

Southern India's Endemic Mammals

Naturetrek Tour Report

12 - 24 February 2010



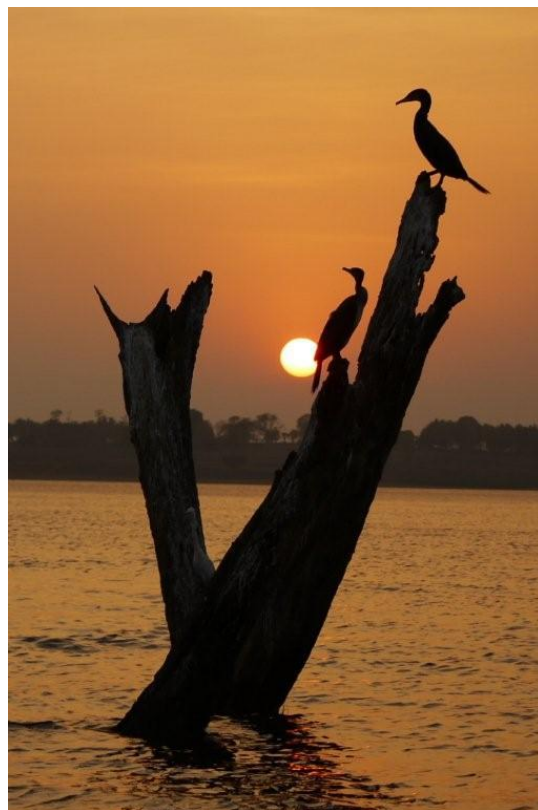
Great Hornbill, *Buceros bicornis* - Valpari



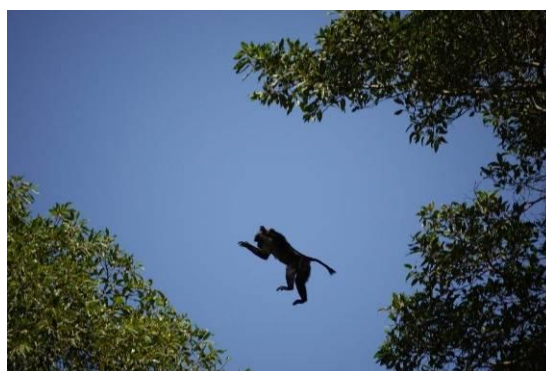
Lion-tailed Macaque, *Macaca silenus* - Valpari



Changeable Hawk Eagle, *Spizaetus cirrhatus* - Karnataka



Indian Cormorants, *Phalacrocorax fuscicollis* – Kabini Lake



Lion-tailed Macaque - Valpari

Report compiled by Dilan Mandanna

Photos by kind courtesy of Ian Bruce



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Participants: Michael Reed
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Day 1

Saturday 13th February

The Southern India's Endemics Mammals tour started with meeting Ian and Kathleen at Cochin Airport. They arrived on time and they could find me very easily: our driver was waiting at the parking area and he came and picked us up from the arrival section. After bags were loaded in the vehicle we went to the Abad Hotel for a buffet breakfast, after which we had time to freshen up. After more detailed introductions, I explained to them the specialties about Periyar and the day's programme too. Then we started travelling towards the Periyar Wildlife Sanctuary. Cochin weather was quite hot, but as we started travelling towards the forest, the climate started changing and becoming cooler. We spotted a troop of Bonnet Macaques on the side of the road along the way.

We reached the Aranya Nivas, and after a quick check-in, we went to the restaurant and had lunch, and Ian and Kathleen went to their room. Michael and Julie were already at the hotel, and they had gone for a forest walk and had quite interesting sightings of endemic birds like the Malabar Trogon, the Wyanaad Laughing-thrush. Later I briefed the clients about the Western Ghats using a slideshow of pictures: 14 endemic mammals, 16 endemic birds and other mammals, birds, forest types, butterflies, snakes etc. We watched an interesting movie on the Western Ghats, after which we discussed the next day's programme and dispersed for dinner.

Day 2

Sunday 14th February

We joined at 6:30am. In front of the hotel itself we could spot many birds like the Brown-cheeked Fulveta, Scarlet Minivet, Drongo, Vernal Hanging Parrot, Common Iora. Then we went and met Mr. Chaku, an excellent tracker, who has good knowledge about trees and birds. We first crossed the river with the help of a bamboo raft, and started walking into the Periyar forest, an evergreen forest. As we entered the forest, we saw a group of Nilgiri Langurs and heard their calls. We also saw a mixed flock, which comprised of birds including the Greater Racket-tailed Drongo, Jungle Babbler, Rufous Treepie etc. Then our guide stopped and showed us Jungle Fowl with small chicks: we also came across a nice colourful male. A Malabar Trogon was calling from many directions and the Pompadour Green Pigeon as well. We heard a Woodpecker pecking and immediately saw it flying through the thick canopy, a White-bellied Woodpecker. We also saw the Puff-throated Babbler, searching for food in the bushes. While we were sitting and taking a rest, we heard the Malabar Whistling-thrush calling. It was a lovely morning in the jungle with lots of bird activity and sonorous calls. We saw many mixed species flocks including birds like the Black-naped Monarch, Common Flame-back, Racket tailed Drongo, Rufous Treepie, Great Tit etc. One of the most interesting sightings was that of a Black Baza, an extremely rare bird, The Black Baza joined a flock to feed on insects in the canopy. One would expect this bird to eat birds, not eat with the birds!!

A Barking Deer suddenly just ran in-front of us and we saw a Grey Wagtail that was prancing between rocks in a stream. In the stream we found a Tiger pugmark, probably a week old. When we especially asked for the Ceylon Frogmouth, a rarely seen and extremely well-camouflaged endemic bird, our guide Chaku said that he seen one, a long time ago in one spot, so he went checking for it and came back saying, yes its there! He took us and said there it was, though we did take quite a bit of time locating it, as it was sitting amongst the dry leaves, very well-camouflaged. We really enjoyed spotting the bird and all of us took photographs too. On one occasion, we heard what we thought was a mixed species flock, including the calls of Yellow-browed Bulbuls, Brown-cheeked Fulvettas, and Large Woodshrikes, but it turned out to be a lone Greater Racket-tailed Drongo mimicking all these species!!!

While walking back we had a few excellent sightings such as those of White-bellied Treepies, Forest Wagtails, Blue-bearded Bee eater, Orange-headed Ground-thrush, Crested Serpent Eagle, Mountain Imperial Pigeon, Malabar Whistling Thrush, Malabar Parakeet, Hill Myna, Malabar Grey Hornbill and Common Hawk Cuckoo. When we reached the back water and we saw the Pied Kingfisher hovering and spotted many birds such as the Common Kingfisher, Grey Heron, Green Sandpiper, Egrets, Cormorants and the Indian Pond Heron.

After breakfast, we went for a walk around the hotel compound and saw Crimson-fronted Barbets, Yellow-browed Bulbuls, Purple Sunbirds, Small Minivets, Oriental Magpie Robins, Plain Flowerpeckers and Common Tailorbirds. Two Indian Giant Squirrels were eating jackfruit and as we walked along the side of the road, we also spotted Sambar Deer, Bonnet Macaques and Nilgiri Langurs.

It was then time for us to go for lunch, after which we went for an evening boat ride. The Cormorants were drying their wings and freshwater Tortoises were sunning themselves on stumps out of the water. The boat ride brought in some interesting of Indian Elephants, Indian Gaur, Monitor Lizard, Sambar Deer and Wild Boar. We were lucky to see a group of Elephants with some small calves, at the edge of the back water, and a herd of Sambar Deer came to the same area where the elephants were grazing, and as soon as the elephants saw the deer, they started trumpeting and one elephant actually separated from the herd and started chasing the deer away! We also added more bird species to our list: Osprey, Grey Heron, Red-wattled Lapwing, Darter, Little Cormorant, Great Cormorant and the Grey-headed Fish Eagle.

Next on our itinerary was a night trek through the forest, called Jungle patrol or night patrol. We started at around 7 pm. The forest department guides accompanied us. As we were about to enter the forest we saw many eyes reflected in our torch lights, and a closer look revealed a group of Sambar Deer in an open area. For a moment, when we stopped and switched off our torches, the forest was amazingly lit up with the tiny lights of fireflies all around. Far away an Indian Giant Flying Squirrel was calling. After a while we reached an open area and from a distance we could see two small eyes, we started walking towards it, but by the time we reached the place it had disappeared, possibly a Common Palm Civet that had disappeared in a jiffy into the bushes! High up on a tree, we spotted a Flying Squirrel - we couldn't see it properly, but when it started calling and we were then able to confirm it. Black-naped Hare and more Sambar Deer were all around the area. We eventually walked alongside the stream and saw pairs of green eyes turning inquisitively towards our torchlight in the water! Otters! When we went closer, they were Asian Small-clawed Otters - an extremely rare sighting and a very fortunate one to have them close by. There were in total four otters frolicking in the stream.

On seeing us, they came out of the stream, crossed in front of us and while two of them went into the bushes, the other two disappeared back into the water. It was around 10:30 pm when we got back to the hotel after that very successful night out. Dinner was served immediately, after which we retired to our rooms.

Day 3

Monday 15th February

We hardly had time for a morning walk, so we concentrated on spotting birds right next to the hotel. Many of them were sitting on dry tree branches, and we added a few more birds to our list such as the Common Rose finch, Eurasian Golden Oriole, Rufous Babbler, Greater Coucal, Indian Scimitar Babbler, Asian Brown Flycatcher, Stork-billed Kingfisher, Common Iora and Emerald Dove.

After breakfast we left Aranya Nivas around 8:30am and headed towards Valparai. As soon as we entered the Anamali Wildlife Sanctuary, we saw many Bonnet Macaques along the roads. We stopped at a place where we normally see Nilgiri Tahrs and started scanning the entire area using binoculars. Our efforts were not in vain and we were lucky enough to spot Nilgiri Tahr on the cliff. While we could hear Nilgiri Tahr kids calling we were not able to spot them.

Eventually we reached the tea estate bungalow where we were to stay, at around 3:00pm, and after a quick check-in, assembled in the dining area, where a variety of food was laid on the table. Conversation at lunch revolved around memories of the drive from Periyar to Valparai, which involves around 60 hair-pin bends, with the roads cutting through many rainforest fragments. These rainforest fragments are relatively small and often degraded, but home to endemic and rare animals such as Lion-tailed Macaques, the recently discovered Purple Frog, Nilgiri Marten, many birds and many rare flowers too.

Later in the evening we decided to go searching for nocturnal animals. We went to the small forest fragment behind the guest house and as soon as I shone my torch on the tress, we saw pairs of red eyes just staring at the torch light. They were Brown Palm Civets (a mammal endemic to the Western Ghats) and close by on the same tree, were two Indian Giant Flying Squirrels eating Ficus fruits. After we started walking, we spotted a few more Flying Squirrels. We spent a little time watching these animals and returned back to the guest house.

Dinner was ready and after a quick freshen up, we sat for dinner. After dinner we chatted about wildlife conservation and other wildlife sanctuaries, as well as the next day's programme and then retired to bed.

Day 4

Tuesday 16th February

In the morning we woke up to hear the rambling fluty song of the whistling schoolboy (Malabar Whistling thrush). It was a pleasant morning and we decided to go for a walk near the forest fragments. Ajith the driver dropped us there. Our day began with sighting two Giant Squirrels on a tree: all of us had cameras and got decent shots. We also had a lovely sighting of a Scarlet Minivet male and female, which came and sat on a small tree very close to us. We got to see many more birds like the Crimson-fronted Barbet, Malabar Grey Hornbill, White-cheeked Barbet, Brown Shrike, Grasshopper Warbler, Yellow-browed Bulbul, Mountain Imperial Pigeon, Asian Fairy Bluebird and Malabar Parakeets.

I remembered one tree in particular, a fig or Ficus tree, where Great Hornbills are a common sight, and so we began walking towards there. Along the way, three Giant Squirrels were together eating tree bark and Nilgiri Langurs were sitting on the trees in morning light. As we reached the Ficus tree, we spotted the rare Great Hornbills and we had great sighting of two, though they didn't give us a chance to take photos and just glided in the opposite direction. While watching other birds in the tree, suddenly a single Great Hornbill flew above us, it was amazing and we could hear the flapping noise of its wings as it flew and landed on the Ficus tree and started eating fruit. The vehicle soon arrived to pick us up and we reached the guest house for break-fast. Near the guest house we saw many signs of Malabar Palm Squirrels and birds like White-throated Kingfisher, Oriental Magpie Robin, Tailor Bird and Spotted Doves.

Valparai is one of the best places to spot the Lion-tailed Macaques, these animals are usually found in groups and are active during the day. The local watchers guided us to where to find them, and we spotted a large group on the jackfruit and fig trees. In this place the macaques are used to humans and we spent long time with them, watching their behaviour, taking photographs etc.

After lunch we took a rest for a few hours. The estate manager took us to the tea factory to see the processing systems, different qualities etc. Late evening we went for a walk around the bungalow searching for bats but couldn't spot them. After the walk we came to the room and freshened up. We enjoyed the campfire and had a fantastic dinner and retired to our rooms.

Day 5

Wednesday 17th February

After breakfast we gathered in the hotel garden and saw some interesting birds, like Common Hoopoe, Pied Bush chat, Long-tailed Shrike, Grey Jungle fowl, and Rufous Babbler. Then we left at 9:00am, heading towards Top Slip. The drive is a wonderful one with many scenic spots. We stopped at many places to photograph the tea plantations, mountains, dams etc. We stopped at the information centre in Valparai, which belongs to the Nature Conservation Foundation (NCF): here we met Mr. Jagan, the Conservation Officer, who gave us a clear picture of the Western Ghats. This information centre is very informative. After that we stopped at the tahr place and spotted two Nilgiri Tahrs grazing on the edge and spent some time watching them. We reached the Banyan Tree Resort at around 1:30pm - a lovely place surrounded by the mountains, it's a nearly 500 acres and filled with fruiting trees. The people at the resort welcomed us with coconut juice. After check-in at the resort they took us for lunch, which all of us really liked.

After lunch we spent quite a bite of time around the resort. We then went for a birding and saw many butterflies such as the Southern Birdwing, Common Rose, Common Mormon, Common Jezebel, White Orange tip, Common Sailer, Dark Blue Tiger, Cruiser and Rustic. We also saw damselflies dance along the streams. We added more birds in our bird list, including the Wyanaad Laughing thrush, White-browed Bulbul, Coppersmith Barbet, Brown-headed Barbet, Small Minivet, Black headed Cuckoo Shrike, Shikra, Black headed Oriole, Chestnut headed Bee eater, Blue bearded Bee eater and Common Kingfisher. Bonnet Macaques gave us good portrait shots, meanwhile Common Langurs also came on the paths, crossed the stream and went into the jungle. We noticed a lot of fresh Elephant dung on the path, these elephants are regular visitors to the farmer's fields, because a lot of farmers land adjoins with the Indira Gandhi National Park. Elephants usually come for water in to the canal and are attracted by the vegetables, sugarcane, banana trees etc. Every night in our stay at here, we could hear people chasing the elephants away with crackers.

Before dinner we went looking for bats: Mike and Julie were very interested in bats and experts too. We mainly checked all fruiting trees but couldn't see them properly, as they were flying all over the place not perching in a spot. This was followed by an excellent dinner at a campfire, and then everyone retired to their rooms.

Day 6

Thursday 18th February

With packed breakfast we started going towards Top Slip, in the misty morning, visibility was low and as we were going up we saw a pair of Grey Jungle Fowl on the road, Malabar Whistling thrush, Green Bee-eaters, Indian Roller and Jungle Babblers. By the road side we saw a couple of Wild Boar and a single Sambar stag. In Top Slip, we first went to the Interpretation Centre, owned by the forest department: a very nicely maintained place, with lots of information about Indira Gandhi Wildlife Sanctuary, endemic mammals, birds, amphibians, fishes, snakes, orchids and tortoises of this region.

After breakfast at Top Slip, the guide, Mr.Ketha came to take us into this moist deciduous forest with lots of bamboo trees. While entering the forest we saw a herd of Spotted Deer and Leopard pug marks on the path. The Black-crested Bulbul, Asian Paradise Flycatcher, Blue-faced Malkoha, Blue-winged Leafbird, Black Eagle, Black-naped Oriole, Drongo Cuckoo, Tickell's Blue Flycatcher, Verditer Flycatcher, Little Spiderhunter and Thick-billed Warbler were added to our list of birds sighted. At one point we saw a small squirrel in the bamboo, we went to close to it and it was a Dusky-striped Squirrel, a new mammal added to our list. As we entered the evergreen patches, we heard the Malabar Trogon call, the Malabar Grey Hornbill and other winged wonder that's the Southern Birdwing, India's largest butterfly. In one point we searched for Frogmouths, we didn't get to see it, because it had changed its roosting place.

On our way back we visited the medicinal plant garden. The forest department has played an important role in conserving them. They also have an information centre, which talks clearly about the uses of medicinal plants. For lunch we reached the Banyan Tree Resort and after lunch we went for a small walk near the stream to search for damselflies and dragonflies. After dark in the evening Michael and Julie joined me to search for bats. There are many fruiting trees around the resort and we saw red eyes and went to other side of the tree and put a torch light on it - it was a Flying Squirrel. We saw small fruit bats flying around the fruiting trees. As we were searching with torch lights, we saw eyes on the ground, we focused light on that and saw two Jackals eating fallen fruits but as we tried to go closer they just disappeared in the bushes. We all gathered for dinner by the campfire.

Day 7

Friday 19th February

It was a misty morning so we decided to head towards Ooty. We stopped at a few places between Pollachi and Coimbatore, and at the water bodies we did bird watching and found large numbers of Common Coots, Egrets, Purple Swamphen, Grey Heron, Common Kingfisher, Brahminy Kites and also we saw Indian Rollers, and Common Kestrels on the electric posts and wires. We eventually drove through Coimbatore and we stopped to have lunch at Mettupalayam at a family restaurant and enjoyed biriyani and fish. Then we started to go up the mountains towards Ooty, it was a good scenic drive, and we saw many Bonnet Macaques by the roadside. Eventually we reached Ooty by 2:45pm and checked into the Holiday Inn Gem Park Hotel. A few hours later we went to the Botanical Garden, a famous place in Ooty, and a good birding place too. We walked to the end of the park and saw a Eurasian Black bird, further up we saw a Black and Orange Flycatcher - it was a great sighting of the Western Ghats endemic bird and it came very close to us.

Then we headed to a patch of forest with the hope of seeing more endemic birds. The Grey headed Canary Flycatcher came into view several times so that everyone got to see it. We also got to see mixed species hunting flocks including Minivets, Great Tits, Velvet-fronted Nuthatch, and Yellow browed Bulbuls. Some other birds seen during this walk were the Plain Prinya, Pied Bushchat, Indian Blue Robin, Common Chiff-chaff and Oriental White-eye.

Day 8

Saturday 20th February

After an early breakfast, we left for Kabini. As we started descending down the mountains we stopped at few places for some more endemic birds. We got off at some view points, where we could see the entire mountain range in blue (the Nilgiri's or Blue Bull gets its name because of this). Along the way, we saw an Oriental Honey Buzzard as it was gliding above the canopy. We also had a spectacular view of the canopy and were able to spot Malabar Giant Squirrels, birds like Scarlet Minivets, Black Bulbuls, White-eyes, Yellow-browed Bulbuls etc. We were looking for a Nilgiri Wood Pigeon, which is quite common in this area but we were not able to spot this bird here.

We stopped for a tea break at the check post boundary between Karnataka and Tamilnadu. As we entered Karnataka we saw a beautiful young tusker by the road side. We stopped for a while to let him cross the road, and watched him peel the bark off a tree and suck the juices out of it. Right after that, we saw a Grey Indian Mongoose crossing the road, which is a new mammal for our checklist. We saw Common Langurs by the roadside, Sambar at the water hole, Spotted Deer and Peafowl. We spotted a single Egyptian Vulture soaring in the midday sky. We also stopped at the many lakes that come before Kabini. Here we were able to spot birds like Bronze-winged Jacana, Red-wattled Lapwing, Common Moorhen, Black Ibis, Black-headed Ibis and Little Grebes. Eventually we reached Kabini at 2:30pm and directly went to the Golghar (Round Restaurant). After lunch we checked in at the main office and they showed us the rooms and explained the evening schedule. At 3:30pm we assembled at the Golghar for tea and snacks and briefing before heading to the park.

We got a separate jeep for the safari which was driven by Mr. Huaian, and the local naturalist Mr. Jeevan joined us. We stopped at many water holes hoping to see big cats, as the forest is normally dry during the summers so tigers, leopards can often be near the water holes. In a few water holes we saw a group of Elephants, Sambar Deer, Indian Gaur and Wild Boar. We spotted deciduous birds like Common Hawk Cuckoo; White bellied Drongo, Rufous Treepie, Malabar Parakeets, Forest Wagtail (a rare winter visitor) and Red Spurfowl. At one place we were blocked by a herd of elephants that refused to move out of the way and did not let us pass. We eventually had to turn back and choose another route! We went to the Kabini backwaters, where two Wild Boar were digging the ground and 3 Common Myna's came and sat on them, started grooming then and the boars went to sleep! In the back waters we saw two groups of Elephants, water birds like Painted Stork, Spot billed Duck, Common Sandpipers etc.

That evening at the resort, we were shown a wildlife documentary. We organized a surprise party for Michael Reed because it was his birthday today. Michael was very happy, as he didn't expect a party here. We had dinner after that and sat down and shared notes on our day's sightings.

Day 9

Sunday 21st February

At 6:00 am the next day, we got a wake up call by the lodges' staff and got served tea/coffee to the rooms. We gathered near the reception and were allotted a safari vehicle. The day in the forest started with many birdcalls like the raucous calling of a Peacock, and the cackle of Jungle Fowl. As soon as we entered, we spotted a few herds of Chital and troops of Langurs. Our jeep encountered a large herd of Indian Gaur calmly grazing and browsing in an opening by the roadside. As we drove further we heard the alarm calls from Chital and Langur. And our driver came to a halt. Holding our collective breaths and our cameras, we waited as we could see Chitals looking in one direction and giving alarm calls. Soon after a Leopard jumped on the Chital herd and missed an attempt, but because of the thick bushes we could only see the back part of the leopard. Any way we had a great experience it was time to head back. On the way we saw a herd of Elephants grazing on the backwater.

Back in the camp, after break fast, we walked around the camp and spotted a Brahminy Kite nest, and on a fig tree we saw a Copper smith Barbet, White-cheeked Barbet, and Black-hooded Oriole.

That evening we decided to go for a boat ride, which gave us the opportunity to spot many water birds like Painted Stork, Black crowned Night Heron, Grey Heron, Asian Openbill, River Tern, Osprey, Lesser Adjutant Stork, and Western Reef Egret and large herds of Elephants, Gaurs, Sambar Deer, Chital, Wild Boar and Mugger Crocodiles at the water edge. It was a very pleasant ride and on our way back the sun-started setting and we really enjoyed taking photos of the Cormorants with sun in the background.

After a hot bath, we saw wildlife videos at the resort. The documentary being screened was about the Nagarhole National Park. We decided to leave a little early for next day morning safari.

Day 10

Monday 22nd February

Our safari vehicle was ready at 6:20 am and we were the first group to enter the forest. It was a beautiful misty morning. We saw a herd of Gaur, browsing cautiously by the side of the road. Nearby, we heard the screech of the Changeable Hawk Eagle, and looking closer through my binocular; I noticed that it held a Chital leg in its claw! We slowed down near a flowering Bambax Ceiba (silk cotton) tree, and heard a loud call of Alexandrine Parakeet and had a sighting of Brahminy Starlings.

As we were driving we got a glimpse of a group of Wild Dogs and they went inside the bushes. Our driver took a parallel road assuming that we would see them again, and as our driver slowed down the wild dogs came onto the road and started walking in front of our vehicle. We followed this group for more than a kilometre. We were lucky to see unique behaviour of them playing together, lying on the ground and dusting themselves etc. We also saw a Black Eagle eating a Common Hawk Cuckoo. The Black Eagle was perched on a small tree but it took off and perched on the bigger tree and started eating the prey. On the way back from the safari, we encountered an Elephant herd and had a clear sighting of White-bellied Woodpecker.

In the evening we again decided to go for a game drive. We slowed down as we approached a waterhole where our driver had seen a tiger two days ago. It's one of the largest water holes in the park. We got up a watchtower and waited for a while to pick up any activity. We saw a group of Sambar and Chital get into the water.

Just then we got a message from one of the other jeeps saying that they had spotted a Leopard in a tree. So we rushed towards that site and already four jeeps were at the spot. The other guide helped us spot the leopard. It was sleeping on a tree branch but was not a clear sighting even with the help of binoculars. We had a glimpse of the first half of a leopard the previous day and today the second half. Tomorrow, we hoped we will see a full leopard! We then got back to the resort.

Day 11

Tuesday 23rd February

The next day, we took the safari as usual. It was a misty morning and in a few places we saw pugmarks. We followed the tracks for a while on the road, but soon the tracks disappeared. As the sun came up, most of the birds started coming out; Woodpeckers, Drongos, Tree-pies, Rollers and Orioles were flying past in an amazing riot of colour. We also saw a beautiful Crested Serpent Eagle, it was just posing for us and gave us enough time to get some photos of it.

We drove past the backwaters and saw Indian Gaur, Sambar, Wild Boar, birds like Painted Storks, Spot-billed Duck, Grey Heron and Great Egrets. At one place we saw a tusker, which came for water and very gently, crossed the road just in front of our jeep and gave us a good photography opportunity. Kathleen had been asking for Sloth Bears and her wish came true this morning as a Sloth Bear walked across the road, giving us a very clear sighting!

“Leopard is in the tree” screamed the wireless message from another jeep. Our driver drove towards where the leopard was spotted and just as we reached the place, the leopard got down from the tree. The forest erupted with alarm calls of Langurs and the high-pitched call of the Chital, amongst others. We waited with bated breath and Kathleen started saying, “I found it, leopard, leopard”, it was peeping out of thick lantana bushes and was there for 2-3 minutes and disappeared.

We left the Kabini River Lodge at 11:30am and started driving towards Mysore. In Mysore we stopped for lunch at the Metropole Hotel and reached Bangalore at 5: 45 pm. There was a room ready for changing at the hotel allocated for us. All of us finished dinner and drove to the airport. We had our final conversation and it was time to say goodbye. 27 species of mammal was a great tally for this amazing trip...

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Species Lists

Mammals

1	Bonnet Macaque	<i>Macaca radiata</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
2	Nilgiri Langur	<i>Trachypithecus johnii</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					
3	Indian Giant squirrel	<i>Ratufa indica</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓			✓
4	Wild boar	<i>Sus scrofa linnaeus</i>	✓	✓			✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
5	Indian Gaur	<i>Bos gaurus</i>		✓							✓	✓	✓
6	Asian elephants	<i>Elephas maximus</i>		✓						✓	✓	✓	✓
7	Sambar deer	<i>Cervus unicolor</i>		✓	✓			✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
8	Barking deer	<i>Muntiacus muntjac</i>				✓	✓						✓
9	Jungle striped squirrel	<i>Funambulus tristriatus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓						✓
10	Asian Small clawed otter	<i>Aonyx cinerea</i>		✓									
11	Black napped hare	<i>Lepus nigricollis</i>		✓									
12	Common palm civet	<i>Paradoxurus hermaphroditus</i>		✓									
13	Nilgiri Tahr	<i>Nilgiritragus hylocrius</i>			✓		✓						
14	Lion tailed macaque	<i>Macaca silenus</i>				✓	✓						
15	Indian giant flying squirrel	<i>Petaurista philippensis</i>		✓	✓								
16	Brown palm civet	<i>Paradoxurus jerdoni</i>			✓								
17	Indian palm squirrel	<i>Funambulus palmarum</i>						✓	✓		✓	✓	
18	Stripe necked mongoose	<i>Herpestes vitticollis</i>					✓						✓
19	Common Langur	<i>Semnopithecus entellus</i>					✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
20	Spotted deer	<i>Axis axis</i>						✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
21	Dusky striped squirrel	<i>Funambulus sublineatus</i>						✓					
22	Lesser dog faced fruit bat	<i>Cynopterus brachyotis</i>						✓					
23	Grey Indian mongoose	<i>Herpestes edwardsi</i>								✓			

24	Jackal	<i>Canis aureus</i>							✓				
25	Leopard	<i>Panthera pardus</i>									✓	✓	
26	Wild dog	<i>Cuon alpinus</i>									✓		
27	Sloth Bear	<i>Melursus ursinus</i>											✓

Birds

	Common name	Scientific name	February										
			13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
1	Malabar Grey Hornbill	<i>Ocyrceros griseus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					
2	Southern Hill Myna	<i>Gracula indica</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
3	Pacific swallow	<i>Hirundo tahitica</i>	✓										
4	Malabar Trogon	<i>Harpactes fasciatus</i>	✓	✓									
5	White bellied treepie	<i>Dendrocitta leucogastra</i>	✓	✓				✓					
6	Jungle babbler	<i>Turdoides striatus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
7	White cheeked barbet	<i>Megalaima viridis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
8	Common myna	<i>Acridotheres tristis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
9	Jungle owlet	<i>Glaucidium radiatum</i>	✓	✓	✓					✓		✓	
10	Little egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>	✓	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
11	little cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax niger</i>	✓	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
12	Emerald Dove	<i>Chalcophaps indica</i>	✓	✓									
13	Large billed crow	<i>Corvus macrorhynchos</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
14	Red Whiskered bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus jocosus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
15	Plain Flowerpecker	<i>Dicaeum concolor</i>		✓									
16	Purple sunbird	<i>Nectarinia asiatica</i>		✓				✓					
17	Grey Jungle fowl	<i>Gallus sonneratii</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
18	Red Spurfowl	<i>Galloperdia spadicea</i>		✓				✓				✓	
19	Brown checked fulvetta	<i>Alcippe poioicephala</i>		✓	✓	✓							
20	Common flame back	<i>Dinopium javanense</i>		✓	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
21	Spotted dove	<i>Streptopelia chinensis</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
22	Oriental magpie robin	<i>Copsychus saularis</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
23	Vernal hanging parrot	<i>Loriculus vernalis</i>		✓	✓								

	Common name	Scientific name	February										
			13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	Crimson fronted barbet	<i>Magalaima rubricapilla</i>		✓		✓		✓					
25	Brown capped pygmy woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos nanus</i>		✓	✓		✓						
26	Scarlet minivet	<i>Pericrocotus flammeus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					✓
27	Small minivet	<i>Pericrocotus cinnamomeus</i>		✓			✓						
28	Ashy drongo	<i>Dicrurus leucophaeus</i>		✓	✓			✓					
29	Common lora	<i>Aegithina tiphia</i>		✓	✓			✓					
30	White bellied woodpecker	<i>Dryocopus javensis</i>		✓							✓	✓	
31	Mountain Imperial pigeon	<i>Ducula badia</i>		✓									
32	Common kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>		✓			✓	✓					
33	Greater racket tailed drongo	<i>Dicrurus paradiseus</i>		✓			✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
34	Paid kingfisher	<i>Ceryle rudis</i>		✓									
35	Grey wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>		✓					✓	✓			
36	Green Sandpiper	<i>Tringa ochropus</i>		✓									✓
37	Yellow browed bulbul	<i>Iole indica</i>		✓		✓	✓	✓					
38	Great tit	<i>Parus major</i>		✓				✓	✓		✓		
39	Pumpadour green pigeon	<i>teron pompadora</i>		✓		✓		✓					
40	Malabar whistling thrush	<i>Myophonus horsfieldii</i>		✓		✓		✓					
41	Puff-throated babbler	<i>Pellorneum ruficeps</i>		✓									
42	Asian fairy blue bird	<i>Irena puella</i>		✓		✓							
43	Velvet fronted nuthatch	<i>Sitta frontails</i>		✓				✓	✓			✓	
44	Forest wagtail	<i>Dendronanthus indicus</i>		✓								✓	
45	Common hawk cuckoo	<i>Hierococcyia varius</i>		✓						✓	✓	✓	✓
46	Black Baza	<i>Aviceda leuphotes</i>		✓									
47	Rufous treepie	<i>Dendrocitta vagabunda</i>		✓				✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
48	Black rumped flameback	<i>Dinopium benghalense</i>		✓									✓
49	Black napped monarch	<i>Hypothymis azurea</i>		✓									
50	Ashy woodswallow	<i>Artamus fuscus</i>		✓								✓	
51	Sri Lanka Frogmouth	<i>Batrachostomus moniliger</i>		✓									
52	White throated kingfisher	<i>Halcyon smyrnensis</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
53	Greater coucal	<i>Centropus sinensis</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
54	Large billed leaf warbler	<i>Phylloscopus magnirostris</i>		✓					✓				

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			13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
55	Blue bearded bee eater	<i>Nyctornis athertoni</i>		✓			✓	✓					
56	Asian paradise flycatcher	<i>Terpsiphone paradisi</i>		✓			✓	✓				✓	
57	Orange headed ground thrush	<i>Zoothera citrina</i>		✓				✓					
58	Crested serpent eagle	<i>Spilornis cheela</i>		✓		✓		✓					✓
59	White browed wagtail	<i>Motacilla maderaspatensis</i>		✓									✓
60	Woolly necked stork	<i>Ciconia episcopus</i>		✓						✓	✓		✓
61	Malabar parakeet	<i>Psittacula columboides</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
62	Chestnut bellied Nuthatch	<i>Sitta castanea</i>		✓									
63	Asian brown flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa dauurica</i>		✓									
64	Grey headed fish eagle	<i>Ichthyophaga ichthyaetus</i>		✓							✓		
65	Darter	<i>Anhinga melanogaster</i>		✓							✓		✓
66	Great cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>		✓							✓		
67	Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>		✓							✓		
68	Red wattled lapwing	<i>Vanellus indicus</i>		✓						✓	✓	✓	
69	Dusky crag martin	<i>Hirundo concolor</i>		✓									
70	Indian pond heron	<i>Ardeola grayii</i>		✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
71	Eurasian golden oriole	<i>Oriolus oriolus</i>			✓								
72	Common woodshrike	<i>Tephrodornis pondicerianus</i>			✓								✓
73	Common Rosefinch	<i>Carpodacus erythrinus</i>			✓								
74	Stork billed kingfisher	<i>Halycyon capensis</i>			✓								
75	Indian roller	<i>Coracias benghalensis</i>					✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
76	Black headed cuckooshrike	<i>Coracina melanoptera</i>						✓					✓
77	White rumped needletail	<i>Zoonavena sylvatica</i>					✓						
78	Rufous babbler	<i>Turdoides subrufus</i>		✓				✓					
79	Indian scimitar babbler	<i>Pomatorhinus horsfieldii</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓			✓	✓	✓
80	Grey headed canary flycatcher	<i>Culicicapa ceylonensis</i>			✓				✓				
81	Long tailed shrike	<i>Lanius schach</i>			✓	✓	✓					✓	✓
82	Plum headed parakeet	<i>Psittacula cyanocephala</i>				✓							✓
83	Tickell's leaf warbler	<i>Phylloscopus affinis</i>				✓							
84	Common tailorbird	<i>Orthotomus sutorius</i>				✓			✓				

	Common name	Scientific name	February										
			13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
85	White breasted waterhen	<i>Amaurornis phoenicurus</i>				✓						✓	
86	Pied bushchat	<i>Saaicola caprata</i>			✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓
87	Brown shrike	<i>Lanius cristatus</i>				✓	✓						
88	Great Hornbill	<i>Buceros bicornis</i>				✓							
89	Grasshopper warbler	<i>Locustella naevia</i>				✓							
90	Brahminy kite	<i>Haliastur indus</i>				✓			✓		✓	✓	✓
91	Eurasian blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>				✓			✓				
92	House sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>				✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
93	Common Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>					✓						✓
94	Coppersmith Barbet	<i>Megalaima haemacephala</i>					✓				✓	✓	✓
95	Brown Headed Barbet	<i>Megalaima zeylanica</i>					✓						
96	Little Spiderhunter	<i>Arachnothera longirostra</i>							✓				
97	Indian Peafowl	<i>Pavo muticus</i>					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
98	Black Drongo	<i>Dicrurus macrocercus</i>			✓			✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
99	Chestnut headed bee eater	<i>Merops leschenaulti</i>					✓						
100	Black hooded oriole	<i>Oriolus aanthornus</i>					✓				✓	✓	✓
101	Black Eagle	<i>Ictinaetus malayensis</i>					✓					✓	
102	Shikra	<i>Accipiter badius</i>					✓						
103	Golden fronted leafbird	<i>Chloropsis aurifrons</i>					✓					✓	✓
104	White browed bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus luteolus</i>					✓						
105	Alpine Swift	<i>Tachymarptis melba</i>					✓						
106	Spotted owlet	<i>Athene brama</i>							✓				
107	Black crested bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus melanicterus</i>						✓					
108	Blue faced malkoha	<i>Phaenicophaeus viridirostris</i>						✓				✓	
109	Black-naped oriole	<i>Oriolus chinensis</i>						✓			✓		
110	Bar winged flycatcher shrike	<i>Hemipus picatus</i>						✓					
111	Blue winged leafbird	<i>Chloropsis cochinchinensis</i>						✓					
112	Greenish warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochiloides</i>						✓					
113	Wynaad laughing thrush	<i>Garrulaa delesserti</i>						✓					
114	Drongo cuckoo	<i>Surniculus lugubris</i>						✓					

	Common name	Scientific name	February											
			13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
115	Verditer flycatcher	<i>Eumyias thalassina</i>							✓					
116	Dark fronted babbler	<i>Rhopocichla atriceps</i>							✓					
117	Tickell's blue flycatcher	<i>Cyornis tickelliae</i>							✓					
118	Green bee eater	<i>Merops orientalis</i>							✓	✓	✓	✓		
119	Yellow billed babbler	<i>Turdoides affinis</i>							✓					
120	House crow	<i>corvus splendens</i>							✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
121	Barn swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>								✓				
122	Purple swamphen	<i>Porphyrio porphyrio</i>								✓	✓			
123	Grey heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>								✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
124	Common coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>								✓	✓			
125	Common chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>									✓			
126	Oriental white eye	<i>Zosterops palpebrosus</i>							✓	✓				
127	Black and orange flycatcher	<i>Ficedula nigrorufa</i>								✓				
128	Indian blue robin	<i>Luscinia cyane</i>								✓				
129	Rock pigeon	<i>Columba livia</i>								✓				
130	Black Bulbul	<i>Hypsipetes leucocephalus</i>									✓			
131	Egyptian vulture	<i>Neophron percnopterus</i>									✓			
132	Oriental honey buzzard	<i>Pernis ptilorhyncus</i>									✓			
133	Black kite	<i>Milvus migrans</i>									✓			✓
134	Bronze winged jacana	<i>Metopidius indicus</i>									✓			
135	Black ibis	<i>Pseudibis papillosa</i>									✓			
136	Black headed ibis	<i>Threskiornis melanocephalus</i>										✓		
137	White bellied Drongo	<i>Dicrurus caeruleus</i>									✓		✓	✓
138	Painted stork	<i>Mycteria leucocephala</i>										✓		
139	Common sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>										✓		✓
140	Lesser whistling duck	<i>Dendrocygna javanica</i>										✓		
141	Changeable hawk eagle	<i>Spizaetus cirrhatous</i>										✓	✓	✓
142	Black rumped sunbird	<i>Nectarinia zeylonica</i>										✓		
143	Lesser yellow nape	<i>Picus chlorolophus</i>							✓					
144	Grey Francolin	<i>Francolinus pondicerians</i>										✓		

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			13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
145	Spot-billed Duck	<i>Anas poecilorhyncha</i>									✓	✓	✓
146	Eurasian collared dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>									✓	✓	
147	Great egret	<i>Casmerodius albus</i>									✓		✓
148	River tern	<i>Sterna aurantia</i>									✓		
149	Western reef egret	<i>Egretta gularis</i>									✓		
150	Lesser adjutant	<i>Leptoptilos javanicus</i>									✓		
151	Black-crowned night heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>									✓		
152	Red-rumped swallow	<i>Hirundo daurica</i>									✓		
153	Red-vented bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus cafer</i>									✓	✓	
154	Yellow-footed green pigeon	<i>Treron phoenicoptera</i>									✓		✓
155	Green imperial pigeon	<i>Ducula aenea</i>										✓	✓
156	Alexandrine parakeet	<i>Psittacula eupatria</i>										✓	
157	Brahminy starling	<i>Sturnus pagodarum</i>										✓	✓
158	Indian bush lark	<i>Mirafra erythroptera</i>										✓	
159	Scaly breasted munia	<i>Lonchura punctulata</i>										✓	
160	Black shouldered kite	<i>Elanus caeruleus</i>											✓
161	Asian Openbill	<i>Anastomus oscitans</i>											✓
162	Streak throated woodpecker	<i>Picus xanthopygaeus</i>											✓
163	Asian Koel	<i>Eudynamis scolopacea</i>											✓
164	Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>											✓