

# Godavari Birds

ICIMOD



FOR MOUNTAINS AND PEOPLE



From Godavari to Phulchowki peak, there are an estimated 270 bird species with 17 listed as endangered. Godavari proper has 100 species recorded. It is impossible to photograph all of them. A reference list is provided at the end of the booklet so that you can continue to locate birds that we have not been able to photograph. This fun booklet presents a few of the more common and eye catching birds that hopefully will catch your eye too.

Bird watching provides valuable information. Consistent records give indications of habitat loss, changes in climate, migration patterns and new or missing previous records. Years of data have been collected across Nepal to give a picture of birds in place and time. The oldest Nepal record is from 1793 when it was more common to catch and skin birds for museum collections.

Compiled by Karen Conniff, Ron Hess and Erling Valdemar Holmgren

# Godavari Birds

This basic guide is organized by family and sub-family groupings. The purpose is to make it easier to identify the birds sighted at the ICIMOD Knowledge Park and surrounding areas in Godavari.

There are several bird watching tours and groups of regular bird watchers to join with and improve your knowledge of local birds.

If you have comments, want to add a new identification record or found errors in this booklet please contact:

**Karen Conniff – [karoconniff@gmail.com](mailto:karoconniff@gmail.com)**



Blue-throated Barbet  
(Ron Hess)



Family  
*Phasianidae* or  
Partridges and  
Pheasants



RHess

Kalij Pheasant (female)



RHess

Kalij Pheasant (male)

Family

*Accipitridae* or  
Kites, Hawks, Eagles



KConniff

Black Kite or Pariah Kite



RHess

Black Eagle



RHess

Himalayan Buzzard



KConniff

Shikra (Male)

Family  
*Columbidae* or  
Pigeons and Doves



KConniff

Oriental Turtle Doves – Pair



KConniff

Wedge-tailed Green Pigeon





KConniff

Barred Cuckoo Dove



KConniff

Common Pigeon



KConniff

Spotted Dove

Family  
*Cuculidae* or  
Cuckoos and  
Malkohas



KConniff

Green-billed Malkoha



KConniff

Lesser Cuckoo

Family  
*Psittacidae* or  
Parakeets



Rose-ringed Parakeet (female)



Cattle Egret

Family  
*Ardeidae* or  
Hérons and Bitterns

Family  
*Strigidae* or  
Owls



KConniff

Asian Barred Owlet



KConniff

White-throated Kingfisher

Family  
*Alcedinidae* or  
Kingfishers

Family

*Ramphastidae* or

Barbets





KConniff

Blue-throated Barbet



KConniff

Golden-throated Barbet



KConniff

Great Barbet

Family

*Picidae* or

Piculets and Woodpeckers



KConniff

Grey-headed Woodpecker (male)



KConniff

Greater Yellow-nape Woodpecker



KConniff

Grey-headed Woodpecker (female)



KConniff

Speckled Piculet



KConniff

Fulvous-breasted Woodpecker



RHess

Darjeeling Woodpecker

Family  
*Campephagidae* or  
Cuckoo-shrikes,  
Minivets



RHess

Long-tailed Minivet (male)



KConniff

Long-tailed Minivet (female)



Family  
*Laniidae* or  
Shrikes



RHess

Long-tailed Shrike



KConniff

Grey-backed Shrike

Family  
*Dicruridae* or  
Drongos



RHess

Ashy Drongo



KConniff

Lesser Racket-tailed Drongo

Family  
*Oriolidae* or  
Orioles



RHess

Maroon Oriole

Family  
*Rhipiduridae* or  
Fantails



KConniff

Yellow-bellied Fantail



RHess

White-throated Fantail

Family  
*Corvidae* or  
Crows, Magpies,  
Jays



KConniff

Red-billed Blue Magpie



KConniff

Thick Billed Crow





KConniff

Common Green Magpie



KConniff

Grey Treepie



KConniff

House Crow

Family

*Paridae* or

Tits



RHess

Grey-crested Tit



RHess

Rufous-vented Tit



RHess

Green-backed Tit



KConniff

Black-lored Tit

Family  
*Aegithalidae* or  
Long-tailed Tits



RHess

Black-throated Tit

Family

*Pycnonotidae* or

Bulbuls



KConniff

Red-vented Bulbul



RHess

Himalayan Bulbul



RHess

Black Bulbul



RHess

Mountain Bulbul



## Families

*Sylviidae* or Wablers

*Cisticolidae* or Tailorbirds and Prinias



KConniff

Humes Warbler



KConniff

Common Tailorbird



RHess

Grey-hooded Warbler



RHess

Grey-bellied Tesia

Family  
*Timaliidae* or  
Babblers,  
Scimitar Babblers,  
Laughingthrushes,  
Fulvettas,  
Yuhinas, Sibias



RHess

Grey-throated Babbler



RHess

Spiny Babbler Endemic Rare



KConniff

Streak-breasted Scimitar Babbler



KConniff

Rusty-cheeked Scimitar Babbler



KConniff

White-crested Laughingthrush



RHess

Chestnut-crowned Laughingthrush





RHess

White-throated Laughingthrush



RHess

Spotted Laughingthrush



RHess

Striated Laughingthrush



RHess

Variegated Laughingthrush



RHess

Red-billed Leiothrix



RHess

Stripe-throated Yuhina



RHess

Nepal Fulvetta



RHess

Rufous-winged Fulvetta





RHess

White-browed Fulvetta



RHess

Rufous Sibia

Family  
*Zosteropidae* or  
White-eye



RHess

Oriental White-eye

Family  
*Sturnidae* or  
Mynas, Starlings



KConniff

Common Myna



KConniff

Jungle Myna

Family  
*Sittidae* or  
Nuthatches



RHess

White-tailed Nuthatch



RHess

Rusty-flanked Treecreeper

Family  
*Certhiidae* or  
Treecreepers

Family

*Turdidae* or

Thrushes



RHess

Blue Whistling Thrush



RHess

Chesnut bellied Rock Thrush (male)



RHess

White-collared Blackbird (female)



RHess

Black-throated Thrush (female)





KConniff

Grey-winged Blackbird (male)



RHess

Blue-capped Rock-thrush (male)



RHess

Grey-winged Blackbird (female)



Family

*Muscicapidae* or

Old world Flycatchers and Chats



KConniff

Rufous-gorgeted Flycatcher



RHess

Verditer Flycatcher



RHess

Spotted Forktail



RHess

Ultramarine Flycatcher



KConniff

Plumbeous Water Redstart (male)



RHess

Blue-fronted Redstart



RHess

Plumbeous Water Redstart (female)



KConniff

Magpie Robin



KConniff

White-capped Water Redstart



RHess

White-browed Bush Robin



KConniff

Himalayan Bluetail (male)

Family  
*Chloropseidae*  
or  
Leafbirds



RHess

Orange-bellied Leafbird (male)



RHess

Orange-bellied Leafbird (female)

Family  
*Dicaeidae* or  
Flowerpeckers



KConniff

Fire-breasted Flowerpecker



Family

*Nectariniidae* or

Sunbirds



KConniff

Crimson Sunbird (male)



KConniff

Purple Sunbird (male)



RHess

Crimson Sunbird (female)



KConniff

Purple Sunbird (female)



RHess

Green-tailed Sunbird (male)



KConniff

Black-throated Sunbird



KConniff

Green-tailed Sunbird (female)

Family  
*Emberizidae* or  
Sparrows



RHess

Eurasian Tree Sparrow



KConniff

White-rumped Munia

Family  
*Estrinidae* or  
Munias

Family  
*Motaciliidae* or  
Wagtails and Pipits



RHess

Grey Wagtail (female)

## Reference

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Grimmett, R., C. Inskipp and T. Inskipp (2012) *Birds  
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Lanka, and the Maldives* (Second Edition). London.

## Societies

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[www.birdlifeneal.org](http://www.birdlifeneal.org)

## Field Notes

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## Authors biographies



**Karen Conniff:** Karen is a dragonfly specialist with extensive experience in organic agriculture and birding. During her PhD in agronomy she was drawn to classes on ornithology and entomology. After pursuing these interests further in Sri Lanka where half of dragonfly species are endemic, she has co-authored several books and articles on dragonflies, including the documentation of new species. She is a passionate photographer of birds, butterflies, and dragonflies.



**Ron Hess:** Ron Hess was born in the Himalayas and traces his fascination with birds and natural history to his biology teacher, Robert Fleming, Jr.. After working in film and completing a Master's in Communication from Cornell University, Mr. Hess joined the Johns Hopkins University School of Public Health, where he has worked for 25 years with posts in Egypt, Uganda and Nepal. Birds have remained a life-long interest.



**Erling Holmgren Valdemar:** Valdemar started watching garden birds in Nairobi at age 9, which kicked off a life-long interest in birds that includes keen birding during spare time; ornithology studies at Lund University concerning bird ecology in agricultural landscapes of south Sweden; ringing of migrants and monitoring of visible bird migration at the south Swedish bird observatories; and leading birding tours in east Africa, Europe and Nepal. He still enjoys the intricacy of field identification of difficult species such as eagles, hawks, and leaf warblers.



Bar-throated Minla - RHess



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