

# Animal Diversity In Tushkhali Union Of Mathbaria Upazila, Pirojpur District, Bangladesh.

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**Abstract:** To estimate the animal diversity in Tushkhali Union under the Mathbaria Upazila, Pirojpur District, Bangladesh, a long time study was done from January 28, 2014 to February 23, 2015. During the study animals under the total 37 families were found. This indicates that still the Union has a moderate animal diversity status. The way of conservation was also included in the study. During the study the opinion of the local people was also taken regarding how to do the conservational methods.

**Keywords:** Estimate, animal diversity, Mathbaria, Tushkhali, Pirojpur, conservation.

## Introduction:

Bangladesh having an area of 1, 47,570 sq km, among those arable land 67%, forest and woodland 16% and harbours about 650 species of birds (Siddiqui et al, 2008) or a total of 628 species. Although a total of 718 species under 64 families was reported by Khan (2010). Among them 41 were threatened. This is undoubtedly an extraordinary situation that such a great variety exists in overpopulated (more than 800 people/km<sup>2</sup>) country with a very limited range of habitats. But it's a matter of sorrow that there was no conservation awareness of this wealth. Bangladesh in general possesses luxuriant vegetation. Bangladesh has four different areas of vegetation. The eastern zone, consisting of parts of the Sylhet and Chittagong areas. The central zone, covering parts of the country to the north of Dhaka. The southern zone along the Bay of Bengal contains the vast wetlands of the Sunderbans with their distinctive mangrove vegetation. Pirojpur is a district in south-western Bangladesh. It is part of Barisal Division. It is located besides the Boleshwar river at 22° 30' 00" N 89° 52' 00" E & 22° 52' 00" N 90° 13' 00" E and bounded by Gopalganj, Barisal District on the north, Barguna District on the south, Jhalokati District on the east and Bagerhat on the west. It is declared as a district in 1 March 1984. It consists of seven Upazilas, three Pourasavas and fifty one Unions. The area of the town is small but everything is built in a planned way and also very clean. There are different buses to smooth the communication with other district as well as inside the district. Water routes also connect this district with the capital city, Khulna, Barisal etc all through the year. There are some prominent rivers exists in the districts these are Boleshwar, Kocha and Sandha etc. Tushkhali is a Union under the Mathbaria Upazila of Pirojpur District located at 22° 22' 0" N, 89° 56' 0" E. It's a beautiful Union. There are lots of trees and ponds. So there is great vegetation for the animals. That's why a great number of animals can be seen there.

A well-developed animal diversity has been established there for this reason.



**Fig.1** Map of Bangladesh showing the Mathbaria upazila. (22°17.2'N 89°58'E)

## Methods and Materials:

The study area is Tushkhali Union of Mathbaria Upazila, Pirojpur District, Bangladesh. Direct field observation method was used to estimate the animal diversity condition. High quality binoculars were used to watch the birds closely. Canon EOS 600D with Canon EF-S 55-250mm f/4-5.6 IS Lens was used to take the photographs. The identification was done at the time of field observation and in case of some species that was done after taking the photographs of that species. A Photographic Guide to Birds of Bangladesh written by Ronald Halder<sup>[2]</sup> was used as a reference book at the time of identifying the birds and Butterflies of Bangladesh a Pictorial Handbook written by Shafiq Haider Chowdhury & Monwar Hossain<sup>[1]</sup> was used to identify the butterflies.

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**Fig.2** A map of Mathbaria Upazila. The black dot indicates the Tushkhali Union.

**Results and Discussion:** The list of the identifying species was given below.

**Table1.** List of the birds

Scientific name	Common name	Family
Alcedo atthis	Kingfisher	Alcedridae
Dinopium benghalense	The black-rumped flameback	Picidae
Corvus splendens	House crow	Corvidae
Sturnus contra	Pied myna	Sturnidae
Acridotherus fuscus	Jungle myna	Sturnidae
Eudynamys scolopacea	Common koel	Cuculidae
Columba livia	Indian rock pigeon	Columbidae
Psittacula krameri	Rose ringed parakeet	Psittacidae
Spilopelia chinensis	Spotted dove	Columbidae
Passer domesticus	House sparrow	Passeridae
Ploceus philippinus	Baya weaver	Ploceidae
Haliastur indus	Black kite	Accipitridae
Copsychus saularis	Oriental magpie robin	Turdidae
Dicrurus macrocercus	Black drongo	Dicruridae
Tyto alba	Barn owl	Tytonidae
Ficedula albicilla	Taiga flycatcher	Muscicapidae
Lonchura punctulata	Scaly-breasted munia	Estrildidae
Lonchura atricapilla	Chestnut munia	Estrildidae
Cinnyris asiaticus	Purple sunbird	Nectariniidae
Pycnonotus cafer	Red-vented bulbul	Pycnonotidae
Lanius schach	Long tailed Shrike	Laniidae
Oriolus xanthornus	Black-hooded oriole	Oriolidae

**Table2. List of mammals**

Scientific name	Common name	Family
<i>Suncus murinus</i>	Asian common shrew	Soricidae
<i>Pipistrellus coromandra</i>	Little Indian bat	Vespertilionidae
<i>Herpestes edwardsii</i>	Mongoose	Herpestidae
<i>Callosciurus pygerythrus</i>	Three striped squirrel	Sciuridae
<i>Rattus rattus</i>	House rat	Muridae

**Table3. List of Reptilia**

Scientific name	Common name	Family
<i>Hemidactylus flaviviridis</i>	House lizard	Gekkonidae
<i>Mabua carinatus</i>	Toap	Anguillidae
<i>Typhlops diardii</i>	Common worm snake	Typhlopidae
<i>Xenocrophis piscator</i>	Dhora shap	Colubridae
<i>Naja naja</i>	Cobra	Elapidae
<i>Varanus bengalensis</i>	Bengal monitor	Varanidae

**Table4. List of Amphibia**

Scientific name	Common name	Family
<i>Bufo melanostictus</i>	Kuno bang	Bufoinae
<i>Haplobatrachus tigerinus</i>	Kola bang	Ranidae
<i>Rhacophorus maximus</i>	Tree frog	Rhacophoridae

**Table5. List of butterflies**

Scientific name	Common name	Family
<i>Eurema sp.</i>	Common Grass yellow	Pieridae
<i>Castalius rosomon</i>	Common Pierrot	Lycaenidae
<i>Lethe sp</i>	Bamboo tree brown	Nymphalidae
<i>Leptosia nina</i>	Psyche	Pieridae
<i>Melanitis leda</i>	Common evening brown	Nymphalidae
<i>Junonia atlites</i>	Grey pansy	Nymphalidae
<i>Junonia almana</i>	Peacock Pansy	Nymphalidae
<i>Pseudozizeeria maha</i>	Grass Blue	Lycaenidae
<i>Mycalesis perseus</i>	Common Bushbrown	Nymphalidae

A total of 37 families have been identified during the study. It is a great source of diversity. It gives a great impact to the ecology of the Union. The Tushkhali Union is full of green. There are also many ponds there. A huge source of food can be found for the animals. That's why a great animal diversity can be seen there. Some of the species are endangered here. They need to be conserved. A proper maintain should be done to conserve them. Many birds can be seen there. They need to be protected. It'll also be a significant work if the animals can be conserved in a very scientific and proper way.

### Conclusion:

Tushkhali Union still has a lot of animal diversity. We need to protect them very carefully. And as the union located just beside the Pona River, water from the river plays a vital role for the nourishment of both the animals and the plants. So a notable ecosystem has been standing there. Steps should be taken to secure the animal species.

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