

A CONTRIBUTION TO THE ORNITHOLOGY
OF DOI KHUN TAN

by

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INTRODUCTION :

Doi Khun Tan is described by *Deignan* (1945) as a classical collecting ground, and this was presumably due to its accessibility. It lies about 32 miles south-south-east of Chiangmai and a good track leads up it from the railway station of Khun Tan. The mountain is 4,422 feet above sea level and many species of birds have been seen or obtained there.

Under the circumstances a complete list of all the species seen there, during a stay in bungalows on the mountain at about 3,600 feet from 17th to 24th November 1962, is unnecessary except as an appendix.

In this article therefore I propose to mention only species netted or of special interest. Since general notes on geography, climate and all other relevant features can be found in *Deignan* (1945) I shall not repeat them here. I use the nomenclature used by him and the following list of species is arranged in the same order as his work.

NOTES ON SELECTED SPECIES :

Rufous-bellied Hawk Eagle. *Hieraaëtus kienerii*.

Excellent views were had on the N.E. spur of Doi Khun Tan on 18th and 20th of a bird of this species which called and performed a tumbling display flight. The bird was seen at rest and we had no doubt of the identity. *Deignan* (1945) mentions one specimen taken on Doi Ang Ka and 3 sight records all in February in the general area of Doi Suthep. This would therefore appear to be the first record for Doi Khun Tan, about the fifth record for Northern Thailand and possibly the first November record.

Collared Scops Owl. *Otus asio*.

One was taken in a mist net on the night of 19th/20th, photographed and released.

Long-tailed Broadbill. *Psarisomus dalhousiae*

Deignan (1945) records this as being uncommon or rare, but does mention it having been taken on Doi Khun Tan. We saw 5 or 6 birds at about 3,600 feet on 21st, associating with a flock of *Parrotbills* (*Paradoxornis gularis*).

Grey-headed Parrotbill. *Paradoxornis gularis*.

On 21st a flock of these interesting birds moved along the edge of the hill where our bungalow stood and then across the spur where the mist nets were placed. About 25 birds went into the nets and 4—which proved to be 2 males 2 females—were taken as specimens. *Deignan* considers the birds taken on Khun Tan by Dr. *H.M. Smith* distinct from those of Doi Ang Ka and Doi Suthep and calls them *P.g. laotiana*. I can find no comparative material on this species in the collections in Thailand.

Grey-eyed Quaker Babbler. *Alcippe poioicephala*.

Deignan (1945) says that this species is usually to be found not higher than 3,500 feet. Our nets were a little higher than that and on 19th we caught about a dozen from a small mixed hunting party. None was kept but all were examined and the leg colour was in all cases a pinkish flesh-brown colour. *Deignan* records the colour of the "feet and toes" of a breeding male as fleshy yellow.

Orange-flanked Bush-Robin. *Tarsiger cyanurus*

Deignan (1945) records 4 occurrences of each of two sub-species, all from Doi Suthep or Doi Ang Ka. According to *Stegmann* (vide *Deignan* page 418) the males of certain subspecies assume female plumage as a usual rule. I saw a bird in female plumage at about 3,750 feet on Doi Khun Tan on 20th.

Ferruginous Flycatcher. *Muscicapa cinereiceps*.

It was clear to us that we saw two different species of somewhat similar "brown" flycatchers. In my opinion the more common of the two—seen on two occasions, 21st at about 3,600 ft and 22nd at about 3,000 ft—was this species. These birds had distinctly ferruginous tails and matched the description well.

[**Brown-breasted Flycatcher**] *Muscicapa muttui*.

This seems to be the only possible answer to the second species. We saw one individual within 50 feet of the summit of Doi Khun Tan. We took the following field description: "orangish-russet centre of throat and chest, underparts brownish, back and sides of body greyish. Centre of abdomen paleish or whitish. Eye dark, pale ring; orangish gape, slight crest, tail russet with darker tip. Darker lores, whiskers under chin, head and neck greyish, darker on the cap. Tail square. Bill and legs dark." To this I should perhaps add that the bird was the plump shape of *Siphia parva*, the Red-breasted Flycatcher rather than the thinner more upright stanced shape of *M. cinereiceps* or *Siphia strophciata*. I have been unable as yet to examine comparative material of *M. muttui*, *M. sibirica*, *M. cinereiceps* and allied forms so this record cannot be considered positive.

Golden-spectacled Flycatcher Warbler. *Seicercus burkii*.

One was netted on 19th I find it rather hard to assign this to *S.b. tephrocephala* to which *Deignan* (1945) assigns all other Khun Tan specimens. I have no comparative material to judge the degree of "golden" in the upper or underparts but my specimen has a narrow streak of ashy grey below the black coronal streaks, however the central grey crown stripe cannot be said to be free of suffusion with olive green.

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SUMMARY :

1. Notes are given upon selected species seen during a week's stay on Doi Khun Tan in Northern Thailand.
2. It is pointed out that some of the remarks made will need revision when comparative material has been studied.
3. A complete list of the species definitely identified during the week is appended. A second appendix list the few specimens collected.

APPENDIX I.

List of Species Seen

<i>Hieraaëtus kienerii.</i>	<i>Chaptia aenea.</i>	<i>Stachyris nigriceps.</i>
<i>Microhierax caerulescens.</i>	<i>Bhringa remifer.</i>	<i>Mixornis gularis.</i>
<i>Arborophila brunneopectus.</i>	<i>Oriolus chinensis.</i>	<i>Rhodophila ferrea.</i>
<i>Otus asio.</i>	<i>Garrulus glandarius.</i>	<i>Tarsiger cyanurus.</i>
<i>Harpactes erythrocephalus.</i>	<i>Crypsirina formosae.</i>	<i>Monticola solitarius.</i>
<i>Harpactes oreskios.</i>	<i>Paradoxornis gularis.</i>	<i>Muscicapa cinereiceps.</i>
<i>Megalaima virens.</i>	<i>Sitta frontalis.</i>	<i>Siphia parva.</i>
<i>Cyanops asiatica.</i>	<i>Chloropsis cochinchinensis.</i>	<i>Siphia strophciata.</i>
<i>Picus chlorolophus.</i>	<i>Pycnonotus dispar.</i>	<i>Siphia melanoleuca.</i>
<i>Dryobates atratus.</i>	<i>Pycnonotus cafer.</i>	<i>Eumyias thalassina.</i>
<i>Dryobates canicapillus.</i>	<i>Pycnonotus flavescens.</i>	<i>Culicicapa ceylonensis.</i>
<i>Psarisomus dalhousiae.</i>	<i>Microscelis charlottae.</i>	<i>Rhipidura albicollis.</i>
<i>Hirundo rustica.</i>	<i>Microscelis madagascarensis.</i>	<i>Hypothymis azurea.</i>
<i>Delichon dasypus.</i>	<i>Pteruthius erythropterus.</i>	<i>Seicercus burkii.</i>
<i>Pericrocotus speciosus.</i>	<i>Siva castaniceps.</i>	<i>Seicercus superciliaris.</i>
<i>Coracina novaehollandiae.</i>	<i>Alcippe poioicephala.</i>	<i>Phylloscopus reguloides.</i>
<i>Dicrurus leucophaeus.</i>	<i>Pellorneum ruficeps.</i>	<i>Anthus hodgsonii.</i>

APPENDIX II.

List of Specimens taken

Collector's No.	Species.	Sex.	Date.	Alt.
001.	<i>Megalaima virens.</i>	male	19.11.62.	1,200 m.
002.	<i>Seicercus burkii.</i>	female	19.11.62.	1,200 m.
003.	<i>Alcippe poioicephala.</i>	female	19.11.62.	1,200 m.
004.	<i>Stachyris nigriceps.</i>	male	19.11.62.	1,200 m.
005.	<i>Mixornis gularis.</i>	female	19.11.62.	1,200 m.
006.	<i>Phylloscopus reguloides.</i>	male	19.11.62.	1,200 m.
007.	<i>Seicercus superciliaris.</i>	male	20.11.62.	1,200 m.
008.	<i>Paradoxornis gularis</i>	male	21.11.62.	1,200 m.
009.	<i>do.</i>	male	do.	do.
010.	<i>do.</i>	female	do.	do.
011.	<i>do.</i>	female	do.	do.

APPENDIX III.

List of Species netted of which Specimens were not taken

*Otus asio.**Pycnonotus dispar.**Pycnonotus flavescens.**Pellorneum ruficeps.**Rhodophila ferrea.**Anthus hodgsoni.*

