

Exotic Journeys Pvt. Ltd.

J.S.
14/7
2000

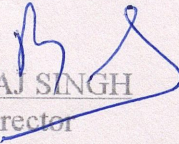
Dated 06th July 2000,

Mr Aasheesh Pittie
14-7-370 Begum Bazaar,
Hydrabad - 500012,
Andhra Pradesh

Dear Aasheesh,

Enclosed please find a book with compliments from Krys. I shall be grateful if you could kindly acknowledge the receipt of this book directly to him.

With kind regards


RAJ SINGH
Director



INDIAN ASSOCIATION
OF TOUR OPERATORS

ACTIVE



The Indian Experience, 26, Sector-2 Market, R.K. Puram, New Delhi-110 022
Phone : 6104448, 6178685, 6162737, 6170221, Fax : 6162737, 6170221
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(Recognised by the Deptt. of Tourism, Govt. of India)

From: Krys Kazmierczak <krys@krys.net>
To: Aasheesh Pittie <aasheesh@hd1.vsnl.net.in>
Subject: Re: Your book
Date: Friday, July 14, 2000 1:09 PM

Dear Aasheesh

I'm glad the book has arrived safely. I would be very happy for you to review it for NLBW. Obviously you will have to compare it with Grimskipp. Overall the illustrations in Grimskipp "look nicer" but they are not necessarily more accurate than ours and even Tim Inskipp said that some of our plates were better.

My maps are obviously better and Tim wants us to find some way of collaborating on future maps, but I don't know how that will work out. We also had the advantage of coming out somewhat later. Grimskipp is based on information available up to mid-1997, whereas I drew on information available up to mid-1999.

I know there are many things which could be improved and am generally very happy to hear any suggestions for improvements, corrections etc. Some of the things I'm not happy about are due to the publisher's interference, but you had better not repeat my comment directly in the review! For one thing I don't think the cover is up to scratch and I didn't get a chance to insist on improvements to the cover illustrations. The fact that the publishers got someone else to do these was not fair on Ber anyway.

Hove to go in to work now.

All the best

Krys

On 14 Jul 00, at 10:45, Aasheesh Pittie wrote:

> Krys!

>

> It arrived today through the kind offices of Mr Raj Singh! Thanks> a ton and for the generous acknowledgements! Will go through it> in detail and compare it, isn't it inevitable?, with the others.> Will try and review it for NLBW (would you like me to do that?,> though my experience of all Indian birds is limited.

>

> Best wishes and regards!

>

> Aasheesh Pittie

> 8-2-545 Road No 7, Banjara Hills, Hyderabad 500034, INDIA.

> PHONES: Work: 91-40-3352269 / Res: 91-40-3350683 / Fax:

> 91-40-3356064 E-MAIL: AASHEESH@HD1.VSNL.NET.IN

>

Aasheesh Pittie

From: Krys Kazmierczak <krys@krys.net>
To: Aasheesh Pittie <aasheesh@hd1.vsnl.net.in>
Sent: Saturday, July 22, 2000 9:47 PM
Subject: Re: Hi

Dear Aasheesh

> Thanks! I've been going through your book and believe me, am
> having doubts whether I'm up to reviewing such a major work! I'll
> have to rethink whether I can do it.

Or perhaps rethink the way you do reviews? If you aren't up to it, then how many people in India are? No-one expects the reviewer to go through every single last detail. I think you would certainly be the best person to review it for the Newsletter. You'll have to pardon my saying so, but I don't think Mr Futehally or someone like Lavkumar Khacher would be up to it. I think you just need to step back a level, so-to-speak, and not go through it with the kind of fine tooth comb that you usually apply.

I don't know who will be reviewing it for the BNHS, assuming it will be reviewed. Asad Rahmani has told me he likes it very much and has bought ten copies for his students.

Anyway, I hope you don't give up. At the end of the day, people just want to know whether a book is worth getting and whether it achieves what it sets out to do, i.e. in this case be a useful tool for identifying birds in the field. They don't expect the reviewer to check to see if every last detail is correct or not.

All the very best

Krys

Krys Kazmierczak
krys@krys.net

7/24/00

Aasheesh Pittie

From: Krys Kazmierczak <krys@krys.net>
To: Aasheesh Pittie <aasheesh@hd1.vsnl.net.in>
Sent: Saturday, July 22, 2000 4:07 AM
Subject: Re: Hi

Dear Aasheesh

> What is the full form of the following journal? "Zool. Abhandl.
> Mus. Dresden"? Thanks!

Zoologische Abhandlungen Staatliches Museum für Tierkunde in
Dresden.

There is a resource you might find useful for questions like this. You can
search the entire library of the Natural History Museum, which includes
one of the best ornithological libraries in the world at
www.nhm.ac.uk/library/index.html

Yes, I have received the latest BNHS journal many thanks, though I
haven't had time to look at it yet.

All the best

Krys

Krys Kazmierczak
krys@krys.net

7/24/00

From: Krys Kazmierczak <krys@krys.net>
To: Aasheesh Pittie <aasheesh@hd1.vsnl.net.in>
Subject: Re: Further thoughts on bibliography
Date: Sunday, July 30, 2000 5:00 PM

Dear Aasheesh

You are obviously faced with some difficult questions here.

>From a commercial point of view, I don't really know how much demand there would be for a CD-Rom. How many copies of your paper version of the Bibliographic Index did you sell? This might give you an indication. I would expect you would sell fewer CD-Roms than that simply because the price would be that much higher. There probably just aren't that many people with a need for such references. If you just make copies yourself, on demand, that would perhaps avoid the danger of having too many produced.

We had similar problems when I produced the S India cassette for Sivaprasad. We did a run of 50 to begin with. In the end I think we sold about 150, but the price was only about 15 dollars. I'm sure many were copied and passed on illegally. I don't know enough about the technology to know if there is any way of preventing this with a CD-Rom. at the time I did it as a favour for Sivaprasad, and I wouldn't really want to get involved with such a process again.

>From the user point of view a Web-based version, which would be updated regularly, would be very attractive. How many people would then actually contribute to BSAP is another question. Even I find it difficult remitting money to India. The bank charges for doing so are horrendous, so I usually try to find alternative ways, as we have done between us. I don't think you would get many people just transferring money to your bank account. The easiest way would be if you could accept credit card payments, but this may be difficult and/or expensive.

I'd be quite happy to test-drive your database. It would probably be easier to download from the Web. Big email files can get damaged en route.

Sorry I can't be of much help on this. I don't really see any ideal solution fromn your point of view.

On 30 Jul 00, at 8:47, Aasheesh Pittie wrote:

> Dear Krys,

>> Forgive me for burdening you with all this, but I do need to talk> to someone about this and get rational advice.

>> What if I sell the database for personal commercial gain? I'll> have to sell a CDrom with the database files and the read-only> 'retriever' software file plus documentation etc. Users of the> CDrom will not be able to change the database files using the> 'retriever' version of papyrus. To make full use of the database> (ie to make changes, etc) they'll have to buy the Papyrus> software. They could also copy it illegally from those that have> it.

>> Would my database suffer if this happened? Would users still send> me their corrections, etc? Or would they think that since they've> any way paid for it, they are not 'bound' (as they are also not> otherwise) to send me corrections, additions, etc., for updates?

>> Purchasers that are registered with me will get one update per> year at a nominal updating fee that would cover basic costs.> Would the package sell for USD100.00 for individuals for the> first time? Could I price it at USD500.00 for institutions? I> will want to sell it at much less to Indians here in India. Say> Rs500-1000 for individuals and Rs10000 for institutions.

>> I could mention that a percentage of the sale proceeds go to the> BSAP. What do you think?

>> There is however the catch... A buyer can simply copy my files to> any other computer/user and download the 'retriever' version of> papyrus from their website. This is terribly unfair and unethical> yet common practice at least in India. I cannot say for the rest> of the world!

>> I wonder if some sort of a self extrator file can be created that> would in the process of extracting my database files also install> a feature on the user's computer that prevented him from copying> it clandestinely to another computer! What if more copies are> made of the CDrom before it is installed?! I'll have to consult> some expert here!

Krys

Krys Kazmierczak
krys@krys.net

Aasheesh Pittie

From: Krys Kazmierczak <krys@krys.net>
To: Aasheesh Pittie <aasheesh@hd1.vsnl.net.in>
Sent: Sunday, July 30, 2000 11:38 PM
Subject: Re: Bibliography

Hi Aasheesh

> Thanks for your comments and willingness to help. The file is
> pretty long even when it is zipped and will take a long time to
> e-mail. I will send it in a couple of days on a CDrom. Hope that
> is ok with you. Tell me what you think about it.

That's fine. I look forward to seeing it.

Paul Holt may approach you for some references for a paper he is putting together on Goa. I have helped him and so far he has over 130 references with more trip reports promised. I'm sure there will be much there which would be new for you, so you might want to "swap".

All the best

Krys

Krys Kazmierczak
krys@krys.net

From: Aasheesh Pittie <aasheesh@hd1.vsnl.net.in>
To: Krys Kazmierczak <krys@krys.net>
Subject: Re: Bibliography
Date: Monday, July 31, 2000 5:29 AM

Hi Krys,

Will do with pleasure.

Krys, why are many of the illustrations in your fieldguide so light? eg., Green Magpie. Do the printed plates represent a good translation of the original plates?

Best wishes and regards!

Aasheesh Pittie
8-2-545 Road No 7, Banjara Hills, Hyderabad 500034, INDIA.
PHONES: Work: 91-40-3352269 / Res: 91-40-3350683 / Fax: 91-40-3356064
E-MAIL: AASHEESH@HD1.VSNL.NET.IN

----- Original Message -----

From: Krys Kazmierczak <krys@krys.net>
To: Aasheesh Pittie <aasheesh@hd1.vsnl.net.in>
Sent: Sunday, July 30, 2000 11:38 PM
Subject: Re: Bibliography

> Hi Aasheesh

>

>> Thanks for your comments and willingness to help. The file is > pretty long even when it is zipped and will take a long time to > e-mail. I will send it in a couple of days on a CDrom. Hope that > is ok with you. Tell me what you think about it.

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> That's fine. I look forward to seeing it.

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> Paul Holt may approach you for some references for a paper > he is putting together on Goa. I have helped him and so far he > has over 130 references with more trip reports promised. I'm > sure there will be much there which would be new for you, so > you might want to "swap".

>

> All the best

>

> Krys

>

> -----

> Krys Kazmierczak

> krys@krys.net

> -----

Aasheesh Pittie

From: Krys Kazmierczak <krys@krys.net>
To: Aasheesh Pittie <aasheesh@hd1.vsnl.net.in>
Sent: Tuesday, August 01, 2000 2:42 AM
Subject: Re: Bibliography

Dear Aasheesh

> Krys, why are many of the illustrations in your fieldguide so
> light? eg., Green Magpie. Do the printed plates represent a good
> translation of the original plates?

Many of the plates have come out a shade lighter/paler than the originals. For the most part this is not a huge problem, but for some birds, which were perhaps a shade on the light side to begin with, the overall paleness is noticeable.

Cheers

Krys

Krys Kazmierczak
krys@krys.net

TO: aasheesh@vsnl.net
FROM: kryz@kryz.net
SUBJECT: Re: [OB] FW: [NHI] Etymology of Indian bird names: Request for information: Long.
Date: Sun, 10 Sep 2000 09:04:24 +0100

Hi Aasheesh!

I don't have any of these references and I don't get to the library at Tring nowadays. Have you tried contacting James Jobling? Presumably you have his Dictionary of Scientific Bird Names. There's a contact address on the inside back cover.

Have taken a room in Oxford to save having to commute there every day, but the upshot is that I'm just spending more time at work. I come back to the London address every week or two to collect post etc.

All the best

Kryz

Kryz Kazmierczak
kryz@kryz.net

Message 3

TO:	aasheesh@vsnl.net
FROM:	krys@krys.net
SUBJECT:	Your bibliography
Date:	Sun, 10 Sep 2000 13:37:46 +0100

MESSAGE:

Hi again Aasheesh!

I forgot to mention in the last mail:

You were going to send me your e-bibliography for testing some time ago. If you sent it, I'm afraid it hasn't arrived yet.

Cheers

Krys

Krys Kazmierczak
krys@krys.net

TO:	aasheesh@vsnl.net
FROM:	Peregrinetours@aol.com
SUBJECT:	Re: Hi
Date:	Sun, 10 Sep 2000 18:42:08 EDT

Hi again!

- > I prefer to receive email to my old address. The new one, I thought would
- > help me access email from anywhere in India. It does not. Its like a costly
- > Hotmail account!

Sorry, I'm confused because I'm commuting between computers. Which is old and which is new? Like most people, I just tend to use the reply button and don't actually look at the address. If you send from the new one, you will tend to get a reply to the new one etc.

In the header of your email it actually says reply to aasheesh@vsnl.net! If that's the new address, then you had better tell your email program to not give this reply-to address.

Cheers

Krys

Krys Kazmierczak
krys@peregrineholidays.co.uk
peregrinetours@aol.com
www.peregrineholidays.co.uk

Peregrine Holidays
41 South Parade
Oxford
Summertown
Oxford
OX2 7JP
Tel: 01865-559988
Fax: 01865-512583

TO:	aasheesh@vsnl.net
FROM:	Peregrinetours@aol.com
SUBJECT:	Re: [OB] FW: [NHI] Etymology of Indian bird names: Request for information: L...
Date:	Sun, 10 Sep 2000 18:42:09 EDT

Hi!

> I have Jobling's book and it is in fact the bedrock on which my list is
> prepared.

I guessed it might be.

> I'd be much obliged if you could snoop out his email!

I suspect he may not have one. You could try an Internet search, or asking on
OB.

> What are you working on now?

I'm trying to get Peregrine Holidays back on its feet, so that I don't have
an impecuniopus old age to look forward to. Unfortunately, that means a lot
of hard work and not much time for anything else over the next two years or
so.

All the best

Krys

Krys Kazmierczak
krys@peregrineholidays.co.uk
peregrinetours@aol.com
www.peregrineholidays.co.uk

Peregrine Holidays
41 South Parade
Oxford
Summertown
Oxford
OX2 7JP
Tel: 01865-559988
Fax: 01865-512583

Aasheesh Pittie

From: <Peregrinetours@aol.com>
To: <aasheesh@hd1.vsnl.net.in>
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2000 4:10 PM
Subject: Re: Hi

Hi Aasheesh!

- > I would like a Xerox copy of the following reference. If its possible,
- > please send me one, if not, don't bother yourself about it.
- >
- > *Bourne, W.R.P. (1990): Ancient bird names. British Birds. 83: 555-556.

I should have that back in London but it may be 2-3 weeks before I go back down there again.

- > Krys, is there some money left from that little amount with you?

Of course, though I can't remember exactly how much. I have a note of it back in London. I haven't touched whatever it was that chap from France sent.

A major strike over here at the moment blockading petrol deliveries means there is no fuel available!

Cheers

Krys

Krys Kazmierczak
krys@peregrineholidays.co.uk
peregrinetours@aol.com
www.peregrineholidays.co.uk

Peregrine Holidays
41 South Parade
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Oxford
OX2 7JP
Tel: 01865-559988
Fax: 01865-512583

TO:	aasheesh@vsnl.net
FROM:	Peregrinetours@aol.com
SUBJECT:	Treron pompadora
Date:	Tue, 19 Sep 2000 18:01:58 EDT

Dear Aasheesh

I was at Tring today for the first time for many months and took a little time to go through the Treron pompadora affinis specimens as you had requested me to do some time ago. I went through them one-by-one checking the labels but couldn't find any from the Eastern Ghats. There were perhaps 60 specimens altogether (but I didn't count). Two were labelled as originating from "Madras" but this usually just refers to the old Madras Presidency, which doesn't really help.

There were also 4 specimens labelled as coming from Anjanga, S. India, originating from the Hume Collection. I'm not familiar with this locality, not can I find it on my maps. Perhaps you know it? The other localities were all names which I knew.

What did you think of the review of my field guide posted on the Net today? I thought it was very fair. Vivek had kindly sent me a previous draft, so that I managed to correct a few factual errors such as misspelling of my name, wrong number of plates etc, but I, of course, left the actual opinions well alone.

BTW, you still haven't told me which was your new and which the old email address.

Hope you're well.

All the best

Krys

Krys Kazmierczak
krys@peregrineholidays.co.uk
peregrinetours@aol.com
www.peregrineholidays.co.uk

Peregrine Holidays
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Fax: 01865-512583

	SPECIES
1	<i>Pelecanus crispus</i>
2	<i>Pelecanus philippensis</i>
3	<i>Ardea insignis</i>
4	<i>Ciconia boyciana</i>
5	<i>Leptoptilos javanicus</i>
6	<i>Leptoptilos dubius</i>
7	<i>Oxyura leucocephala</i>
8	<i>Anser erythropus</i>
9	<i>Branta ruficollis</i>
10	<i>Cairina scutulata</i>
11	<i>Anas formosa</i>
12	<i>Marmaronetta angustirostris</i>
13	<i>Rhodonessa caryophyllata</i>
14	<i>Aythya baeri</i>
15	<i>Haliaeetus leucoryphus</i>
16	<i>Spilornis minimus</i>
17	<i>Accipiter butleri</i>
18	<i>Aquila clanga</i>
19	<i>Aquila heliaca</i>
20	<i>Falco naumanni</i>
21	<i>Megapodius nicobaricus</i>
22	<i>Francolinus gularis</i>
23	<i>Perdix manchuriana</i>
24	<i>Arborophila mandchurica</i>
25	<i>Centropus superciliosus</i>
26	<i>Tragopan melanocephalus</i>
27	<i>Tragopan blythii</i>
28	<i>Lophophorus sclateri</i>
29	<i>Catreus wallichi</i>
30	<i>Symplectura sumatrana</i>
31	<i>Pavo muticus</i>
32	<i>Grus leucogeranus</i>
33	<i>Grus monacha</i>
34	<i>Grus japonensis</i>
35	<i>Grus antigone</i>
36	<i>Rallina canningi</i>
37	<i>Ardeotis scottii</i>
38	<i>Ardeotis nigriceps</i>
39	<i>Houbaropsis bengalensis</i>
40	<i>Sypheotides indica</i>
41	<i>Vanellus gregarius</i>
42	<i>Vanellus armillatus</i>

* RDB Survey needs ide

From: Krys Kazmierczak <krys@krys.net>
To: Aasheesh Pittie <aasheesh@hd1.vsnl.net.in>
Subject: Re: Treron pompadora
Date: Thursday, September 21, 2000 2:57 AM

Hi Aasheesh!

> Great to hear from you! Please send future emails to> aasheesh@hd1.vsnl.net.in (as given below also).

Will do.

>

> Thanks for the info., on _T. pompadora affinis_. My note> (coauthored by Balachandran) has been accepted by the BNHS> (12/1999!) but is still hanging fire with some referee. I do not> know where "Anjanga, S. India" is. Will try and ask others, esp.,> Kumar Ghorpade.

Let me know if you do find out.

>

> The review was good and very fair, as you admit. Makes me want to> write one too. Lets see!

I think you're best suited and I won't take any criticism ill.

> Not making much headway with the etymology paper. Stuck with a> bunch of references that are very old and impossible to find in> India. Have emailed Tring enquiring about Xerox service and> charges. They seem to have some of the references in their> collections. I checked up on the net in their catalogue. Awaiting> their response. Am combing the FBI's index for names of Indian> origin.

Their Xerox service is fairly expensive. I'm sorry I didn't/don't have time for etymological researches there at the moment.

Any idea where the "Soonda Jungles" are?

Fraid not. have you tried an Internet search?

> I will be away from 24.ix to 7.x.> Hyderabad-Bangalore-Kodaikanal-Bangalore-Hyderabad. 6 days in> Kodai. Hope to do some birding though this is a family holiday.

Have a nice holiday!

All the best

Krys

Krys

Krys Kazmierczak
krys@krys.net

From: Krys Kazmierczak <krys@krys.net>
To: Aasheesh Pittie <aasheesh@hd1.vsnl.net.in>
Subject: Re: Review
Date: Wednesday, October 11, 2000 5:56 AM

Dear Aasheesh,

it was very kind of you to allow me to comment on your review of my filed guide. I don't think you have been too critical at all. It is important that you put down your perceptions and views as they are, and I wouldn't wish it otherwise.

I know the fact that Ber's illustrations overlap is often perceived as a problem but it is difficult when trying to compress all the illustrations on just 96 plates. I tried to persuade both him and the publishers to include more plates but I was outvoted. No need to mention that in your review, of course.

➤ I would just make one minor correction. You refer in two places to "the authors". Actually, there is only one author and one illustrator. Ber had no input in the text or maps.

I do, however, bear co-responsibility for the accuracy of the plates. I did manage to have a vast number of corrections made, but not quite as many as I would have liked. Some imperfect illustrations I allowed through, as I didn't want to be too fussy and delay publication for ever. Some errors I have doubtless overlooked. Others seem to have crept in during the final printing stages, such as the problem with the "light brownish colour" on some of the maps. If you look closely, you might be able to make out that this actually consists of a wash of red dots (i.e. scarce, occasional or erratic in summer), but that the light blue background of the sea results in a brownish appearance. You can perhaps appreciate this if you compare the maps to plate 36 #4 and #5, where on #5 the dots are at a lower density, they are more visibly red. I was trying to show that one species was less frequent than the other. The dots looked red when I produced them originally.

✘ If you are interested, I can send you one or two of the original computer-drawn maps to look at.

I liked your suggestion of adopting the layouts of Plate #13, 14, 20 for a whole guide. Unfortunately, you would need some 250 plates to do so!

➤ BTW, the ISBN for the Yale edition is 0300079214.

I seem to be burning the candle at both ends again here. I got back from the office after midnight - straight from one computer to the other. I think it's time for bed.

Good night here from Oxford and a very good morning to you in Hyderabad!

Krys

Krys Kazmierczak
krys@krys.net

See overleaf for my letter

From: Aasheesh Pittie <aasheesh@hd1.vsnl.net.in>
To: <krys@krys.net>
Subject: Review
Date: Tuesday, October 10, 2000 9:50 PM

Dear Krys,

Thanks for the Xerox from British Birds.

Below is a 'Review' of your book. Most of it was written as I used it extensively in Kodaikanal and wrote snatches of it in Bangalore. A detailed comparison of the illustrations with the Grimmskipp book might leave one more confused than enlightened at times! You must have tried this yourself. Try the laughingthrushes plate for instance! However, all that is beyond the scope of this review and I've tried to keep it as generalist as I could. It is a first draft that is being sent to you. I will pass it on to Zafar Futehally after receiving your inputs. I've already spoken to him about it when in Bangalore. No one else has sent him a review yet. Thank goodness for that! I think Ranjit Manakadan is writing one for the JBNHS or the Hornbill.

Please give me your impressions and send any required corrections and suggestions. If it is too critical, please tell me where, etc. As usual I just can't make 'em short!

REVIEW

A FIELD GUIDE TO THE BIRDS OF INDIA, SRI LANKA, PAKISTAN, NEPAL, BHUTAN, BANGLADESH AND THE MALDIVES (Hardcover: 21.5 x 15.5 cm x 2 cm) By Krys Kazmierczak with illustrations by Ber van Perlo (2000). Pp 352. With 96 colour plates, 3 plates of line drawings and a map and, 1,302 colour distribution maps. Published by Om Book Service, New Delhi (ISBN 81-87107-04-9); Pica Press, UK. (ISBN 1-873403-79-8) and Yale University Press, New Haven (ISBN ____). Price Rs. 795/-, £25.00 & \$32.50 respectively.

By

Aasheesh Pittie
8-2-545 Road No 7, Banjara Hills, Hyderabad 500034
Best wishes and regards!

Aasheesh Pittie
8-2-545 Road No 7, Banjara Hills, Hyderabad 500034, INDIA.
PHONES: Work: 91-40-3352269 / Res: 91-40-3350683 / Fax: 91-40-3356064
E-MAIL: AASHEESH@HD1.VSNL.NET.IN / aasheesh@vsnl.net