



Existing Status of Animal Diversity of Kotal Wildlife Park Kohat

**Shehzad Zareen¹, Hameed Ur Rehman^{2*}, Wali Mohammad Achakzai³, Shagufta Saddozai⁴,
Irum Gu¹, Hira Zareen¹, Haleema Sadia⁵**

¹Department of Zoology, Kohat University of Science and Technology, Pakistan

²Department of Chemistry, Kohat University of Science and Technology, Pakistan

³Department of Zoology, Balochistan University, Quetta, Pakistan.

⁴Department of Zoology, Sardar Bahadur Khan Women University, Quetta, Pakistan.

⁵Center For Applied Molecular Biology, 87-West Canal Bank Road Thokar Niaz Baig, University of the Punjab, Lahore, Pakistan

ABSTRACT

Data was collected from officials of wildlife park and by a short safari of that park. About 11 different species of 8 different orders of animals were observed in Kotal wildlife park of Kohat (graph-1) that includes O. orientalis (Mouflon), H. porcinus (Indian hog deer), G. gazelle (Indian Ghazelle), H. edwardsii (Indian gray mongoose), F. chaus (Jungle cat), P. micropus (Indian hedgehog), H. indica (Indian crested porcupine), L. nigricollis (Scorpion), V. bengalensis (Bengal monitor) and N. naja (Cobra). All of them were kept in natural habitat. Only 2 out of 11 species were found Endangered by their conservation status while the rest of them were least concerned. Kotal wildlife park is completely fenced and isolated area where no natural predator animal can get entered to harm animals inside the park. Human activities are also restricted up to some extent to prevent disturbance in wildlife area. About 11 different species of 8 different orders are placed here. Mammals were leading among all animals in the park out of them order Artiodactyla was found abundant. Endangered species are well protected in this park, but when any one of the endanger animal become old / week to live in the park, it is hunted with a proper permit issued by wildlife officials. Most of the least concerned birds' animals are also sold by park officials for rearing and breeding purposes.

Key Words: Kotal, Wildlife Park, Kohat

Received 21.10.2016

Revised 09.11.2016

Accepted 09.12. 2016

INTRODUCTION

Wildlife is a proper term which is used to denote Undomesticated animals and plant species in a particular area [1]. In most of the parts of the world religiously many of the wildlife animals are of spiritual importance. People not only protect them, but also worship them [2]. Due to deforestation and other human influences in forests, many species of animals and plants are destroyed, even became extinct, while most of them are endangered [3]. Wildlife is also being destroyed by illegal trade and unchecked hunting [4,7]. Birds have also an important role in an ecosystem [5]. Kohat Kotal wildlife park is located in mountains of Gulshanabad area on the way to Peshawar near KDA Kohat. A few bird species are also reared in Kotal wildlife park Pheasantry (also called Kohat Pheasantry) [6]. Most of the animals are also being sold in weekly Animal-Markets legally [7]. Keeping in view the importance of wildlife in an ecosystem, the current study was designed to inspect the current status of animal diversity in Kotal wildlife park of district Kohat.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Kotal Wildlife Park of district Kohat was selected a study area. This park was established in 1990-91. It is an area of about 150 acres (60.67 ha) which is completely confined and fenced [8]. Data was collected from officials of Wildlife Park and by a short safari of that park. All data were recorded on observation forms for further analysis.

RESULTS

About 11 different species of 8 different orders of animals were observed in Kotal wildlife park of Kohat (graph-1) that includes *O. orientalis*(Mouflon), *H. porcinus*(Indian hog deer), *G. gazelle* (Indian Ghazele), *H. edwardsii*(Indian gray mongoose), *F. chaus*(Jungle cat), *P. micropus* (Indian hedgehog), *H. indica*(Indian crested porcupine), *L. nigricollis*(Scorpion), *V. bengalensis*(Bengal monitor) and *N. naja*(Cobra) (Table-1). All of them were kept in natural habitate. Only 2 out of 11 species were found Endangered by their conservation status while rest of them were least concerned.

Artiodactyla was the leading order found in Kotal wildlife part with 27.27%, it was followed by Carnivora and Squamata with 18.18%. Eulipotyphla, Rodentia, Lagomorpha and Scorpiones were least found orders with 9.09%.

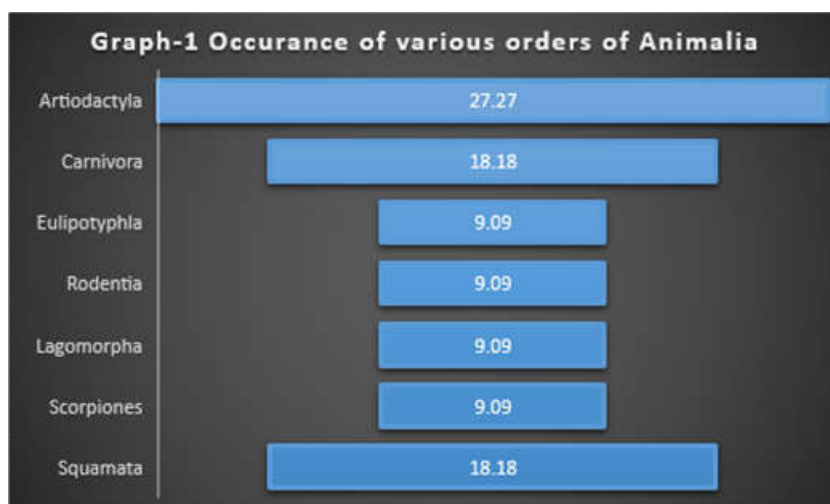
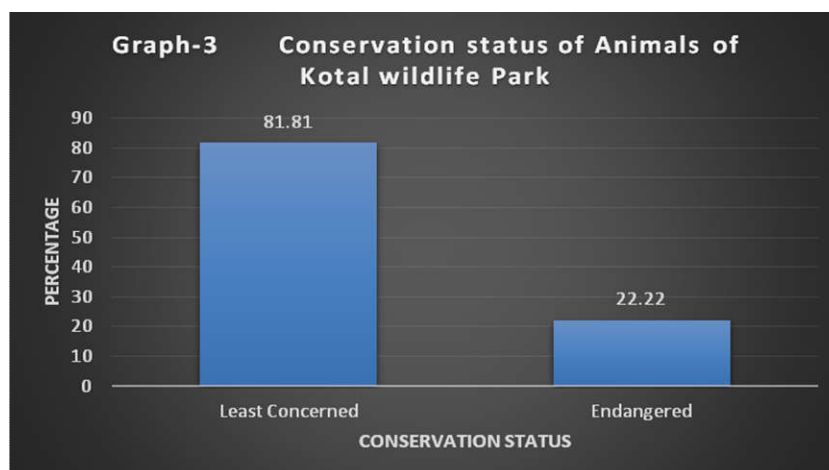


Table-1 Distribution of animals in Kotal wildlife Park Kohat

Order	Family	Genus	Species	Common Name	Local Name	Conservation Status
Artiodactyla	Bovidae	Ovis	<i>O. orientalis</i>	Mouflon	Urial	EN
Artiodactyla	Cervidae	Hyelaphus	<i>H. porcinus</i>	Indian hog deer	Para hiran	EN
Artiodactyla	Bovidae	Gazella	<i>G. gazella</i>	Indian Ghazele	Ghazala hiran	LC
Carnivora	Herpestidae	Herpestes	<i>H. edwardsii</i>	Indian gray mongoose	HidustaniSaleti Neola	LC
Carnivora	Felidae	Felis	<i>F. chaus</i>	Jungle cat	Janglibilli	LC
Eulipotyphla	Erinaceidae	Paraechinus	<i>P. micropus</i>	Indian hedgehog	Kharpusht	LC
Rodentia	Hystriidae	Hystrix	<i>H. indica</i>	Indian crested porcupine	Sehh	LC
Lagomorpha	Leporidae	Lepus	<i>L. nigricollis</i>	Indian hare	Hindustani khargosh	LC
Scorpiones	Buthidae	Centruroides	<i>C. gracilis</i>	Scorpion	Bichoo	LC
Squamata	Varanidae	Varanus	<i>V. bengalensis</i>	Bengal monitor	Indian Chipkali	LC
Squamata	Elapidae	Naja	<i>N. naja</i>	Cobra	Indian Cobra	LC

A total of 22.22% of the species of Kotal Wildlife Park Kohat were found endangered by their conservation status while 81.81% were least concerned. According to officials of wild life park, licence and permits are also issued for the hunting of *O. orientalis* whenever any one of the animal reached to its specific age / it is too old to survive in the park even if it is endangered (Graph-3).



DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

Kotal wildlife Park is completely fenced and isolated area where no natural predator animal can get entered to harm animals in the park. Human activities are also restricted up to some extent to prevent disturbance in wildlife area which is also denoted by Usher [1]. About 11 different species of 8 different orders are placed here. Mammals were leading among all animals in the park out of them order Artiodactyla was found abundant. Endangered species are well protected in this park, but when any one of the endanger animal become old / week to live in the park, it is hunted with a proper permit issued by wildlife officials. Most of the least concerned birds' animals are also sold by park officials for rearing and breeding purposes which is also mentioned by Shehzad Zareen et al [7].

REFERENCES

1. Usher, M. B. (1986). Wildlife conservation evaluation: attributes, criteria and values. London, New York: Chapman and Hall. ISBN 978-94-010-8315-7.
2. Bélange, Claude (2004). "The Significance of the Eagle to the Indians". *The Quebec History Encyclopedia. Marianopolis College*. Retrieved 14 July 2012.
3. Diamond, J. M. (1989). Overview of recent extinctions. Conservation for the Twenty-first Century. D. Western and M. Pearl, New York, Oxford University Press: 37-41.
4. "Critical Species". *Conservation and Wildlife*. Retrieved 14 July 2012.
5. Hameed UR, Jamil UR, Shahzeb S, Abdul W, Kinza Z. Ornithological survey of District Karak, KPK, Pakistan Journal of Entomology and Zoology Studies. 2016; 4(2):326-328.
6. Shehzad Zareen, Hameed Ur Rehman, Awal Ayaz, Hira Zareen, Gul Reem Mufti and Kausar Saeed. Existing status of Ornitho-Diversity of Kotal wildlife park Kohat KP Pakistan, Journal of Entomology and Zoology Studies 2016; 4(5): 119-120
7. Shehzad Zareen, Hameed Ur Rehman, Syed Mohsin Shah, Faisal Rehman, Amjid Ali, Zia ul Islam, HidayatUllah Khan, Raqeebullah, Kausar Saeed, WaqarAhmd and Zawar Ahmad. Legal and illegal trade of wildlife and domesticated birds and mammals in two different localities in district Kohat. Journal of Entomology and Zoology Studies 2016; 4(5): 308-309
8. S. Ayaz, Muhibullah, M. Jamil, A. A. Anjum, M. A. Khan and M. F. Qamar. Behaviour and biology of *Ovisorientalis* (urial) in kotal wild life Park and borraaka wild life sanctuary in kohat. Journal of Animal and Plant Sciences 22(1) · March 2012

CITATION OF THIS ARTICLE

S Zareen , H Ur Rehman, W M Achakzai, S Saddozai, I Gu1, H Zareen ,H Sadia. Existing Status of Animal Diversity of Kotal Wildlife Park Kohat. Bull. Env. Pharmacol. Life Sci., Vol 6 [1] December 2016: 60-62