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**ON A COLLECTION OF FISHES FROM ARAKU VALLEY
IN EASTERN GHATS**

(VISAKHAPATNAM Dt., ANDHRA PRADESH)

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Eighteen species have been recorded altogether to 15 genera and 5 families. The classification adopted is that of Berg (1947). Each species is followed by original synonym, the synonym given by Day (1889), material, distribution and remarks. The data given for material include date of collection, locality where collected, number of examples and range in size, in a sequence.

A definitive study of the ichthyology of the area under study awaits further intensive surveys and accumulation of large series of collections.

INTRODUCTION

The present account deals with the fishes collected from Araku ghats (Visakhapatnam district, Andhra Pradesh) during the extensive survey by the senior author (T.V.) over March-April, 1979. This paper may be regarded as the first report on the ichthyology of Araku valley which is apparently not been adequately explored so far. The material under study was collected from ponds, hill streams etc. in and around Araku.

Araku valley is situated at about 132 km from Viskhapatnam, the nearest town. The area of the valley is about 36 km². It is relatively cool even in the summer. The valley abounds in hill streams. The river flows in a deep gorge adjacent to the caves. The stream is lettered with huge boulders and surrounded by dense forest.

Eighteen species have been recorded altogether referable to 15 genera and 5 families.

Systematic account

Order: *Cypriniformes*

Suborder: *Cyprinoidei*

Family: *Cyprinidae*

1. *Aspidoparia morar* (Ham.)

1822. *Cyprinus morar* Hamilton, Fish. Ganges, pp. 264, 384, pl. 31, fig. 75 (type locality: rivers Yamuna and Teesta). 1889, *Aspidoparia morar* Day, Fauna Brit. India, Fish, 1, p. 338, fig. 108.

Material: 79.03.27, Ranajilda Tank, 1 ex. 95.

Distribution: India (except Western coast and localities south of the Krishna river); Pakistan.

2. *Carassius carassius* (L.)

1758. *Cyprinus carassius* Linnaeus, Syst. Nat., ed. 10 (type locality: China, Japan). 1889. *Carassius auratus* Day, Fauna Brit. India, Fish. 1, p. 283.

Material: 79.04.3, Ranajida tank 2 ex. 110–220.

Distribution: Introduced in ponds in India and Pakistan, while its original home is China and Japan. It is domesticated and forms many varieties.

3. *Cirrhina reba* (Ham.)

1822. *Cyprinus reba* Hamilton: Fish Ganges pp. 289, 386 (type locality: rivers and ponds of Bengal and Bihar).

Material: 79.04.3 Ranajilda tank. 1 ex., 180.

Distribution: Fresh waters through out India and Pakistan.

4. *Cirrhina mrigala* (Ham.)

1822. *Cyprinus mrigala* Hamilton: Fish. Ganges, pp. 279, 386, pl. 6, fig. 79 (type locality: ponds and fresh water rivers of Gangetic provinces). 1889 *Cirrhina mrigala* Day. Fauna Brit. India Fish. 1 p. 278.

Material: 79.03.27, Ranajilda tank. 4 ex. 75–125.

Distribution: Fresh waters through out India and Pakistan.

5. *Crossocheilus latius* (Ham.)

1822. *Cyprinus latius* Hamilton: Fish. Ganges pp. 345, 393 (type locality: the Tista). 1889. *Cirrhina latius* Day, Fauna, Brit. India. Fish., 1, p. 279.

Material: 79.04.14 Araku R.S. 1 ex. 90; 79.04.2, Gorapur 2 ex. 80–95; 79.04.15 Araku colony. 2 ex. 82–90.

Distribution: India: hill streams of U.P., Bihar, W. Bengal, Deccan; Bangladesh.

6. *Danio aequipinnatus* (Mc Cl.)

1839: *Perilampus aequipinnatus* Mc Clelland, *Asiat. Res.*, 19, p. 393, pl. 60, fig. 1 (type locality: Assam). 1889 *Danio aequipinnatus* Day, *Fauna Brit. India. Fish.*, 1, p. 356.

Remarks. This is a widely distributed species and was collected from several localities in the valley.

Distribution: India, Bangladesh, Burma, Ceylon, Thailand.

7. *Esomus danricus* (Ham.)

Cyprinus danrica Hamilton, *Fish. Ganges*, pp. 325, 390, pl. 16, fig. 88 (type locality: ponds and ditches of Bengal). 1889. *Nuria danrica* Day, *Fauna Brit. India, Fish.*, 1, p. 334.

Material: 79.03.27, Paderu, 7 ex. 42–45.

Distribution: India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Burma, Ceylon, Malaya, Malaya Archipelago, Thailand.

Remarks: This species was collected from only one locality-Paderu. This is a larvicidal fish.

8. *Garra mullya* (Sykes)

1841. *Chondrostoma mullya* Sykes, *Trans. zool. Soc. Lond.*, 2, p. 359, pl. 62, fig. 3 (type locality: Poona waterways). 1889. *Discognathus lamta* (Day), *Fauna Brit. India, Fish.*, p. 246 (part).

Material: 79.03. and 79.04. from Araku R.S., Araku colony, Araku village; Gorapur, Borra caves, Dumbiri guda, Mali Hill.

Distribution: India.

Remarks: This is a typical hill stream fish with well developed mental disc.

9. *Labeo calbasu* (Ham.)

1822. *Cyprinus calbasu* Hamilton, *Fish. Ganges*, pp. 297, 387, pl. 2, fig. 83 (type locality: rivers and ponds of Bengal and in the western provinces). 1889. *Labeo calbasu* Day, *Fauna Brit. India Fish.*, 1, p. 259.

Material: 79.04.03, Ranaijlda tank, 1 ex: 160.

Distribution: India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Burma? Thailand and Yunnau.

10. *Rasbora daniconius* (Ham.)

1822. *Cyprinus daniconius* Hamilton, *Fish. Ganges*, pp. 327, 391, pl. 15, fig. 89 (type locality: the rivers of southern Bengal). 1889. *Rasbora daniconius* Day, *Fauna Brit. India, Fish.*, 1., p. 336.

Material: 79.04.06, Araku village, 1 ex., 55; 79.04.15, Araku colony 1 ex., 70.

Distribution: India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Burma, Ceylon and Malaya.

11. *Puntius conchonicus* (Ham.)

1822. *Cyprinus conchoni* Hamilton. Fish. Ganges, pp. 317, 389 (type locality: ponds of north east of Bengal, and in the rivers Kosi and Ami). 1889. *Barbus conchoni* Day, Fauna Brit. India, Fish. 1, p. 325.

Material: 79.03. and 79.04. from: Pathala gedda, Araku village, Araku colony, Gorapur, Dumbiri guda, Paderu.

Distribution: India, Pakistan and Bangladesh.

22. *Puntius chola* (Ham.)

1822. *Cyprinus chola* Hamilton, Fish. Ganges, pp. 312, 389. 1889. *Barbus chola* Day, Fauna Brit. India, Fish., 1: p. 317.

Material: 79.03. and 79.04. Araku village, Araku colony and Araku R.S. 79.03.27 Ranijlda tank 45–80; 79.04.19. Paderu 12 ex. 30–65.

Distribution: India, Pakistan and Burma.

13. *Puntius sophore* (Ham.)

1822. *Cyprinus sophore* Hamilton, Fish. Ganges, pp. 310, 389 (type locality: ponds of Bangal). 1889. *Barbus stigma* Day. Fauna Brit. India, Fish. 1, p. 329.

Material: 79.03. and 79.04. Araku village, Araku colony, 30–80; 79.04.03. Ranajlda tank 11 ex. 45–70; 79.04.10 Gorapur 2 ex. 70–85.

Distribution: India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Burma and China.

Family: *Cobitidae*14. *Nemacheilus denisonii* Day

1867. *Nemacheilus denisonii* Day, P.Z.S., p. 287: 1889. *Nemacheilus denisonii* Day, Fauna Brit. India, Fish., 1, p. 231.

Material: 79.03. and 79.04. Araku village, Araku R.S., Araku colony, 1–22 ex. 35–85.

Distribution: India.

15. *Lepidocephalus guntea* (Ham.)

1822. *Cobitis guntea* Hamilton, Fish. Ganges, pp. 353, 394. 1889. *Lepidocephalichthys guntea* Day, Fauna Brit. India, Fish., 1, pp. 220, 221, fig. 80.

Material: 79.04.15 Araku colony, 2 ex. 82–90.

Distribution: N. India, Pakistan.

Suborder: *Siluroidei*Family: *Clariidae*16. *Clarias batrachus* (L.)

1758. *Silurus batrachus* Linnaeus, Syst. Nat. ed. 10, p. 305 (type locality: Asia, Africa).

1889. *Clarias magur* Day, Fauna Brit. India, Fish, 1, p. 115, figs. 48, 49.

Material: 79.03.25. Araku R.S., 1, ex. 155.

Distribution: India, Pakistan, Burma, Bangladesh, Ceylon, Malaya, Malay Archipelago, Thailand, Indo-China, Philippines, Hongkong and China.

Order: *Ophiocephaliformes*

Family: *Ophiocephalidae (Channidae)*

17. *Channa gachua* (Ham.)

1822. *Ophiocephalus gachua* Hamilton. Fish. Ganges, pp. 68, 367, pl. 21, fig. 21 (type locality: ponds and ditches of Bengal). 1889. *Ophiocephalus gachua* Day, Fauna Brit. India, Fish. 2, p. 304.

Material: 79.03.26 Araku Rly Bridge, 2 ex. 65–70; 79.03.28. Pathala godda, 2 ex. 35–40; 79.03.30, Araku village, 1 ex. 80; 79.04.01, Araku Rly. Bridge, 2 ex. 80 95; 79.04.02, Gorapur, 1 ex. 90; 79.04.08, Araku village 4 ex. 80–110; 79.04.08, Araku colony, 2 ex. 88 95.

Distribution: India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Burma, Ceylon, Afghanistan, Malaya, Malay Archipelago, Thailand, Indo-China, Yunnan and Hainan.

Ordo: *Perciformes*

Subordo: *Gobioidei*

Family: *Gobiidae*

18. *Glossogobius giuris* (Ham.)

1822. *Gobius giuris* Hamilton, Fish. Ganges, pp. 51, 366, pl. 33, fig. 15, (type locality: ponds and fresh water rivers of the Gangetic provinces). 1889. *Gobius giuris* Day, Fauna Brit. India, Fish., 2, p. 266.

Material: 79.03.27 Ranajilda tank 12 ex., 40–110; 79.04.03 Ranajilda tank, 9 ex. 45–110; 79.04.09 Ranajilda tank 4 ex. 40–120.

Distribution: India, Pakistan, Burma, Ceylon, Africa, Mauritius, Malaya, Malay Archipelago, Thailand, China, Japan, Philippines, Melanesia, Australia.

Remarks: This species is confined to Ranajilda tank only.

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STRESZCZENIE

Autorzy podają spis 18 gatunków ryb złowionych w dolinie Araki we wschodnim łańcuchu Visakhapatnam Dt. (Andhra Pradesh). Należą do 5 rodzin a mianowicie *Cyprinidae*, *Cobitidae*, *Clariidae*, *Ophiocephalidae* oraz *Gobiidae*.

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РЫБЫ ДОЛИНЫ АРАКИ В ВОСТОЧНОЙ ЦЕПИ
ГОР ВИСАКХАПАТНАМ

Резюме

Авторы дают список 15 видов рыб, выловленных в долине Араки в восточной цепи гор Висакхапатнам (Андхра Прадеш). Они принадлежат пяти родам: *Cyprinidae*, *Cobitidae*, *Clariidae*, *Ophiocephalidae*, *Gobiidae*.

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