic to the country. As further field and taxonomic work are carried out, we expect new species records and extended range distribution of species for the country that assuredly enrich this checklist. This work highlights the importance of specific conservation plans in the study region and the need for further research on the hidden biodiversity of this country.

Keywords: Anura, biodiversity, conservation status, herpetofauna, sauria, taxonomy

Introduction

The Himalayan country of Nepal owes its rich diversity of 56 amphibian and 142 reptile species (including both confirmed and possible occurrences) to its unique geographic situation (Kästle et al., 2013). This relatively small country lies in the transitional zone between the Palearctic and Oriental zoogeographic regions; and the herpetofauna consists of a mixture of Indian, Himalayan, Indo-Malayan, Tibetan, Chinese, and Southwest Asian elements. This is mainly because Nepal comprises several mountain chains that form distinct geographic barriers and divide the country into five topographically zones: The Terai Zone, The Inner Terai zone, The Midland Mountain zone, The Trans-Himalayan zone, and Great Himalayan Highlands Zone (Shrestha, 2001) which are all climatically complex regions (Schleich & Kästle, 2002). The diversity and distribution of Nepal's herpetofauna and other Trans-Himalayan regions have been the subject of several investigators in the past. The earliest studies on Nepal's herpetofauna were conducted during the beginning of the 18th century, and the first major analysis of Nepalese herpetofauna was made by the collection of Hodgson's specimens between 1826 and 1854, by Thomas Hardwicke, Hugh Falconer, H. W. Tilman, Oleg Polunin, and Hermann Schlagintweit (Günther 1858, 1860, 1861). Boulenger (1907), Annandale et al. (1907), Leviton et al. (1956), and Swan & Leviton (1962) formulated a sound basis for zoogeographical Nepalese herpetofauna. Since then, Dubois (1974, 1984), Fleming & Fleming (1973), Kramer (1977), Nanhoe & Ouboter (1987), Zug & Mitchell (1995), Das (1998), O'Shea (1998), Schleich & Kästle (1998, 2002), Shrestha (2001), Tillack (2003), Rai (2004), Shah & Tiwari (2004), Aryal et al. (2010), Pandey (2012), Kästle et al. (2013), Khatiwada et al. (2021) have contributed immensely to the herpetological research in Nepal.

From the beginning of the current century, and until now, systematic and phylogeographic oriented studies on Nepal's herpetofauna have experienced a noticeable increase (e.g., Giannasi et al., 2001; Praschag et al., 2009; Rai, 2013; Garg et al., 2018; Wang et al., 2020; Khatiwada et al., 2021). This

resulted in the description of several new species and changes in the taxonomic status of many taxa, indicating a strong need for regular updates to the herpetofauna species list of Nepal. The purpose of this contribution is to provide an update on the status of Nepal's herpetofauna and to summarize the nomenclatural changes that have taken place since the publication of the most recent checklists (Schleich & Kästle, 2002; Shah & Tiwari, 2004; Kästle et al., 2013). This summary can be used to gain a better understanding of national and international policies regarding the biodiversity of the country and to provide an accessible and updated reference list that serves as an important tool for herpetologists and other researchers interested in the biodiversity of Nepal. The checklist is presented taxonomically and alphabetically by class, order, family, genus, and species. In addition to indicating the species, we provided their common name and conservation status according to the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES). Further, wherever necessary, the species are supplemented with information by assigning each a superscript.

Materials and Methods

Study Area

Geographically, Nepal lies at a latitude between 26° and 30° north and a longitude between 80° and 88° east stretching approximately 145-241 km north to south and 850 km west to east. The landform varies greatly in its physical form, ranging from the Tarai Plain in the south to the Himalayans in the north. In between these regions, there are middle hills and lesser mountains consisting of the Churia (Siwalik) and Mahabharat Range. The substantial change in climatic conditions from sub-tropical to the Arctic is a result of these altitudinal variations. The Terai in the south runs from far-west to far-east and is drenched by an array of water systems: the Koshi, Narayani, and Karnali being some of the largest water systems in the country. Monsoons enter the country from the eastern region and subsequently move towards the west. The distribution of precipitation, however, is again governed by the topography of the country and ranges from about 150 mm to over 1500 mm per annum (Department of Hydrology and Meteorology, 2015).

There are six recognized biomes occurring in Nepal, 35 forest types, and 118 ecosystems. Wetland covers about 5% of the total area of the country (Ministry of Forests and Environment, 2018). There are now 20 Protected Areas (PAs) that include 12 National Parks, 1 Wildlife Reserve, 1 Hunting Reserve, 6 Conservation Areas, and 13 Buffer Zones (covering 23.39 % of the country's land) that strive to protect the exceptional biodiversity of Nepal (Figure 1). Nevertheless, this work is not restricted to PAs and also encompasses the herpetofauna studies conducted outside of it.

Methods

The method for gathering available data involved an extensive literature review of various published and unpublished works on the herpetofauna of Nepal. This involved a thorough search for published articles, reports, books, and theses. The nomenclature of this checklist follows the version of Frost (2021) and Uetz et al. (2021) for amphibians and reptiles respectively. In addition, personal communications from experienced herpetologists were made whenever any doubt on newly described species arose. The efforts to update the checklist were accompanied by fact-checking each species. We looked into the

confirmed presence of species mentioned in any previous research publication, the restrictions imposed on species to a certain geographic range by any new study, and taxonomic changes if any. The nomenclatural changes up until May, 2022 have been summed up in the present work.

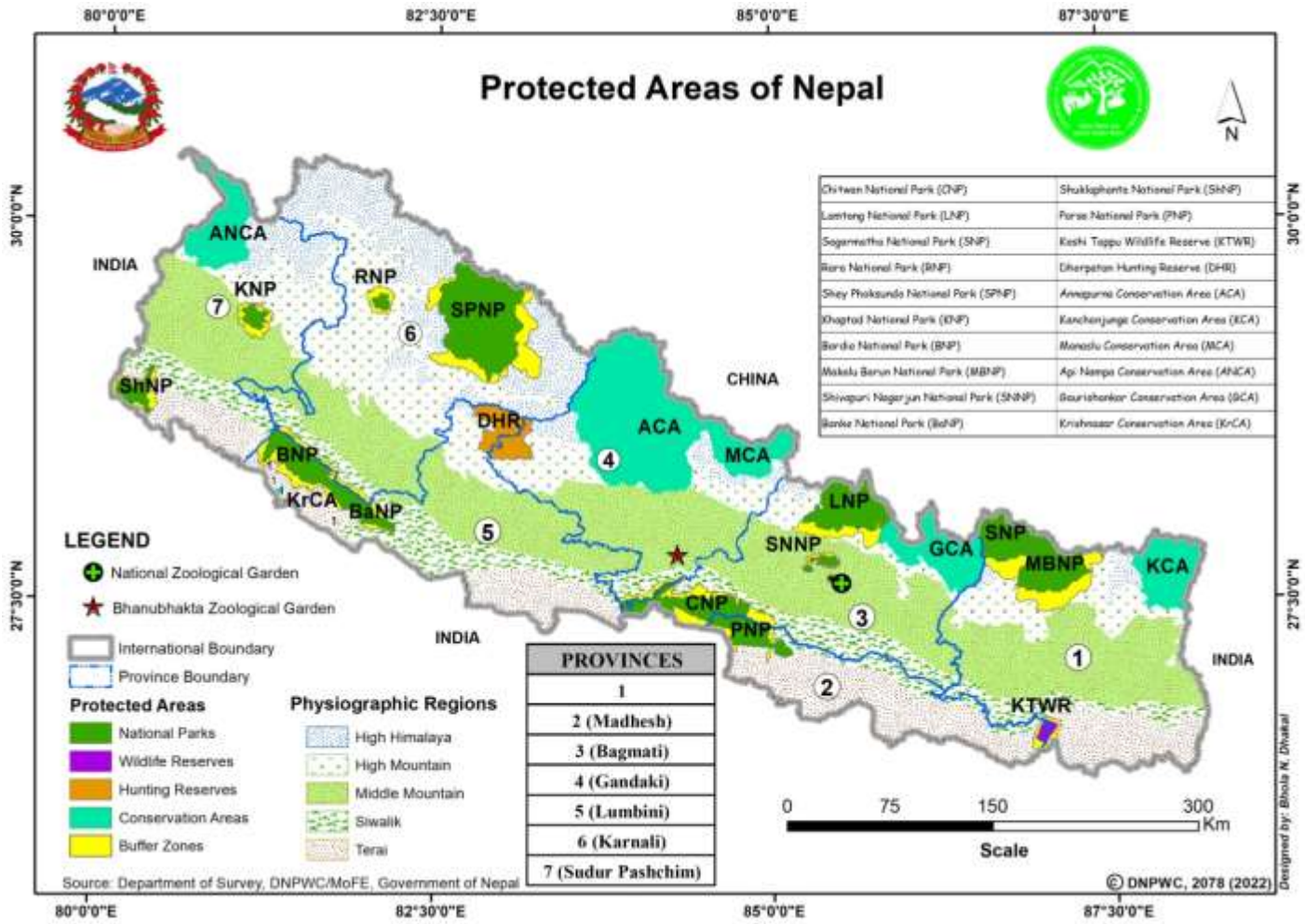


Fig. 1: Map of Nepal showing Protected Areas (Source: DNPWC, 2022)

Results and Discussion

Table 1: **Checklist of Amphibians of Nepal**.

Explanatory notes:

*verifiable records in need
#endemic to Nepal
1 different from true *Amolops afghanus* and exact taxonomic identity remains unclear
2 first described from Chitwan National Park and genetic sampling is needed to make any taxonomic changes
3 identification of this nominal species in Nepal are provisional as they have yet to be evaluated by molecular assay
4 first described from Narayanghat, Chitwan and until is known from the type locality

CLASS: AMPHIBIA				
SN	**Scientific Name**	**Common Name**	**IUCN Status**	**CITES**
ORDER: ANURA **Family: Bufonidae** Gray, 1825				
1	*Duttaphrynus himalayanus* (Günther, 1864)	Himalaya Toad	LC	-
2	*Duttaphrynus melanostictus* (Schneider, 1799)	Asian Black-spined Toad	LC	-
3	*Duttaphrynus stomaticus* (Lütken, 1864)	Marbled Toad	LC	-
Family Dicroglossidae Anderson, 1871				
4	*Euphlyctis kalasgramensis* (Howlader, Nair, Gopalan & Merilä, 2015)	Bangladesh Skittering Frog	-	-
5	*Fejervarya orissaensis* (Dutta, 1997)	Orissa Cricket Frog	-	-
6	*Hoplobatrachus crassus* (Jerdon, 1853)	Jerdon's Bullfrog	LC	-
7	*Hoplobatrachus tigerinus* (Daudin, 1802)	Indian Bullfrog	LC	II
8	*Minervarya nepalensis* (Dubois, 1975)	Nepal Cricket Frog	LC	-
9	*Minervarya pierrei* (Dubois, 1975)	Pierre's Cricket Frog	LC	-
10	*Minervarya syhadrensis* (Annandale, 1919)	Syhadra Frog	LC	-
11	*Minervarya teraiensis* (Dubois, 1984)	Terai Cricket Frog	LC	-
12	**Nanorana annandalii* (Boulenger, 1920)	Annandale's Paa Frog	NT	-
13	*Nanorana blanfordii* (Boulenger, 1882)	Blanford's Paa Frog	LC	-
14	*Nanorana ercepeae* (Dubois, 1974)	Torrent Paa Frog	NT	-
15	*Nanorana liebigii* (Günther, 1860**)**	Liebig's Paa Frog	LC	-
16	*Nanorana minica* (Dubois, 1975)	Small Paa Frog	VU	-
17	*Nanorana parkeri* (Stejneger, 1927)	High Himalaya Frog	LC	-
18	*Nanorana polunini* (Smith, 1951)	Polunin's Paa Frog	LC	-
19	#*Nanorana rarica* (Dubois, Matsui, & Ohler, 2001)	Rara Paa Frog	DD	-
20	*Nanorana rostandi* (Dubois, 1974)	Rostand's Paa Frog	VU	-
21	*Ombrana sikimensis* (Jerdon, 1870)	Sikkim Asian Frog	LC	-
22	*Sphaerotheca breviceps* (Schneider, 1799)	Indian Burrowing Frog	LC	-

23	*Sphaerotheca maskeyi* (Schleich & Anders, 1998)	Maskey's Burrowing Frog	LC	-
24	**Sphaerotheca rolandae* (Dubois, 1983)	Roland's Burrowing Frog	LC	-
25	*#Sphaerotheca swani* (Myers & Leviton, 1956)	Swan's Burrowing Frog	DD	-
Family: Megophryidae Bonaparte, 1850				
26	*Scutiger boulengeri* (Bedriaga, 1898)	Boulenger's High Altitude Toad	LC	-
27	*#Scutiger ghunsa* (Khatiwada, Shu, Subedi, Wang, Ohler, Canatella, Xie, & Jiang 2019)	Ghunsa High Altitude Toad	-	-
28	*#Scutiger nepalensis* (Dubois, 1974)	Nepal's High Altitude Toad	VU	-
29	**Scutiger nyingchiensis* (Fei, 1977)	Nyingchi High Altitude Toad	LC	-
30	*Scutiger sikimmensis* (Blyth, 1855)	Sikkim High Altitude Toad	LC	-
31	*Xenophrys monticola* Günther, 1864	Mountain Horned Frog	-	-
32	*Xenophrys robusta* (Boulenger, 1908)	Robust Spadefoot Toad	DD	-
33	*Xenophrys zhangi* (Ye & Fei, 1992)	Zhang's Horned Toad	NT	-
Family: Microhylidae Günther, 1858				
34	*Microhyla nilphamariensis* (Howlader, Nair, Gopalan, & Merilä, 2015)	Nilphamarai Narrow-mouthed Frog	-	-
35	*#Microhyla taraiensis* (Khatiwada, Shu, Wang, Thapa, Wang, & Jiang, 2017)	Tarai Narrow-mouthed Frog	-	-
36	*Uperodon globulosus* (Günther, 1864)	Indian Balloon Frog	LC	-
37	*Uperodon systoma* (Schneider, 1799)	Marbled Balloon Frog	LC	-
38	*Uperodon taprobanicus* (Parker, 1934)	Sri Lankan Bullfrog	LC	-
Family: Ranidae Batsch, 1796				
39	*Amolops formosus* (Günther, 1876)	Assam Cascade Frog	LC	-
40	*#Amolops mahabharatensis* (Khatiwada, Shu, Wang, Zhao, Xie, & Jiang, 2020)	Mahabharat Torrent Frog	-	-
41	[1] *Amolops* cf. *afghanus*			
42	*Amolops monticola* (Anderson, 1871)	Mountain Cascade Frog	LC	-

43	[#]*Amolops nepalicus* (Yang, 1991)	Nepal Cascade Frog	DD	-
44	*Humerana humeralis* (Boulenger, 1887)	Bhamo Frog	LC	-
45	*Hydrophylax leptoglossa* (Cope, 1868)	Cope's Assam Frog	LC	-
46	[#2] *Hylarana chitwanensis* (Das, 1998)	Chitwan Frog	NT	-
47	*Hylarana tytleri* (Theobald, 1868)	Yellow-striped Frog	LC	-
48	[3] *Sylvirana nigrovittata* (Blyth, 1856)	Black-striped Frog	LC	-
Family: Rhacophoridae Hoffman, 1932				
49	*Polypedates himalayensis* (Annandale, 1912)	Himalayan Tree Frog	-	-
50	*Polypedates maculatus* (Gray, 1830)	Chunam Frog	LC	-
51	*Polypedates taeniatus* (Boulenger, 1906)	Terai Tree Frog	LC	-
52	*Polypedates teraiensis* (Dubois, 1987)	Common Tree Frog	LC	-
53	[#4] *Polypedates zed* (Dubois, 1987)	Narayanghat Whipping Frog	DD	-
54	*Raorchestes annandalii* (Boulenger, 1906)	Annandale's Bush Frog	LC	-
55	*Zhangixalus smaragdinus* (Blyth, 1852)	Nepal Flying Frog	-	-
ORDER: CAUDATA **Family: Salamandridae** Goldfuss, 1820				
56	*Tylototriton himalayanus* (Khatiwada, Wang, Ghimire, Vasudevan, Paudel, & Jiang, 2015)	Himalayan Salamander	VU	II
ORDER: GYMNOPHIONA **Family: Ichthyophiidae** Taylor, 1968				
57	*Ichthyophis sikkimensis* (Taylor, 1960)	Sikkimese Caecilian	DD	-

Table 2: **Checklist of Reptiles of Nepal**.

Explanatory notes:

*verifiable records in need
#endemic to Nepal
[1] Listed by Schleich & Kästle (2002) and Kästle et al. (2013) as probable species for Nepal with no authentic records as well the geographic range of the species by the IUCN Red List Assessment includes some parts of Eastern Nepal
[2] a single record from Nepal without exact locality and its presence is considered possible by David et al. (2015)
[3] mentioned for Nepal from Kulu valley by Lalremsanga et al. (2022)

CLASS: REPTILIA				
SN	**Scientific Name**	**Common Name**	**IUCN Status**	**CITES**
ORDER: CROCODYLIA **Family: Crocodylidae** Cuvier, 1807				
1	*Crocodylus palustris* (Lesson, 1831)	Mugger Crocodile	VU	I
Family: Gavialidae Adams 1854				
2	*Gavialis gangeticus* (Gmelin, 1789)	Gharial	CR	I
ORDER: SQUAMATA **Suborder: Sauria** **Family: Agamidae** Gray, 1827				
3	*Calotes versicolor* (Daudin, 1802)	Oriental Garden Lizard	LC	-
4	#*Japalura dasi* (Shah & Kästle, 2002)	Agaupani Forest Lizard	VU	-
5	*Japalura kumaonensis* (Annandale, 1907)	Kumaon Mountain Lizard	NT	-
6	*Japalura major* (Jerdon, 1870)	Large Mountain Lizard	LC	-
7	*Japalura tricarinata* (Blyth, 1853)	Tricarinate Forest Agama	LC	
8	*Japalura variegata* (Gray, 1853)	Variegated Mountain Lizard	LC	-
9	*Laudakia tuberculata* (Gray, 1827)	Tuberculated Agama	LC	-
10	*Phrynocephalus theobaldi* (Blyth, 1863)	Theobald's Toad-headed Agama	LC	-
11	#*Sitana fusca* (Schleich & Kästle, 1998)	Dark Sitana	CR	-

12	#*Sitana schleichi* (Anders & Kästle, 2002)	Suklaphantah Sitana	EN	-
13	#*Sitana sivalensis* (Schleich, Kästle, & Shah, 1998)	Siwalik Sitana	LC	-
Family: Anguidae Gray, 1825				
14	*Dopasia gracilis* (Gray, 1845)	Burmese Glass Lizard	LC	-
Family: Eublepharidae Boulenger, 1883				
15	*Eublepharis macularius* (Blyth, 1854)	Common Leopard Gecko	LC	-
Family: Gekkonidae Gray, 1825				
16	**Cyrtodactylus* cf. *collegalensis*			
17	#*Cyrtodactylus markuscombaii* (Darevsky, Helfenberger, Orlov, & Shah, 1998)	Striped Gecko	DD	-
18	#*Cyrtodactylus martinstolli* (Darevsky, Helfenberger, Orlov, & Shah, 1998)	Barred Gecko	DD	-
19	#*Cyrtodactylus nepalensis* (Schleich & Kästle, 1998)	Nepalese Rock Gecko	DD	-
20	*Gekko gecko* (Linnaeus, 1758)	Tokay Gecko	LC	II
21	*Hemidactylus bowringii* (Gray, 1845)	Bowring's Smooth Gecko	LC	-
22	*Hemidactylus brookii* (Gray, 1845)	Brook's House Gecko	LC	-
23	*Hemidactylus flaviviridis* (Rüppell, 1835)	Yellow-bellied House Gecko	LC	-
24	*Hemidactylus frenatus* (Duméril & Bibron, 1836)	Common House Gecko	LC	-
25	*Hemidactylus garnotii* (Duméril & Bibron, 1836)	Garnot's House Gecko	LC	-
26	*Hemidactylus platyurus* (Schneider, 1797)	Flat-tailed House Gecko	LC	-
Family: Scincidae Gray, 1825				
27	*Ablepharus sikimmensis* (Blyth, 1854)	Sikkim Ground Skink	LC	-
28	*Ablepharus himalayanus* (Günther, 1864)	Himalayan Ground Skink	LC	-
29	*Ablepharus ladacensis* (Günther, 1864**)**	Ladak Ground Skink	LC	-
30	#*Ablepharus mahabharatus* (Eremchenko, Shah, & Panfilov, 1998)	Mahabharat Ground Skink	DD	-
31	#*Ablepharus nepalensis* (Eremchenko & Helfenberger, 1998)	Nepal Ground Skink	DD	-
32	*Eutropis carinata* (Schneider, 1801)	Keeled Indian Skink	LC	-

33	*Eutropis trivittata* (Hardwicke & Gray, 1827)	Three-banded Skink	LC	-
34	*Eutropis macularia* (Blyth, 1853)	Bronze Skink	LC	-
35	*Riopa albopunctata* (Gray, 1846)	White-spotted Supple Skink	LC	-
36	*Riopa punctata* (Linnaeus, 1758)	Common Dotted Garden Skink	LC	-
37	#*Scincella capitanea* (Ouboter, 1986)	Large Ground Skink	LC	-
38	*Scincella reevesii* (Gray, 1838)	Reeve's Smooth Skink	LC	-
39	*Sphenomorphus indicus* (Gray, 1853)	Himalayan Forest Skink	LC	-
40	*Sphenomorphus maculatus* (Blyth, 1853)	Spotted Forest Skink	LC	-
Family: Varanidae Merrem, 1820				
41	*Varanus bengalensis* (Daudin, 1802)	Bengal Monitor Lizard	NT	I
42	*Varanus flavescens* (Hardwicke & Gray, 1827)	Yellow Monitor	EN	I
43	*Varanus salvator* (Laurenti, 1768)	Common Water Monitor	LC	II
Suborder: Serpentes **Family: Boidae** Gray, 1825				
44	*Eryx conicus* (Schneider, 1801)	Rough-tailed Sand Boa	NT	II
45	*Eryx johnii* (Russell, 1801)	Red Sand Boa	NT	II
Family: Colubridae Oppel, 1811				
46	*Ahaetulla laudankia* (Deepak, Narayanan, Sarkar, Dutta, & Mohapatra, 2019)	Laudanka Vine Snake	LC	-
47	*Ahaetulla nasuta* (Lacépède, 1789)	Long-nosed Tree Snake	LC	-
48	*Amphiesma stolatum* (Linnaeus, 1758)	Buff Striped Keelback	LC	-
49	*Atretium schistosum* (Daudin, 1803)	Olive Keelback Water Snake	LC	III
50	*Boiga cyanea* (Duméril, Bibron & Duméril, 1854)	Green Cat Snake	LC	-
51	*Boiga forsteni* (Duméril, Bibron & Duméril, 1854)	Forsten's Cat Snake	LC	-
52	*Boiga multifasciata* (Blyth, 1861)	Many-banded Tree Snake	LC	-
53	**Boiga nuchalis* (Günther, 1875**)**	Collared Cat Snake	LC	-
54	*Boiga ochracea* (Theobald, 1868)	Tawny Cat Snake	LC	-
55	*Boiga siamensis* (Nutaphand, 1971)	Gray Cat Snake	LC	-
56	*Boiga trigonata* (Schneider, 1802)	Indian Gamma Snake	LC	
57	*Boiga westermanni* (Reinhardt, 1863)	Indian Egg-eating Snake	LC	II
58	*Chrysopelea ornata* (Shaw, 1802)	Ornate Flying Snake	LC	-
59	*Coelognathus helena* (Daudin, 1803)	Trinket snake	LC	-

60	*Coelognathus radiatus* (Boie, 1827)	Copper-headed Trinket Snake	LC	-
61	**Dendrelaphis pictus* (Gmelin, 1789)	Common Bronze-back	LC	-
62	*Dendrelaphis tristis* (Daudin, 1803)	Common Bronzeback Tree Snake	LC	-
63	*Elaphe cantoris* (Boulenger, 1894)	Eastern Trinket Snake	LC	-
64	*Elaphe hodgsoni* (Günther, 1860)	Hodgson's Racer	LC	-
65	*Fowlea piscator* (Schneider, 1799)	Checkered Keelback	LC	-
66	*Fowlea sanctijohannis* (Boulenger, 1890)	St. John's Keelback	LC	-
67	*Fowlea schnurrenbergeri* (Kramer, 1977)	Bar-necked Keelback	LC	-
68	*[1] *Gonyosoma prasinum* (Blyth, 1854)	Green Trinket Snake	LC	-
69	*[2] *Hebius clerki* (Wall, 1925)	Yunnan Keelback	LC	-
70	*Hebius parallelum* (Boulenger, 1890)	Yunnan Keelback	DD	-
71	*Herpetoreas platyceps* (Blyth, 1854)	Himalayan Keelback	LC	-
72	*[3] *Herpetoreas sieboldii* (Günther, 1860)	Sikkim Keelback	DD	-
73	*Liopeltis calamaria* (Günther, 1858**)**	Calamaria Reed Snake	LC	-
74	*Liopeltis rappi* (Günther, 1860**)**	Himalayan Stripe-necked Snake	LC	-
75	*Lycodon aulicus* (Linnaeus, 1758)	Common Wolf Snake	LC	-
76	*Lycodon jara* (Shaw, 1802)	Twin-spotted Wolf Snake	LC	
77	*Lycodon striatus* (Shaw, 1802)	Barred Wolf Snake	LC	-
78	*Oligodon albocinctus* (Cantor, 1839)	White-barred Kukri Snake	LC	-
79	*Oligodon cyclurus* (Cantor, 1839)	Cantor's Kukri Snake	LC	-
80	*Oligodon erythrogaster* (Boulenger, 1907)	Nagarkot Kukri Snake	NT	-
81	*Oligodon kheriensis* (Acharji & Ray, 1936)	Coral Red Kukri Snake	LC	-
82	*Oligodon russelius* (Daudin, 1803)	Russell’s Kukri Snake	-	-
83	*Oreocryptophis porphyraceus* (Cantor, 1839)	Black-banded Trinket Snake	LC	-
84	*Pseudoxenodon macrops* (Blyth, 1855)	Large-eyed Bamboo Snake	LC	-
85	*Ptyas mucosa* (Linnaeus, 1758)	Oriental Rat Snake	LC	II
86	**Ptyas nigromarginata* (Blyth, 1854)	Green Rat Snake	LC	-
87	*Rhabdophis helleri* (Schmidt, 1925)	Heller's Red-necked Keelback	-	-
88	*Rhabdophis himalayanus* (Günther, 1864)	Himalayan Keelback	LC	-
89	*Sibynophis collaris* (Gray, 1853)	Collared Black-headed Snake	LC	-

90	*Sibynophis sagittarius* (Cantor, 1839)	Cantor's Black-headed Snake	LC	-
91	*Spalerosophis atriceps* (Fischer, 1885)	Diadem Snake	LC	-
92	*Trachischium fuscum* (Blyth, 1854)	Blackbelly Worm-eating Snake	LC	-
93	**Trachischium guentheri* (Boulenger, 1890)	Günther's Worm-eating Snake	VU	-
94	*Trachischium laeve* (Peracca, 1904)	Olive Oriental Slender Snake	LC	-
95	*Trachischium tenuiceps* (Blyth, 1854)	Yellowbelly Worm-eating Snake	DD	-
96	*Xenochrophis cerasogaster* (Cantor, 1839)	Painted Keelback	VU	-
Family: Elapidae F. Boie, 1827				
97	*Bungarus bungaroides* (Cantor, 1839)	Himalayan Krait	LC	-
98	*Bungarus caeruleus* (Schneider, 1801)	Common Krait	LC	-
99	*Bungarus fasciatus* (Schneider, 1801)	Banded Krait	LC	-
100	*Bungarus lividus* (Cantor, 1839)	Lesser Black Krait	LC	-
101	*Bungarus niger* (Wall, 1908)	Greater Black Krait	LC	-
102	*Bungarus walli* (Wall, 1907)	Wall's Krait	LC	-
103	*Naja kaouthia* (Lesson, 1831)	Monocellate Cobra	LC	II
104	*Naja naja* (Linnaeus, 1758)	Indian Cobra	LC	II
105	*Ophiophagus hannah* (Cantor, 1836)	King Cobra	VU	II
106	*Sinomicrurus macclellandi* (Reinhardt, 1844)	MacClelland's Coral Snake	LC	-
Family: Homalopsidae Bonaparte, 1845				
107	*Enhydris enhydris* (Schneider, 1799)	Rainbow Mud Snake	LC	-
108	*Ferania sieboldii* (Schlegel, 1837)	Siebold's Mud Snake	LC	-
109	**Homalopsis buccata* (Linnaeus, 1758)	Linne's Water Snake	LC	-
Family: Pareidae Romer, 1956				
110	*Pareas monticola* (Cantor, 1839)	Montane Slug-eating Snake	LC	-
Family: Psammophiidae Bourgeois, 1968				
111	*Psammodynastes pulverulentus* (Boie, 1827)	Common Mock viper	LC	-
112	*Psammophis condanarus* (Merrem, 1820)	Sand Snake	LC	-
Family: Pythonidae Fitzinger, 1826				
113	*Python bivittatus* (Kuhl, 1820)	Burmese Python	VU	II

114	**Python molurus* (Linnaeus, 1758)	Indian Rock Python	NT	I
Family: Typhlopidae Merrem, 1820				
115	*Argyrophis diardii* (Schlegel, 1839)	Diard's Blindsnake	LC	-
116	*Indotyphlops braminus* (Daudin, 1803)	Brahminy Blindsnake	LC	-
117	**Indotyphlops jerdoni* (Boulenger, 1890)	Jerdon's Blindsnake	LC	-
118	**Indotyphlops porrectus* (Stoliczka, 1871)	Stoliczka's slender Blindsnake	LC	-
Family: Viperidae Oppel, 1811				
119	*Daboia russelii* (Shaw & Nodder, 1797)	Russell's Viper	LC	III
120	*Gloydius himalayanus* (Günther, 1864)	Himalayan Pitviper	LC	-
121	*Ovophis monticola* (Günther, 1864)	Mountain Pitviper	LC	-
122	*Protobothrops himalayanus* (Pan, Chettri, Yang, Jiang, Wang, Zhang, & Vogel, 2013)	Himalayan Pitviper	LC	-
123	*Protobothrops jerdonii* (Günther, 1875)	Jerdon's Pitviper	LC	-
124	**Trimeresurus* cf. *albolabris*			
125	**Trimeresurus erythrurus* (Cantor, 1839)	Red-tailed (Bamboo) Pitviper	LC	-
126	*Trimeresurus septentrionalis* (Kramer, 1977)	Nepal Pitviper	LC	-
127	*Trimeresurus tibetanus* (Huang, 1982)	Tibetan Pitviper	LC	-
ORDER: TESTUDINES **Suborder: Cryptodira** **Family: Geoemydidae** Theobald 1868				
128	**Batagur dhongoka* (Gray, 1832)	Three-striped Roofed Turtle	CR	II
129	**Batagur kachuga* (Gray, 1831)	Red-crowned Roofed Turtle	CR	II
130	*Cyclemys gemeli* (Fritz, Guicking, Auer, Sommer, Wink & Hundsdörfer, 2008)	Assam Leaf Turtle	NT	II
131	**Geoclemys hamiltonii* (Gray, 1830)	Spotted Pond Turtle	EN	I
132	*Hardella thurjii* (Gray, 1831)	Crowned River Turtle	EN	II
133	*Melanochelys tricarinata* (Blyth, 1856)	Tricarinate Hill Turtle	EN	I

134	*Melanochelys trijuga* (Schweigger, 1812)		Indian Black Turtle	LC	II
	134.1	*M. t. indopeninsularis* (Annandale, 1913)	Bengal Black Turtle	LC	II
135	*Morenia petersi* (Anderson, 1879)		Indian Eyed Turtle	EN	II
136	*Pangshura smithii* (Gray, 1863)		Brown Roofed Turtle	NT	II
	136.1	*P. s. pallidipes* (Moll, 1987)	Brown Roofed Turtle	NT	II
	136.2	*P. s. smithii* (Gray, 1863)	Pale-footed Roofed Turtle	NT	II
137	*Pangshura tecta* (Gray, 1830)		Indian Roofed Turtle	VU	I
138	*Pangshura tentoria* (Gray, 1834)		Indian Tent Turtle	LC	II
	138.1	*P. t. circumdata* (Mertens, 1969)	Pink-ringed Tent Turtle	LC	II
	138.2	*P. t. flaviventer* (Günther, 1864)	Yellow-bellied Tent Turtle	LC	II
Family: Testudinidae Batsch, 178					
139	*Indotestudo elongata* (Blyth, 1854)		Elongated Tortoise	CR	II
Family: Trionychidae Gray, 1825					
140	*Chitra indica* (Gray, 1830)		Indian Narrow-headed Softshell Turtle	EN	II
141	*Lissemys punctata* (Bonnaterre, 1789)		Indian Flapshell Turtle	VU	II
	141.1	*L. p. andersoni* (Webb, 1980)	Spotted Northern Indian Flapshell Turtle	VU	II
142	*Nilssonia gangetica* (Cuvier, 1825)		Indian Softshell Turtle	EN	I
143	*Nilssonia hurum* (Gray, 1830)		Indian Peacock Softshell Turtle	EN	I

Abbreviations of IUCN status:

DD - Data Deficient, LC - Least Concern, NT -Near Threatened, VU - Vulnerable, EN - Endangered, CR - Critically Endangered

The present updated list of amphibians and reptiles of Nepal accounts for 200 extant species (Tables 1 & 2). Amphibians are represented by 57 species belonging to 3 orders (55 anuran species, 1 caudata, and 1 gymnophiona), 8 families, and 22 genera. The reptiles consist of 143 species belonging to 3 orders, 20 families, and 71 genera; Crocodilians contain 2 species, Chelonians include 16 species, while Squamates comprise 125 species represented by Saurians with 41 species, and Ophidians, which are the most speciose taxa with 84 species. There is a very low level of endemism, with only 19 species endemic to Nepal. Also, the taxonomic status of several species recorded in Nepal remains uncertain (*Amolops* cf. *afghanus*, *Cyrtodactylus* cf. *collegalensis*, and *Trimeresurus* cf. *albolabris)*, future research should focus on the integration of additional sources of evidence to determine whether the above-mentioned species fall within the intraspecific variation of formerly described species or they represent distinctive, new taxonomic units.

Although, there have been a large number of historical records and collections of specimens, there still exists some uncertainty regarding the true amphibian and reptile diversity of Nepal (Kästle et al., 2013).

With the advancement of molecular technology, new cryptic taxa are described at considerable speed and given the constant changes in taxonomy, it's crucial to update checklists regularly and discuss the existing taxonomic issues so that such information reflects the most current state of knowledge and are available for taxonomic researchers and conservation biologists alike. On the other hand, the record, on many described taxa such as *Draco maculatus* (Spotted Flying Dragon), *Cyrtodactylus bhupathyi* (Bhupathy's Bent-toed Gecko), *Cyrtodactylus himalayicus* (Himalaya Bent-toed Gecko), *Cyrtodactylus lawderanus* (Lawder's Bent-toed Gecko), and *Gerrhopilus oligolepis* (Wall's Worm Snake) within Nepal's borders, suggests that their presence in the country may be highly likely. Therefore, a comprehensive species checklist for Nepal is crucial to conserving its unique biodiversity, against the backdrop of massive global biodiversity loss (Salerno et al., 2021). With this study, we reveal the lack of biological data on many taxa within Nepal which makes it necessary to develop future research expeditions aimed at increasing our knowledge about the biology, ecology, and conservation status of undescribed species (Kästle et al., 2013; Khatiwada et al., 2017; Khatiwada, et al., 2021). Overall, we assume that the diversity of amphibians and reptiles of Nepal, as currently known, is underestimated. Available data on Nepalese amphibians and reptiles suggest that 27 species (13.92%) of amphibians and reptiles are categorized as globally threatened according to the IUCN Red Data List (IUCN, 2021).

Acknowledgements

We thank ARCO-Nepal and its Honorary President, Prof. Dr. Hermann Schleich for giving us an opportunity to prepare the updated checklist of amphibians and reptiles of Nepal and its publication in the ARCO-Nepal Newsletter. Likewise, we are very much grateful to Prof. Dr. Kaluram Rai, Dr. Peter Uetz, Mr. Paul Freed, and Mr. Alberto Sanchez Vialas for reviewing the manuscript.

References

Aengals, R., Sathish Kumar, V.M., Palot, M.J. & Ganesh, S.R. (2018). *A Checklist of Reptiles of India*. 35 pp. Version 3.0. Online publication is available at www.zsi.gov.in (Last update: May 2018)

Amarasinghe, A.A.T., Ganesh, S.R., Mirza, Z.A., Campbell, P.D., Pauwels, O.S.G., Schweiger, S., Kupfer, A., Patel, H., Karunarathna, S., Deuti, K., Ineich, I., Hallermann, J., Abinawanto, A. & Supriatna, J. (2022). The delusion of stripes: A century-old mystery of five-lined sun skinks (Reptilia: Scincidae: Eutropis) of Peninsular India elucidated. *Zoologischer Anzeiger* 296: 71–90. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jcz.2021.11.004

AmphibiaWeb (2021). https://amphibiaweb.org/cgi/amphib_query?rel-isocc=like&orderbyaw=Order&where-isocc=Nepal Accessed on 16 November 2021.

Anders, C. (2002). *Biologie und Systematik der Amphibien Nepals*. Veröffentlichungen Fuhlrott-Museum, Wuppertal.

Aryal, P.C., Dhamala, M.K., Bhurtel, B.B., Suwal, M.K. & Rijal, B. (2010). *Turtles of Nepal: A Field Guide for Species Accounts and Distribution*. Environmental Graduates in Himalaya, Resources Himalaya Foundation, and Companions for Amphibians and Reptiles. Kathmandu, Nepal.

Bhattarai, S., Chalise, L., Gurung, A., Pokheral, C P., Subedi, N., & Sharma, V. (2017). Geographic distribution: *Liopeltis calamaria* (Lined Stripe-necked snake). *Herpetological Review* 48(1): 129.

Bhattarai, S., Gurung, A., Lamichhane, B.R., Regmi, R., Dhungana, M., Kumpakha, B. & Subedi, N. (2020). *Amphibians and Reptiles of Chure Range, Nepal*. President Chure Terai-Madhesh Conservation Development Board and National Trust for Nature Conservation, Khumaltar, Lalitpur, Nepal.

Boulenger, G.A. (1890). *The fauna of British India, including Ceylon and Burma. Reptilia and Batrachia*. Taylor and Francis, London.

Boulenger, G.A. (1907). Description of a new snake from Nepal *Oligodon erythrogaster*. *Records of the Indian Museum, Calcutta* 1:217.

CITES (Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora). (2021). Appendices I, II and III. Valid from 14 February 2021. <https://cites.org/eng/app/appendices.php>.

Dahanukar, N., Sulakhe, S. & Padhye, A. (2017). Identity of *Sphaerotheca pluvialis* (Jerdon, 1853) and other available names among the burrowing frogs (Anura: Dicroglossidae) of South Asia. *Journal of Threatened Taxa* 9(6): 10269–10285; http://doi.org/10.11609/jott.3358.9.6.10269-10285

Darevesky, I.S., Helfenberger, N., Orlov, N. & Shah, K. (1997). Two new species of the genus *Gonydactylus* (Sauria: Gekkonidae) from eastern Nepal. *Russian Journal of Herpetology* 4(2): 89–93.

Das, I. & Das, A. (2017). *A Naturalist's Guide to the Reptiles of India, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka*. John Beaufoy Publishing Limited.

Das, I. (1991). *Colour guide to the Turtles and Tortoises of the Indian Subcontinent*. R & A Publication Limited, England.

Das, I. (1998). A new species of *Rana* from the Terai of Nepal. *J. Herpetol.* 32(2):223–229.

David, P. & Vogel, G. (2021). Taxonomic composition of the *Rhabdophis subminiatus* (Schlegel, 1837) species complex (Reptilia: Natricidae) with the description of a new species from China. *TAPROBANICA* 10(2): 89–120. https://dx.doi.org/10.47605/tapro.v10i2.257

David, P. Agrawal, I., Athreya, R. & Mathew, R. (2015). Revalidation of *Natrix clerki* Wall, 1925, an overlooked species in the genus *Amphiesma* Duméril, 1854 (Squamata: Natricidae). *Zootaxa* 3919(2): 375–395. http://dx.doi.org/10.11646/zootaxa.3919.2.9

David, P., Vogel, G. & Dubois, A. (2011). On the need to follow rigorously the Rules of the *Code* for the subsequent designation of a nucleospecies (type species) for a nominal genus which lacked one: the case of the nominal genus *Trimeresurus* Lacépède, 1804 (Reptilia: Squamata: Viperidae). *Zootaxa* 2992: 1–51. https://doi.org/10.11646/zootaxa.2992.1.1

Deepak, V. & Karanth, P. (2017). Aridification driven diversification of fan-throated lizards from the Indian subcontinent. *Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution* 120: 53–62. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ympev.2017.11.016

Deepak, V., Narayanan, S., Mohaptra, P.P., Dutta, S.K., Melvinselvan, G., Khan, A., Mahlow, K. & Tillack, F. (2021). Revealing two centuries of confusion: new insight on nomenclature and

systematic position of *Argryogena fasciolata* (Shaw, 1802) (auctt.), with description of a new species from India (Reptilia: Squamata: Colubridae). *Vertebrate Zoology* 71: 253–316. https://doi.org/10.3897/vz.71.e64345

Department of Hydrology and Meteorology (2015). *Study of climate and climatic variation over Nepal*. Ministry of Science, Technology and Environment, Government of Nepal.

Dinesh, K.P., Radhakrishnan, C., Channakeshavamurthy, B.H., Depak, P. & Kularni, N.U. (2019). *A Checklist of amphibians of India with IUCN conservation status*. Version 2.0. Online publication is available at www.zsi.gov.in Updated until January 2019. (online only).

Dubois, A. (1974). Liste Commentee d' Amphibiens recolte's an Nepal. *Bull Mus. Natn. Hist. nat.*, Paris, 213 (zool. 143), 341–411.

Dubois, A. (1999). South Asian Amphibia: A new frontier for Taxonomists. *J. South Asian Nat. Hist.*, spec. publ. 21: i-ii + 1-372; Lawrence.

Dubois, A. & Matsui, M. (1983). A new Species of frog (Genus *Rana*, subgenus Paa) from western Nepal (Amphibia: Anura). *Copeia* 1983: 895–901.

Epidemiology and Disease Control Division (2019). *National Guidelines for Snakebite Management in Nepal*. Ministry of Health and Population, Government of Nepal.

Eremchenko, V., Helfenberger, N., Shah, K.B. & Panfilove, A.M. (1998). Dva novykh vida szinkov (Scincidae: Lygosomidae) iz Nepala. "Two new species of Skinks (Scincidae: Lygosominae) from Nepal". *Isv. Nat. A.N. Kirg. Rep.*, 4: 41–45.

Fleming, R.L. & Fleming, R.L. jnr. (1974). Some snakes from Nepal. *J. Bombay Nat. Hist. Soc.*, No. 3: 426–437.

Frost, Darrel R. (2021). Amphibian Species of the World: an Online Reference. Version 6.1 (Accessed on 16 November 2021). Electric Database accessible at https://amphibiansoftheworld.amnh.org/index.php. American Museum of Natural History, New York, USA. doi.org/10.5531/db.vz.0001

Ganesh, S.R., Mallik, A.K., Achyuthan, N.S., Shanker, K. & Vogel, G. (2021). A new species of *Boiga* (Serpentes: Colubridae) from the Southern Western Ghats of India with a molecular phylogeny and expanded characterisation of related species. *Zootaxa* 4981(3): 449–468. https://doi.org/10.11646/zootaxa.4981.3.2

Garg, S., Das, A., Kamei, R.G. & Biju, S.D. (2018). Delineating *Microhyla ornata* (Anura, Microhylidae): mitochondrial DNA barcodes resolve century-old taxonomic misidentification. *Taylor & Francis Group*, 3(2): 856–861. https://doi.org/10.1080/23802359.2018.1501286

Giannasi, B., Thorp, R.S. & Malhotra, A. (2001). The use of amplified fragment length polymorphism in determining species trees at fine taxonomic levels: analysis of a medically important snake, *Trimeresurus albolabris*. *Molecular Ecology* 10: 419–426. https://doi.org/10.1046/j.1365-294X.2001.01220.x

Günther, A. (1861). List of the cold blooded Vertebrates collected by B.H. Hodgson, Esq., in Nepal. *Proc. Zool. Soc. London*. 1861: 213–227.

Günther, A.C.L.G. (1864). *The Reptiles of British India*. London.

Guo, P., Liu, Q., Li, C., Chen, X., Jiang, K., Wang, Y.Z. & Malhotra, A. (2011). Molecular phylogeography of Jerdon's pitviper (*Protobothrops jerdonii*): importance of the uplift of the Tibetan plateau. *Journal of Biogeography* 38: 2326–2336. doi:10.1111/j.1365-2699.2011.02566.x

Guo, P., Malhotra, A. Li, C., Creer, S., Pook, C.E. & Wen, T. (2009). Systematics of the *Protobothrops jerdoni* complex (Serpentes, Viperidae, Crotalinae) inferred from morphometric data and molecular phylogeny. *Herpetological Journal* 19: 85–96.

Hallermann, J., Ananjeva, N.B. & Orlov, N. (2001). On a remarkable collection of reptiles and amphibians collected by the German Indian Expedition 1955-1958. *Russian Journal of Herpetology* 8(1): 59–68.

IUCN (2021). The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. Version 2021-3. <https://www.iucnredlist.org> Accessed on 16 December 2021.

Iverson, J.B. (1992). *A Revised Checklist with Distribution Maps of the Turtles of the World*. Privately Printed, Richmond, Indiana, USA.

Jangid, A.K., Kamdar, A., Kunte, K. & Pyron, A. (2021). *Classification of Indian Reptiles*. In Kamdar, A. Jangid, A., Roy, P., & Kunte, K. (eds.). Reptiles of India, v.1.26. Indian Foundation for Butterflies.

Kästle, W., Rai, K.R. & Schleich, H.H. (2013). *Field Guide to Amphibians and Reptiles of Nepal*. ARCO-Nepal.

Khatiwada, J.R. (2017). *Integrative Taxonomy, Diversity, and Conservation of Amphibians in the Central and Eastern Nepal Himalaya*. PhD thesis, Chengdu Institute of Biology, Chinese Academy of Science, China.

Khatiwada, J.R. Shu, G.C., Wang, S.H., Thapa, A., Wang, B., & Jiang, J. (2017). A new species of the genus *Microhyla* (Anura: Microhylidae) from Eastern Nepal. *Zootaxa* 4254 (2): 221–239.

Khatiwada, J.R., Shu, G., Subedi, T.R., Wang, B., Ohler, A., Canatella, D.C., Xie, F. & Jianag, J. (2019). A New Species of Megophryid Frog of the Genus *Scutiger* from Kangchenjunga Conservation Area, Eastern Nepal. *Asian Herpetological Research* 10(3): 139–157.

Khatiwada, J.R., Wang, B., Ghimire, S., Vasudevan, K., Paudel, S. & Jiang, J. (2015). A New Species of the Genus *Tylototriton* (Amphibia: Urodela: Salamandridae) from Eastern Himalaya. *Asian Herpetological Research* 6(4): 245–256.

Khatiwada, J.R., Wang, B., Zhao, T., Xie, F. & Jiang, J. (2021). An Integrative Taxonomy of Amphibians of Nepal: An Updated Status and Distribution. *Asian Herpetological Research* 12(1): 1–35. DOI: 10.16373/j.cnki.ahr.200050

Khatiwads, J.R., Shu, G., Wang, B., Zhao, T., Xie, F. & Jiang, J. (2020). Description of a New Species of *Amolops* Cope, 1865 (Amphibia: Ranidae) from Nepal and Nomenclatural Validation of *Amolops nepalicus* Yang, 1991. *Asian Herpetological Research* 11(2): 71–94.

Kiesl, L. & Schleich, H.H. (2016) (3rd edition). *Amphibians and Reptiles of Nepal: Turtles, A Children's Book*. ARCO-Nepal.

Lalremsanga, H.T., Bal, A.K., Vogel, G. & Biakzuala, L. (2022). Molecular phylogenetic analyses of lesser known colubrid snakes reveal a new species of *Herpetoreas* (Squamata: Colubridae: Natricinae), and new insights into the systematic of *Gongylosoma scriptum* and its allies from notheastern India. *SALAMANDRA* 58(2): 101–115.

Mahony, S., Kamei, R. G., Teeling, E.C. & Biju, S.D. (2020). Taxonomic review of the Asian Horned Frogs (Amphibia: *Megophrys* Kuhl & Van Hasselt) of Northeast India and Bangladesh previously misidentified as *M. parva* (Boulenger), with description of three new species. *Journal of Natural History* 54: 1-5, 119–194. https://doi.org/10.1080/00222933.2020.1736679

Majupuria, T.C. (1981). Reptiles. In Majupuria, T.C. (Ed.) Wild is Beautiful. Introduction to fauna and wildlife of Nepal. pp. 147–177.

Malhotra, A. & Thorpe, R.S. (2004). A phylogeny of four mitochondrial gene regions suggests a revised taxonomy for Asian pitvipers (*Trimeresurus* and *Ovophis*). *Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution* 32: 83–100. doi:10.1016/j.ympev.2004.02.008

Maskey, T.M. (1989). *Movement and survival of captive-reared gharial, Gavialis gangeticus in the Narayani River, Nepal*. PhD thesis, Graduate School of the University of Florida, USA.

Ministry of Forests and Environment (2018). *National Ramsar Strategy and Action Plan, Nepal (2018-2024)*. Ministry of Forests and Environment, Singha Durbar, Kathmandu, Nepal.

Mirza, Z.A., Bragin, A.M., Bhosale, H., Gowande, G.G., Patel, H. & Poyarkov, N.A. (2022). A new ancient lineage of ablepharine skinks (Sauria: Scincidae) from eastern Himalayas with notes on origin and systematics of the group. *PeerJ*, 10, e12800.

Mitchell, J.C. & Zug, G.R. (1995). Keys to the known amphibians and reptiles of the Royal Chitwan National Park, Nepal. *Smithsonian Herpetology Information Service* 106: 1–15.

Nanhoe, L.M.R. & Ouboter, P.E. (1987). The distribution of reptiles and amphibians in the Annapurna-Dhaulagiri region (Nepal). *Zool. Verhandl.*, 240: 1–105.

Nidup, T., Gyeltshen, D., Penjor, Dorji, S. & Pearch, M.J. (2016). The first record of *Amolops himalayanus* (Anura: Ranidae) from Bhutan. *The Herpetological Bulletin* 136: 13–18.

Ohler, A. & Mallick, P.K. (2002). *Rana (Hylarana*) sensu Dubois (1992) in India and the identity of *Hylarana tylteri* Theobald, 1868. *Hamadryad* 27(1): 57–65.

Pan, H., Chettri, B., Yang, D., Jiang, K., Wang, K., Zhang, L. & Vogel, G. (2013). A New Species of the Genus *Protobothrops* (Squamata: Viperidae) from Southern Tibet, China and Sikkim, India. (2013). *Asian Herpetological Research* 4(2): 109–115. DOI: 10.3724/SP.J.1245.2013.00109

Pandey, D.P. (2015). *Venomous snakes of medical relevance in Nepal: study on species, epidemiology of snake bite and assessment of risk factors of envenoming and death*. PhD thesis, Faculty of Biosciences, Goethe University, Frankfurt, Germany.

Pandey, D.P., Jelic, D., Sapkota, S., Lama, H.M. Lama, B. Pokharel, K., Goode, M. & Kuch, U. (2018). New records of snakes from Chitwan National Park and vicinity, central Nepal. *Herpetology Notes* 11: 679–696.

Praschag, P., Hundsdörfer, A.K. & Fritz, U. (2009). Further specimens and phylogenetic position of the recently described leaf turtle species *Cyclemys gemeli* (Testudines: Geoemydidae). *Zootaxa* 2008: 29–37.

Pyron, R.A. & Wallach, V. (2014). Systematics of the blindsnakes (Serpentes: Scolecophidia: Typhlopoidea) based on molecular and morphological evidence. *Zootaxa* 3829(1): 001–081. http://dx.doi.org/10.11646/zootaxa.3829.1.1

Rai, D., Pokharel, M. & Rai, T.P. (2021). Range extension of the Common Slug Snake *Pareas monticola* (Cantor, 1839) (Reptilia: Squamata: Pareidae): a new family record for Nepal. *Journal of Threatened Taxa* 13(9): 19373–19375. DOI: https://doi.org/10.11609/jott.7335.13.9.19373-19375.

Rai, K.R. (2004a). Ecological distribution of *Cyclemys oldhamii* (Gray 1863) from Nepal. *Our Nature* 2: 7–12.

Rai, K.R. (2004b). *Environmental Impacts, Systematics and Distribution of Herpetofauna from East Nepal*. PhD thesis, Tribhuvan University, Kathmandu, Nepal.

Rai, K.R. (2013). Describing new species of genus *Paa* (Amphibian) from eastern Himalaya (Kanchenjiunga Singalilla Complex), Nepal. In Adhikari, D., Rai, S.K., & Limbu, K. (Eds.) Modern Trends in Science and Technology. pp. 177–188.

Rai, T.P. & Adhikari, S. (2021). Confirmatory record of Indian Eyed Turtle from Lumbini in Nepal. *Reptile Rap* #207, In: Zoo's Print 36(5): 05–08.

Rai, T.P. (2019) (Updated on 23 May 2021). Pictorial Guide: Tortoises and Freshwater Turtles of Nepal with their Status. https://tapilrai.blogspot.com/2019/05/tortoises-and-freshwater-turtles-of.html

Rai, T.P. (2019). Reassessment of herpetofauna from Jhapa District, East Nepal. *Arco-Nepal Newsletter* 19: 9–17.

Rai, T.P. (2020). Checklist of Lizards of Nepal. https://tapilrai.blogspot.com/2020/08/blog-post.html

Rawat, Y.B., Bhattarai, S., Poudyal, L.P. & Subedi, N. (2020). Herpetofauna of Shuklaphanta National Park, Nepal. *Journal of Threatened Taxa* 12(5): 15587–15611. DOI: https://doi.org/10.11609/jott.5611.12.5.15587-15611

Rawat, Y.B., Thapa, K.B., Bhattarai, S. & Shah, K.B. (2019). First Records of the Common Leopard Gecko, *Eublepharis macularius* (Blyth 1854) (Eublepharidae), in Nepal. *IRCF Reptiles & Amphibians* 26(1): 58–61.

Sah, A.K., Gautam, B. & Bhattarai, S. (2020). On the distribution of Cantor's Kukri snake *Oligodon cyclurus* (Cantor, 1839) (Squamata: Colubridae) from Nepal. *Journal of Animal Diversity* 2(2): 1–7. http://dx.doi.org/10.29252/JAD.2020.2.2.1

Salerno, J., Andersson, K., Bailey, K.M., Hilton, T., Mwaviko, K.K., Simon, I.D., Bracebridge, C., Mangewa, L.J., Nicholas, A., Rutabanzibwa, H. & Hartter, J. (2021). More robust local governance suggests positive effects of long-term community conservation. *Conservation Science and Practice* 3: e297

Schleich, H.H. & Kästle, W. (1998a). Contribution to the biology of the Genus *Sitana* (Sauria: Agamidae). *Sitana fusca* spec. nov., a further species from the *Sitana sivalensis* complex. *Veröffentlichungen Fuhlrott-Museum*, vol. 4: 207–226.

Schleich, H.H. & Kästle, W. (1998b). Description of *Gonydactylus nepalensis* spec. nov. from the inner Terai of farwest Nepal Reptilia: Sauria: Gekkonidae). *Veröffentlichungen Fuhlrott-Museum*, vol. 4: 269–280.

Schleich, H.H. & Kästle, W. (Eds.) (1998). *Contributions to the Herpetology of South Asia (Nepal, India)*. Fuhlrott-Museum, Wuppertal, Germany.

Schleich, H.H. & Kästle, W. (Eds.). (2002). *Amphibians and Reptiles of Nepal: Biology, Systematics, Field Guide*. A.R.G. Ganter Verlag, Liechtenstein.

Schleich, H.H. (1993). Contribution to the systematics and to a bibliography of the Amphibian and Reptiles from Nepal. *Journal of the Nepal Research Centre* 9: 141–168.

Shah, K. (1995). *Enumeration of the Amphibians and Reptiles of Nepal. Biodiversity Profiles Project Technical Publication No. 2*. Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation, Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservation. His Majesty's Government of Nepal, Kathmandu.

Shah, K.B. & Tiwari, S. (2004). *Herpetofauna of Nepal: A Conservation Companion*. IUCN Nepal, Kathmandu.

Shah, K.B. (1998). Checklist of the Herpetofauna of Nepal with English and Vernacular Names. *NAHSON bulletin*. Natural History Society of Nepal 8(1-4): 26–30.

Shah, K.B. (1999). New Records and Distribution of some Herpetofauna of Nepal. *J. Nat. Hist. Mus.* 18: 99–111.

Sharma, S.K., Pandey, D.P., Shah, K.B. Tillack, F., Chappuis, F., Thapa, C.L., Alirol, E. & Kuch, U. (2013). *Venomous Snakes of Nepal: A photographic guide*. B.P. Koirala Institute of Health Sciences, Dharan, Nepal.

Sheridan J.A. & Stuart, B.L. (2018). Hidden species diversity in *Sylvirana nigrovittata* (Amphibia: Ranidae) highlights the importance of taxonomic revisions in biodiversity conservation. *PLoS ONE* 13(3): e0192766. https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0192766

Shrestha, T.K. (2001*). Herpetology of Nepal: A Study of Amphibians and Reptiles of Trans-Himalayan Region of Nepal, India, Pakistan and Bhutan*. Mrs. Bimala Shrestha, Kathmandu, Nepal.

Smith, M.A. (1931). *The fauna of British India, including Ceylon and Burma. Reptilia and Ampbhibia*, Vol. I-Loricata, Testudines. Taylor and Francis, London.

Smith, M.A. (1935). *The fauna of British India, including Ceylon and Burma. Reptilia and Ampbhibia*, Vol. II.-Sauria. Taylor and Francis, London.

Smith, M.A. (1943). *The fauna of British India Ceylon and Burma, including the world of Indo-Chinese Sub-region. Reptilia and Amphibia*. Vol. III.-Serpentes. Taylor and Francis, London.

Smith, M.A. (1951). On a collection of Amphibians and Reptiles from Nepal. *Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist. London*. 4: 726–728.

Swan, L.W. & Leviton, A.E. (1962). The Herpetology of Nepal: A history, checklist and zoogeographical analysis of the herpetofauna. *Proceedings of the California Academy of Sciences* 32(6): 103–147.

Turtle Taxonomy Working Group [Rhodin, A.G.J., Iverson, J.B., Bour, R., Fritz, U., Georges, A., Shaffer, H.B. & van Dijk, P.P.] (2021). Turtles of the World: Annotated Checklist and Atlas of Taxonomy, Synonymy, Distribution, and Conservation Status (9th Ed.). In: Rhodin, A.G.J., Iverson, J.B., van Dijk, P.P., Stanford, C.B., Goode, E.V., Buhlmann, K.A. & Mittermeier, R.A. (Eds.). Conservation Biology of Freshwater Turtles and Tortoises: A Compilation Project of the IUCN/SSC Tortoise and Freshwater Turtle Specialist Group. Chelonian Research Monographs 8:1–472. doi:10.3854/crm.8.checklist.atlas.v9.2021.

Uetz, P., Freed, P., Aguilar, R. & Hošek, J. (Eds.) (2021). The Reptile Database, http://www.reptile-database.org Accessed on 16 December 2021.

Wang, K., Bhattarai, S. Wu, Y., Che, Jing & Siler C.D. (2020). Resurrection of *Amolops nepalicus* Yang, 1991 (Amphibia: Anura: Ranidae), with Comments on the Record of *A.* cf. *afghanus* in Nepal and China and the Validity of Two Other Junior Synonyms of *A. marmoratus* (Blyth, 1855). *Zootaxa* 489 (1): 143–ä 158. https://doi.org/10.11646/zootaxa.4819.1.7

Tapil Prakash Rai [1, 2]*, Sabin Adhikari [1] & Pablo Garcia Antón [3]

*Corresponding author Email: trcc.arco@gmail.com; tapilprai19@gmail.com

[1] Turtle Rescue and Conservation Centre (TRCC), Arjundhara Municipality-9, 57205, Jhapa, Nepal

[2] Department of Environmental Science, Mechi Multiple Campus, Bhadrapur Municipality-8, 57200, Jhapa, Nepal

[3] Universidad Autónoma de Madrid (UAM). Ciudad Universitaria de Cantoblanco. 28049 Madrid, España

World Turtle Day-2022

Celebration of Word Turtle Day-May 23
This month was focused on the celebration of World Turtle Day (WTD). Initially, an appeal was made to ARCO-Nepal and SUMMEF on how to celebrate it but, due to a shortage of collaboration and human resources, I initiated World Turtle Day to what I could achieve personally. Previously, Sabin Adhikari (he has been working in the Fishing Cat Project in Koshi for almost 6 months) and other students used to assist me but now some of them are doing jobs while others are studying in Kathmandu.

The following activities were achieved during the book review program (Part II).

- Bookstall (with special discount)
- Facebook live at ARCO-TRCC/Program (The volunteer was utilized for it but the quality was not good due to the inefficiency of the internet.)
- Launch of TRCC Nepali flyer (by Chief and Special Guests)
- Release of turtles in renovated TRCC Pond (by Chief Guest, Special Guest, and other guests)

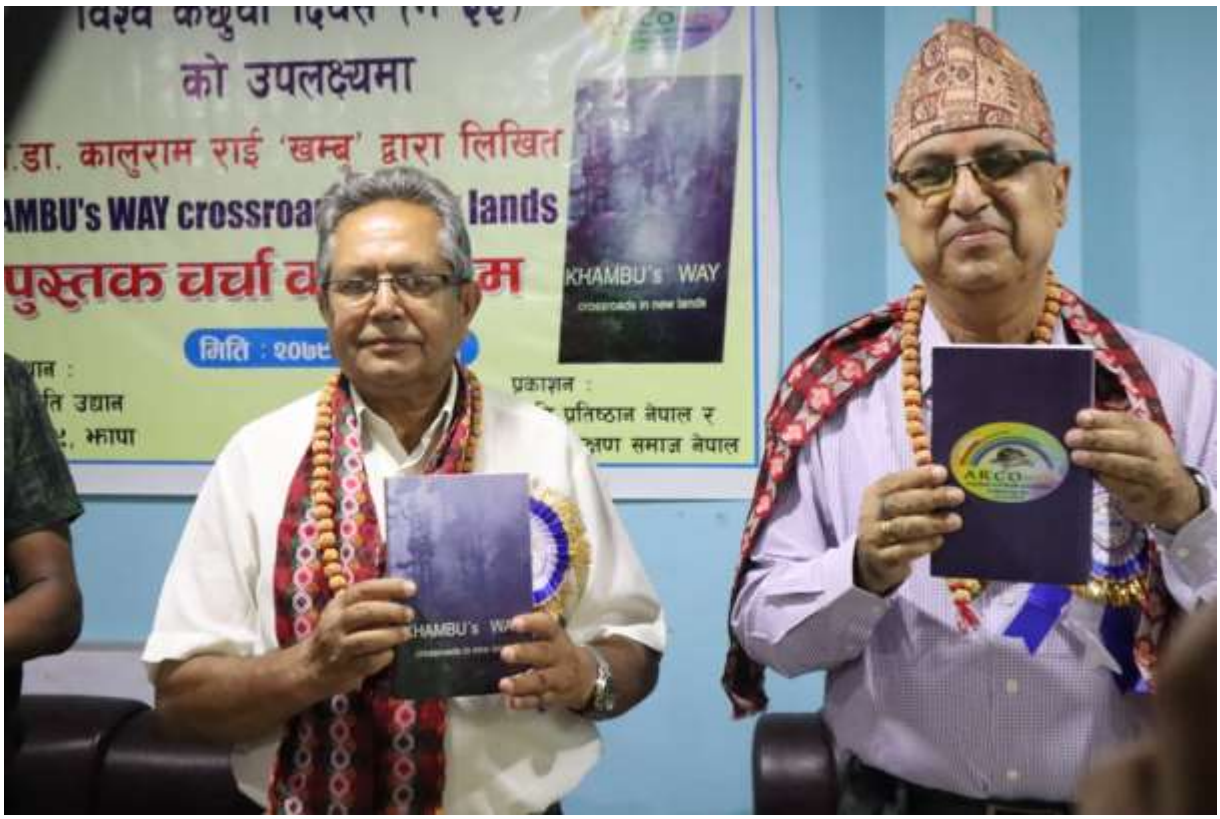
In addition to it, video messages and turtle-related materials were called through ARCO-Nepal/Facebook Page, Turtle Rescue and Conservation Centre-TRCC/Facebook Page, TRCC-Turtle's Club/Facebook Group, LIZARDHOLIC/Facebook Group, and personally by messages. A student from Kathmandu Forestry College Mr. Hitendra Jha mailed his CV and he was accepted as a volunteer for the celebration of WTD-May 23, 2022. We received the following video messages and turtle-related materials.

Video messages
1. Mr. Tapil Prakash Rai, Lead Keeper and Representative of TRCC
2. Mr. Sabin Adhikari, Coordinator of TRCC-Turtle's Club
3. Mr. Indrajit Mukhiya, Nepal Television-Jhapa District Reporter and Managing Director of Aagan FM 89.6 MHz
4. Ms. Bhumika Subba Phiyak, President of Federation of Nepalese Indigenous Nationalities Journalists/FONIJ-Jhapa District
5. Ms. Sujita Dhakal, Forester and Wildlife Researcher

Materials received
1. Rashmi Maharjan [Painting of tortoise]
2. Sadikshya Subedi [Slogan on turtles]
3. Samikshya Rai [Art of turtle with slogan]
4. Bijay Rai [Art of turtle with text]
5. Chitra Rekha Basyal [Video clip of turtle in its natural habitat]
6. Chahana Neupane [Presentation on turtles]
7. Ashmita Shrestha [Short speech on turtle conservation]
8. Shyam Kumar Pun [Turtle research in Chitwan]

Finally, it was a huge success!

Poster on celebration of World Turtle Day-May 23



Book 'Khambu's Way: crossroads in new lands' launch by Chief Guest Prof. Dr. Yadav Koirala, VC of Purwanchal University (right) and Special Guest Mr. Devraj Ghimire, President of SUMMEF on WTD.

By Tapil P. Rai

Dear Sir,
Namaste from Bhadrapur,
After long gapping, I am sending this good message. On the occasion of World Turtle Day, May 23, a book review programme has been set in TRCC at SUMMEF Park, Salbari, Arjundhara, Jhapa. For it, Mr. Harka Raj and Mr. Tapil are taking initiation.
Actually, the book edited by you and Sylvia and published by Arco-Nepal was pending since the last three years due to COVID pandemic. This year shows no any severe patient of the virus here in Nepal. So they organized the book review programme on the appropriate Day of World Turtle Day 2022.

Organized by TRCC of SUMMEF Park, Salbari, Arjundhara, Jhapa

Keynote by Prof. Dr. Yadav Koirala (VC of Purbanchal University, Nepal)

Nepali text by voice record:
"सर्वप्रथम् आज यहाँ के.आर. खम्बुद्वारा लिखित खम्बुज वे- क्रसरोड इन न्यू ल्यान्ड नामक एक महत्त्वपूर्ण किताब लोकार्पण गर्ने जुन अवसर दिनु भयो, यसकोलागि कछुवा उद्धार तथा संरक्षण केन्द्र, सुखानी शहीद स्मृती पार्कका आयोजक समितिलाई हार्दिक धन्यवाद दिन चाहन्छु । यद्यपि म साइन्स वा साहित्यको विद्यार्थी नभएर विशुद्ध म्यानेजमेन्टको विद्यार्थी हूँ । मैले चर्चा परिचर्चा सुन्ने मौका पाएपछि यस किताबबारे केही कुरा बुझ्ने मौका पाएँ । मलाई पनि रिसर्चप्रति निकै इन्ट्रेस्ट भएकोले यो चर्चा परिचर्चालाई ध्यानपूर्वक सुनी रहँदा के महसुस भयो भने यो चर्चा परिचर्चा कार्यक्रम पुस्तकका लेखकले आफ्ना धारणा राखेपछि सुरु गरेको भए अझ राम्रो हुने थियो । यो मेरो खाली सुझाउ मात्रै हो । पुस्तक बारे यहाँ निकै राम्रो परिचर्चा भयो । चारजना कमेन्टेटरले यसलाई विश्लेषण गर्नु भयो । त्यो विश्लेषण गर्ने क्रममा जब मैले तेश्रो कमेन्टेटरको सुन्दै थिएँ, त्यसले दिमागमा निकै उथल पुथल ल्यायो ।

यसलाई नेपालीमा मेरो अनुसन्धान यात्रा भनिएको हुनाले यो यात्रा संस्मरण हुनपर्छ । यद्यपि मैले पुस्तक आद्योपान्त पढेको छैन । अङ्ग्रेजीमालेखिएको खम्बुज वेः क्रशरोड इन न्यूल्याङ्ड को चर्चा वा कमेन्ट सुनीसकेपछि मलाई के अनुभूत भयोभने यो पुस्तकको वास्तवमा जम्मा साइन्टिफिक, रिसर्च, लिटरेचर र यात्रा संस्मरणगरी जम्मा चार हाँगाहरू हुन पर्छ । यसमा चारवटा विषयवस्तुहरू समेटेको हुनाले यसको टाइटल पनि क्रशरोड इन न्यू ल्याण्ड राखीएको देखिन्छ। क्रशरोड भनेको चौबाटो हो अर्थात् चारवटा बाटो बएको ठाउँ । यी बाटाहरू कहाँ पुग्ने ? न्यू ल्याण्डमा पुग्ने । कसको वे हो ? अनि कसको खोजी हो त ? खम्बुको वे । खम्बु कहाँ पुग्यु भयो ? चौबाटोमा। यसको अर्थ यसले प्रष्टसँग चारवटा कुराहरूलाई इङ्गित गर्छ। आफैले किताब पढेको नभए तापनि चार जना कमेन्टेटरको चर्चाले यही कुरा बताउँछ । यात्राको दौरानमा जब हामी खम्बुको उक्त चौबाटोमा पुग्छौं अनि थाहा पाइन्छ कि एउटाबाटोले साइन्सतिर, दोस्रो बाटोले रिसर्चतिर , तेस्रो बाटोले लिटरेचरतिर र चौथो बाटोले यात्रा सस्मरणतिर लग्छ भनी दिसा इङ्गित(ट्राफिकिङ) गरेको देखिन्छ । मलाई लाग्छ, यो पुस्तक पढ्दा तपाईहरूले पनि यिनै चारवटा कुराहरू महसुश गर्नुहुनेछ …''

(Unofficial translation):
"First of all I would like to thank to the organizing committee of Turtle Rescue and Conservation Centre of Sukhani Martyr´s Memorial Park, Salbari for giving me this opportunity to unveil the book written by Prof. Dr. K. Rai Khambu entitled "Khambu´s way: crossroads in new Lands". As being a pure student of management I do not belong to Science or Literature. As I got this opportunity to listen the comments on the book, I understood a few aspects of this book content. Being self interested on research, I concentrated my mind to the view of commentator. As I felt, it would be better to set up the comment item after author's presentation. But it is only my personal suggestion. However it was very nice presentation on views and review of book. Four commentators analysed the different aspects of the book. When I came to hear the third commentator's view it created a sense of humor in my mind.

It must be genre travel memoirs, because it was called "Mero anusandhan yatra" (My research vignette); in Nepali. But I have not gone through the whole of the book. When I listen the comments of this English version book- Khambu´s way: Crossroads in new Lands, I came to realize that it must have four branches (such as science, research, literature and travel memoirs respectively). Thus having four aspects of a single journey it must have been entitled as crossroad in new land. Crossroad means point of emerging four roads

or crossing of two ways at a point. Where is the destination of these roads? The destination of these roads is to reach in new land. Whose way is this? Whose research is this? This is Khambu´s way. Where does Khambu reach? He reached in crossroads. It means it clearly indicates four things. According to the comments of four commentators it could be concluded that along the journey when reached at the crossroad of Khambu, one way indicates to science, 2nd way to research, 3rd one to literature and 4th indicates to journey account and so on. I hope you will also enjoy with these four things from this book."
**

(साभारः- प्रमूख अतिथि प्रा.डा. यादव कोईरालाको संवोधन भाषणबाट निकालिएको एक अंश)

Dear Sir Prof. Hermann Schleich,
Namaskar

Regarding the book Sir, it is praised by all kind of readers. Actually it has been the written history of research trips of the President of ARCO-Nepal Prof. Dr. Hermann Schleich and his assistant student Kaluram Rai Khambu. This book carries the real history of establishment of Arco-Nepal and its major implement and work done in Nepal specially concerned with herpetological research survey journey focusing to turtle conservation in whole Terai region of Nepal. I was only a cadre of that organization and doing work according to the instruction of his supervisor Prof. Schleich.

It is just like Mahabharat (a Hindu mythology) where Arjun seems fighting for winning the war but he was guided by Lord Krishna behind him. Likewise in this book too, I seem receiving PhD certificate but behind me step by step guided by you. Therefore, I could say I am only an effect, but the main cause is you (Prof. Dr. Hermann Schleich).

It is said as "many men, many minds'. So we should not care to unnecessary view of others. This book is liked by all students of herpetology and natural sciences. As they report, they are making it as a field guide and before going to fieldwork, they use to read this book. They are tracing the old sites which were mentioned in this book.

Anyway, I am also old enough and attaining 68 years.

With best regards sir,

Sincerely

Prof. Dr. Kaluram Rai, Bhadrapur, Jhapa.

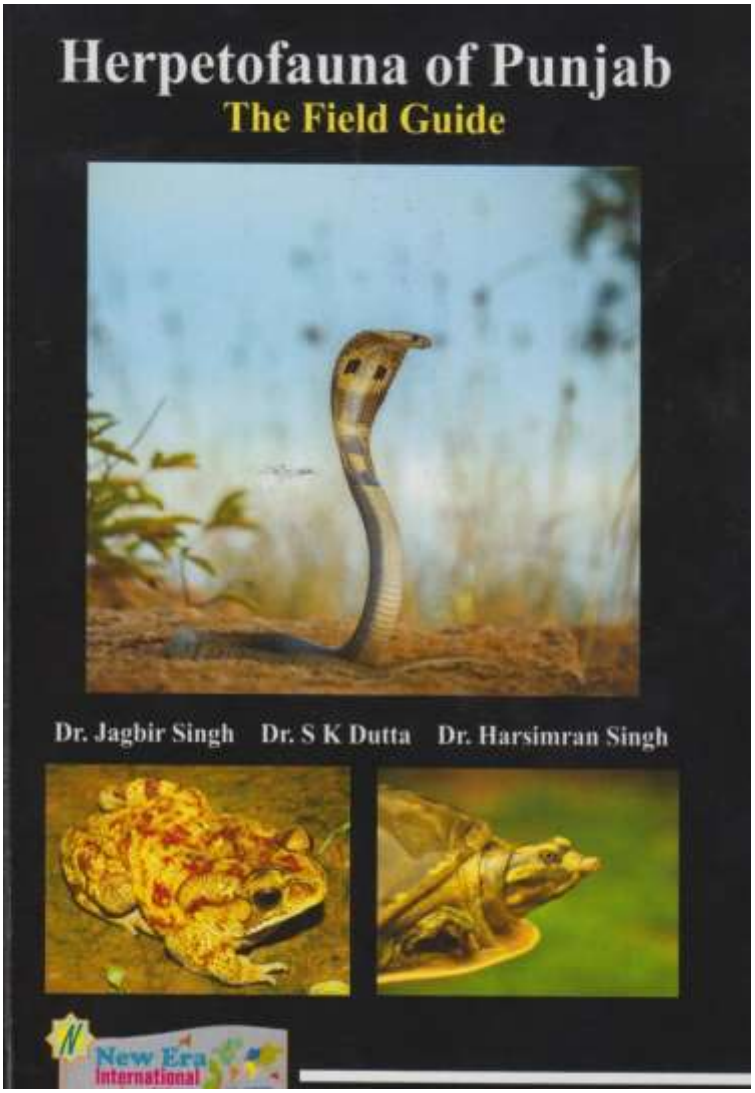
Herpetofauna of Punjab –The Field Guide

has been printed in India by New Era Book Agency in Chandigarh in 2021. The book has been published by three authors, Dr. Jagbir Singh, Prof. Sushil K. Dutta and Dr. Harsimran Singh. The soft cover book contains 82 pages with 85 colour photographs some showing same specimen from different views and 8 black-white line drawings regarding the terminology. Species are presented with photographs and short text for their identification and habitat and ecology.

The book is presented by a foreword, acknowledgements and the content presents an Introduction, the Geography of Punjab together with a "Brief Portryal" (sic!! p.12) followed by photographs and description of 55 species.

The book in Din A 5 size edited under ISBN 978-81-290-0242-6 is sold in India for 1295.- Rs while they charge for other countries British Pound 62.95, Euro 77.95 and US Dollar 79.95. Neighbouring SAARC countries as well as any other country than India obviously have to pay these extremely exaggerated prices what lowers the value of the book tremendously.

Regrettably one photograph is in very low quality (Hardella thurjii; p.35), and there are a lot of spelling errors like Sphaeotheca (p.12), dosrum (p.24,25,26,48) see (n; p.33), crustaceams (p.37), long (er; p.44), Lacerta Lizard (p.15,48), crepascular (p.52,58), Reds sand boa, safe it head (p.55), concolourous (p.60), colouration (p.62), Psammophis condanurus (p16,67,82).



I acknowledge greatly to be mentioned in "Suggested Readings" but correct spelling of names should be Schleich, H.H. & Kaestle, W.

In https://www.inaturalist.org/check_lists/7409-Punjab-Check-List several more species (Duttaphrynus himalayanus, Microhyla ornata, Calotes minor, Minervarya syhadrensis, Sitana ponticeriana, Riopa punctata, Eutropis carinata, Cyrtopodium scabrum, Boiga multifasciata, Oligodon taeniolatus, Pseudocerastes persicus are shown to occur in Punjab but am not evaluating these listings.

Regrettably there is no information given on the conservation status of each species. The book is nice for students and naturalists but distributional maps for the Punjab region would be very helpful.

Reviewed: H. Schleich

Confirmation of Membership

Sponsoring Society „ARCO-Nepal reg. soc.“ for Amphibian & Reptile Conservation of Nepal

Herewith I declare my membership to “ARCO-Nepal e. V. “ for following conditions

O full membership	**U.S.$ 50,-**
O Students	**U.S.$ 25,-**
O Institutions	**U.S.$ 100,-**

.....
First name, family name

.....……...
street

.....…….....
code, city

.....……..
place, date

.....……..
signature
(for minors parents or legal guardian)

Bank account:

Stadtsparkasse München, BLZ 70150000
Account-Nr.: 1000099984
IBAN: DE95701500001000099984
BIC: SSKMDEMMXXX

ARCO-Nepal reg. soc.

Amphibian and Reptile Conservation of Nepal

c/o W. Dziakonski / Treasurer

Edlingerstr. 18

D-81543 München

w.dziakonski@yahoo.de

www.arco-nepal.de email: arco.nepal@gmail.com

ARCO-Instituto y Nucleo Zoológico @ Tabernas / Almería

Centro de Acogida de Tortugas y otros Animales Exoticos

OFRECEMOS VOLUNTARIADOS

EN ALMERIA Y EN NEPAL

Interesado?

www.arco-spain.org & www.arco-nepal.de

Presentase por email

Mail: arco.spain05@gmail.com

INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING?

We are running a rescue centre for rehoming and breeding endangered turtle species in SE-Nepal and S-Spain

www.arco-spain.org & www.arco-nepal.de

Interested?

Mail: arco.spain05@gmail.com

VOLONTARIAT IN ARTENSCHUTZSTATION

ARCO- Auffang- und Arterhaltungszentrum für Schildkröten

in Südspanien (Tabernas/Almeria) und SE-Nepal

www.arco-spain.org & www.arco-nepal.de

Interesse?

Mail: arco.spain05@gmail.com

Kantipur | Madhes

One arrested with 113 turtles from Birgunj
June 13, 2022 | Shankar Acharya

Parsa - Parsa police arrested a man from Birgunj on Monday for illegally importing turtles from India. The arrested is 45 years old Anandalal Temani of Kalaiya Sub-Metorpolitan-7 of Bara District.

Photo: Seized turtles (©District Police Office Parsa):
Geoclemys hamiltoni CITES I and *Pangshura tecta* CITES I

Police arrested him while he was illegally importing 113 turtles from India via Birgunj-16. A team deployed from Temporary Police Post Inaruwa stopped a motorcycle (BR 05 AF 0583) heading towards Birgunj from Raxaul, India, and found turtles hidden in a green bag inside the trunk of the motorcycle. According to DSP Omprakash Khanal, spokesperson of the District Police Office, he was handed over to the Division Forest Office, Birgunj along with a motorcycle and turtles for necessary action.

Source: Kantipur (https://ekantipur.com/pradesh-2/2022/06/13/165511467318583587.html?fbclid=IwAR0aYaNl14gWsuvgTAT3-RJvvHRutaKu6DKWMfuvMaVOKodqk27JjtZy2V4)

Submitted and translated by Tapil P. Rai, TRCC

lissemys-punctata-being-dumped-into-pond-when-alerted-by-police-raid_Uttar-Pradesh-Forest-Department-1 (1).jpg photo from https://www.thethirdpole.net/en/nature/turtle-poaching/