

locomotion like that of tits), etc.

Planning to visit Mudumalai this summer lets hope I'll be able to. WWF's organising an Environmental Edu. Workshop there and at Dachigam in June. Wanna come?

Just finished hearing to myself on AIR - was talking on "Bird Sanctuaries in India".

That's that. So lets hear from you soon. Oh yes, I'm also planning a trip to Nalsarova and some more places in Gujarat in the IIIrd week of March. See if you can join us.

Okay then

Love
Parvish

अन्तर्देशीय पत्र कार्ड
INLAND LETTER CARD

Q.M.S



To,

MR. Aasheesh Pittie,
14-7-370 BEGUM BAZAR,
HYDERABAD-12

पिन PIN 500012

तीसरा मोड़ THIRD FOLD

इस पत्र के भीतर कुछ न रखिए NO ENCLOSURES ALLOWED
पते में पिन कोड लिखें WRITE PIN CODE IN ADDRESS
प्रेषक का नाम और पता: — SENDER'S NAME AND ADDRESS: —

PARVISH PADDYA,
C/20 KASTUR MAHAL,
SION BOMBAY

पिन PIN 400022



Museum" - by S. Thomas Satyanunthy for Rs 31- or so. Nice book with all colour plates. You'll be as surprised as I was to see the book
I forgot to tell you that there's a book available at Madras Museum gate titled as "Bulletin of Butterflies in the Collection of Madras"

My dear Aasheesh,

19th Feb '83

Hallo! Sorry for this delay caused which was due to the sickness of my squid and therefore no ink..... how's life? Sounds very fine and as busier as it is here. I wish you very best of luck for both your forthcoming programmes. But let me tell you something very frankly. Please be a bit careful with Mr. M. K. Shrinath. He's caused some problems in the south - so do write to me about your experience with him.

Luckily, I'll be visiting Nandur-Machmeshwar (about which I'd written to you last time) twice again in near future. Once on 25th & 26th Feb with some school children and again on 3, 4th

March with people at Ruia College (my past college where I was for 4 years & completed my M.Sc. - still the club advisor there). Keeping fingers crossed to see some exciting things.

You write about your checklist of Hyderabad birds..... "I'll show it to you when we meet next".... when's that? When is the royal Nawab coming to Bbaj? (- eh kid) And don't forget my Topa (remember your te hat?).

I was at Borivili park last Sunday and was thrilled to see the Erythrina and Glyceridia in bloom. Saw the Hair-crested drongos feeding on them (I saw these drongos before at Karnala but first time at Borivili). Also did see the Blueheaded Rock Thrush, Openbill Stork, Olivaceous leaf warbler (has the

such wildlife type.

You say that I made it appear
~~that~~ as if we knew each other since
long. Well to tell you frankly I had
your address in my diary since the
Anaimalai camp 1981. Your name probably
appeared in many conversations with

Annice, etc. and well the beginning part
of the friendship - knowing - was almost there.

I don't know how much you'd heard
of me (am I not famous too? Ha Ha!!)

And finally you know how these
wildlife lovers are... trying to be
(and I do) succeed in being friends of
these wild people (includes you too).

And now boy boy (I think I'm
allowed to use this type of address - the
fact that I have students as old as you
- does it make me sound too old?) if you
think you've bored me with that small
letter (which you think was a long one)
- you're badly mistaken. Try once again
(in fact encore, encore) and you'll see the
reaction. So do write soon [I've not
forgotten about your bustard question - I'll
include in my next letter].

Affectionately
Parvish

P.S. I've sent my college address on cover only to reassure that
you're well on mailing list of PPP. You write to me on my Res. address only.



Lufthansa
First Class Senator Service

Auf dem Flug
On the flight
En el vuelo

von/from/de Parvish Pandya

nach/to/a Mr. Aasheesh Pittie

30.XII.83.

My Dear Aasheesh,

First of all let me wish you
a very very happy New Year. Thanks for
both - your letter and your card. Whereas the
first was anticipated the second was
received with a bit better state of condition.

Explanation - I returned to Bbay yesterday
and read your letter on bed the reason
being - loose motion (Don't smile ☺) caught from
Nandur-Madhmeshwar Camp of Rusa Nature
Club. And on top of that you ask for samples
of Red Chilies from Hyderabad? (Don't laugh).
Anyway how's life? Everything's fine here
and my system's probably returned to
normal. Didn't go for a damn shit today.
Sorry for this un-professor-ish language
but you know how a friend is to a
friend (a good one).

I left on 23rd night to this place
about 38 kms from Nasik. It's an Irrigation
Dept. Dam built in 1914 and which is an
ideal place for waders, ducks, storks, etc, etc.
This was my third visit to the place.

In the past (many) visits made by BNHS & WWF members, about 210 sps. of birds have been recorded in that small area. Of these, we ourselves saw 94 within four days. These include Wigeon, Openbill stork, Glossy & White Ibis, Brahminy Duck, Osprey, Ruff & Leve, Common & ^{Green} Sandpipers, Cliff Swallow (there are 2 big nesting colonies of these - about 450 nests & 300 nests each), Bluethroat, Stonechat & Lesser Pied Kingfisher. Notice I too we stressed more on migrants and am thrilled to see these coming.

And now I am leaving for Goa on the 2nd Jan to return on the 8th. This is for our college excursion - we are about 50 students and 4 staff members. After my return I'll be quite busy for my brother's wedding on the 15th Jan. So do write (send reply) and then expect my letter after the 15th. If you're coming down to Bbay do ring me up and let me know.

You seem to have forgotten about the small chit I'd sent with your B'day card asking you for a treat, etc.

The BNHS seminar was quite good although I was quite busy helping out as a volunteer. Some of the papers were good and the overall atmosphere was excellent. Met many people from various

places. I have most of the papers with me and when you're in Bbay I'll lend you some which you may want to go thru'.

About your article on Gora - I really liked it. [Thanks for treating me as a friend with whom you feel like sharing your happiness and sorrow(?)]. But I found that it ended a bit abruptly. I really envy you guys who can write in such a poetic fashion - I always feel I write crude English. I realized that in the beginning you are a man of few words and frankly you must have realized that I'm a man of few books. - I mean I'm so busy reading those scientific and technical books that I never find time to read these novels, short stories or even such types of interesting books on my subject - I hope you understand what I mean. Well that's the type of friend you'll have to accept in me. Coming back to the subject - I wish more and more of such articles, writeups, etc. should appear to make these wooden headed people around us realize about our madness. Last month I gave a programme on the AIR on birds and they've asked me to prepare more of

Prof. Parvish Pandya
C-20 Kastur Mahal
Sion
Bombay - 400022.

6th February, 1984.

My friend,

Thanks a million for the invitation to you brother's marriage, and in the same breath, sorry for this late reply. I hope everything is fine on your side of the country.

Your letter was very excellent reading. Nandur-Madhmeshwar must have been exciting. We too are planning to have a snake show in this city in March and a camp in November, at a sanctuary called Eturnagaram, in Andhra Pradesh. Work on the former project has already begun. But the latter one will need more planning. And it will take time. Our snake show will be conducted by Srinath (from Madras) and on the following evening, we will show a couple of films for the WWF-I members. Wish me luck for this show. For it will be the first big one we will be putting up in this city.

By the bye, when is the Newsletter for the nature clubs coming out? I know that we have a new publications officer in the place of Elizabeth Tailor.

Birdwatching is super. Our club has recently brought out a small 'tick-list' of the commoner birds of the Hyderabad region. We have listed about 178 species. I'll show it to you when we meet next. It has become quite popular with the local birders. We have arranged the birds in family order hoping that our members should be able to put a bird in its family, at least. We are selling them for Rs 5/- per set of 10 cards. (No hint meant!)

I was able to see a copy of the Reptiles book by Daniel, and frankly was a little disappointed. I had expected so much more! The plates of the snakes are excellent, no doubt - but the total number of snakes he has covered is very small. But I guess it will be another milestone in the natural history of the sub-continent publishing field. And to say the least, we needed it quite badly.

There still are 2 subjects which have not been covered by

711

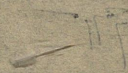
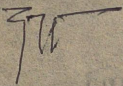
6th February, 1984.

the popular books which the BNHS has brought out. One is the insects - especially the butterflies, since they are the most visible - and the other, I feel, is the wild flowers of our countryside. I would love to own and would cherish books covering these subjects, for India. But I guess there is no end to this wilful thinking. Those who are interested in fish, will want a field guide on that subject, and so on. Perhaps the encyclopedia of natural history of the sub-continent will fill up a major part of this void.

Hyderabad has become quite warm already. The Silk Cotton is in flower and need I say what a sight it is? But I am waiting for the end of this month, when the flame of the forest will be set afire by the hand of the seasons. We have a deer park nearby, and there are so many of these trees in it that from the watch tower, through the shimmering heated air, the flowers look like a fire. And when we walk through the park, the paths are lined with these walls of flame which produce the heat of intense joy in every hearth. The red dusk is gradually fading away as summer approaches, and the lingering twilight is being reduced to a formality. But the avian world is all agog, for the nesting season of many residents, will begin, very soon. And the migrants are itching to go.

How is it in Bombay?

Warmest regards,



They've been quite late to
arrive here. May I know
when you're in Bombay?

Regards & Love

~~Parvish~~

C-20 KASTUR MAHAJAN
5/10N BOMBAY-400022

PRINTED IN INDIA

Q.M.S.



To,

MR. Aasheesh Pittie,

14-7-370 Begum Bazar,

HYDERABAD - 12

Pin: 500012

Dear Aashesh, R/7-2-84

What's wrong?

Have you already forgotten
the yellow-eyed Babbler?

No reply to my letter
and I hope you did come
to know that I was busy
with my brother's marriage
(I'd sent you the card).

No birding since almost a
month. Both

Madhmeshwar

and Goa

trips were

exciting.

How are the

migrants at

Hyderabad?



Mr Parvish Pandya
C/20 Kastur Mahal
Sion
Bombay - 400 022.

18th March, 1984.

My Dear Parvish,

before Your warning about Mr Srinath was not necessary here, for the whole programme worked like a clock. But until three days ~~for~~ the programme began, we were worried stiff because our man in Bangalore had not sent a confirmation letter or cable, and we didn't quite know whether the ball was on. Our quandary was whether to publicise the show or not. But we went ahead with our part of the plan and arranged for an audience of 200 (of which about 100 turned up on either day). But like his counterpart in her majesty's kingdom, WWF India's agent in Bangalore arrived at her service in the hour of need! The demonstration lecture went off quite well, and the WWF got a good deal of publicity in the local media and an Urdu daily also reported the whole thing. Three films were shown - Jezebel, The Incredible Flight of the Snow Geese and The Ivory Poachers. Personally, the second one was the best. Have you seen it?

How was Nandur-Madhmeshwar? And have you been to any of those places which you were to visit after writing my letter? Please tell me about them. Don't just say that I went to so and so place. At least let me participate in your wanderings, through the mail. I have not been to anywhere out of this blessed city. Only the regular birdwatching goes on. Just now I am working on the newsletter of the Birdwatchers Society of A P - MAYURA.

Hyderabad is becoming quite hot already. The mercury is touching 36 degrees C! How is Bombay? How are Sunil and Shakhi? Give them my regards. And I have not heard about Noshawan for a long time.

Nothing more to write just now. I promise a much better letter next time.

Warmest regards

JW



View of George Town from Penang Hill.

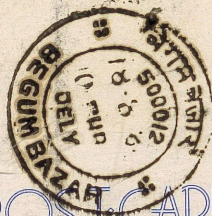
15-VIII-84

Dear Aasheesh,

Heard of a
hyderabadi becoming a
"Mussorie sadhu" -
Have been busy with
college, nature club
audiovisual and a
unique "leg burning
ailment" since a month.
Hoping to hear in
detail - as the last
promise before Mussorie
departure -

Love Parvish

42 Kastur Mahal Sion Bbay-22



POSTCARD

To, MR. AASHEESH PITTIE,
14-7-370 BEGUM
BAZAR,

HYDERABAD - 12

PIN CODE: 500012

Mr Parvish Pandya
C-20 Kastur Mahal
Sion
Bombay-400022

27th August, 1984.

Hello, my friend, hello!

At long last, i have persuaded myself to write this evening. I had never thought that i would become lazy and not write to my friends. But life has been running at a pace with which i have been trying to keep up with. I hate such a pace. I like to work at my own pace. It is more enjoyable and also more satisfying. I am trying to give as much of my time as I can, to field-work. No, no, no. Nothing high-brow or even high-sounding - as that word denotes. Just sauntering through the wilderness around this city, absorbing existence as best i can. Being confused, confounded, cajoled by the mysteries of nature - but enjoying myself all along. Perhaps i indulge myself a bit too much. I must give a little of my time to my friends too! So, here i am.

Mussoorie was one good birdwatching trip. I got myself three dozen new birds, a lot of good, strong leg-work and tremendous valleys-full of pine scented, mist moistened, hilly air. And also a ravenous appetite. I went to Suwakholi one day - it was a big let down. The hills are absolutely denuded, barren and dusty. The valley in which snuggles the forest department guest house is green, with handsome, strapping deodhars and screaming - with yellow tail-streamered waks - slatyheaded parakeets. I went down half way and then it began to rain, big cold drops of water. My family was waiting at Suwakholi and knowing they'd get worried, i returned immediately. But once, when returning from Kempti Falls, a Kaleej Pheasant honoured me by crossing in front of the car. Two people had to hold me from going through the top. The nadir of the trip was not a single one of those bearded gentlemen who inhabit such hilly tracts and gather wisdom through travels over vast terrain on invisible airy carpets. Not one Lammergeier. I strained at every scavenger vulture that flew near till my eyes popped, but that goatee eluded me like the Dalai Lama. If i were to choose a bird of Mussoorie, the Whistling thrush would win hands down - or rather, wings down. Perhaps these birds are common in many hill stations, but i was truly enraptured by them here. Their song woke me in the morns and entertained me throughout the day. Through the white mist, it would come pouring rich, melody-weighted notes, pregnant with

27/8/1984.

mystery. Oh what music from the tangle of undergrowth beside the gurgle of rills, it would pour into my senses, Parvish, what mountain essence, i cannot describe!

But there were so many other birds which were perhaps neither so attractive nor such accomplished songsters - atleast one (the graywinged blackbird) was a hundred times better - but which added a charm to the avifauna and atmosphere of this station and made every moment of my time there worthwhile. The monsoon too was early this year, and i recall with a pang of delight a walk which i took one morning, along the Suwakholi road, for about 12 kms. from the city, and it began to rain midway. I had an umbrella with me, fortunately, for i did not want to sit through a cold at home, and did I enjoy that walk! You will not believe this, but what i pined for all along that walk, what i actually ached for was human companionship. I wanted someone, be it a boy or girl or an old woman or man. Someone whome i could talk to or plain enjoy and experience the force of our earth. All those i came across were the locals, driving ponies to the town, laden with milk pots. I possibly could not talk to them - for they would not understand my mind. Any how i chatted to myself and heard the reply of birdsong and my own shoes sloshing through puddles of mountain water. Back in town, i had a cup of soul stirring black tea, and revived numbed toes. The chaiwala gave me a peculiar look when he returned to collect the utensils and saw the untouched pot of milk! Back in delhi, it took us some time to get used to the heat, as it must to anyone. And then to hyderabad.

nd was sated
h

Here i have continued to try and write for the papers - the last published piece is being enclosed, and has most of the matter from Dr Salim Ali's Book of Indian Birds. Tell me how it is anyway. Rest is ok. Give my regards to mutual friends and wish them luck.

Hope to hear from you soon.

Regards
Sincerely

JIT

Encl: Friends From Wuydown.

Dear Aasheesh,

**HOW DO YOU
EXPECT ME
TO REMEMBER
YOUR BIRTHDAY**



21-XII-84

**WHEN YOU FORGOT
MINE ??**

(Although you were in
Bombay ??)

Anyway

Happy Birthday!

Love
Parvish

FROLICards

My Dear Asheesh,

Today is 27th of May, 1985

Hallo - Long lost friend! How are you? What's happening? Did you get too much engrossed in your money making business or (God Bless) have you got married???. (I can see a smirk on your face if you haven't)

Life's been fine and pleasant here in Bombay - supposed to be on a vacation from April 20th to June 20th though was under college & university "examination hibernation" ^{spell} ^{uptill} May 14th. And have to appear for my job's interview on 1st June - SC/ST reservation problems finally to be shelved (- in my case only.)

How's Birding? Managed to photograph Lapwings (both Red and Yellow wattled) at nest & with young, Black bellied Finch lark at nest - incubating, and some more. May visit Mudumalai after interview. Otherwise am visiting our famous, one & only Sanjay Gandhi (Borivili) Rashtriya Udyan - would be visiting tomorrow with Sunjay Menga.

Incidentally Mr. Sunjay returned from Bhutan (he'd gone in search of the Honeyguide) under Dr. Salim Ali's guidance and was successful in locating these birds

He's got some good photos of the place.

So when are you next visiting Bbay? So spare some time from your busy schedule for some bird-brains like us.

Chow

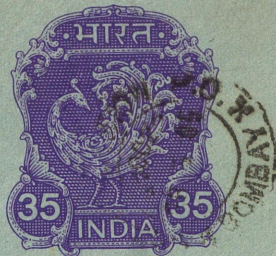
Love Parwish

P.S. Not to waste paper, here's news of Taij ~~Wao's~~ working at Piotan and has been very lucky to do some very good studies of nesting & migrating birds there.

I had been to Anaimalai & Mudumalai-Bandipur in January and to Bharatpur in February. To the Maharashtra famous Bhigwan lake to see flamingos in March (an article by Dr. Paranjape is to appear in next Sanctuary on this lake). Ciao!

अन्तर्देशीय पत्र कार्ड
INLAND LETTER CARD

Q.M.S.



To,

MR. AASHEESH PITTIE

14-7-370 BEGUM BAZAR,

HYDERABAD - 12.

पिन PIN

5 0 0 0 1 2

तीसरा मोड़ THIRD FOLD

इस पत्र के भीतर कुछ न रखिए NO ENCLOSURES ALLOWED

पते में पिन कोड लिखें WRITE PIN CODE IN ADDRESS

प्रेषक का नाम और पता :— SENDER'S NAME AND ADDRESS :—

Mr. Parwish Pandya

C-20 Kastur Mahal, Sim
Bombay

पिन PIN

4 0 0 0 2 2

अस्पृश्यता ईश्वर और मानवता
के प्रति अपराध है।

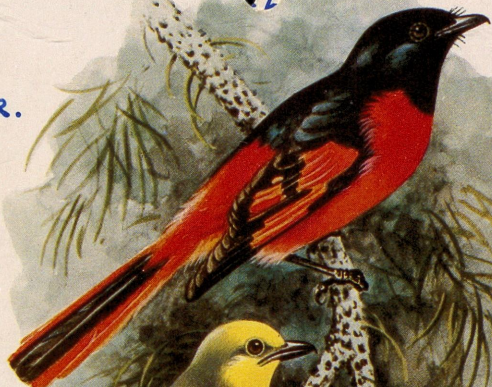
UNTOUCHABILITY IS A CRIME
AGAINST GOD AND MAN



CONGRATULATIONS,



MR.



AND

MRS.



J.P. Irami

AASHEESH PITTIE -

LOVE & REGARDS - P.P.

Really, extremely sorry for the
delay in this wedding greeting. was
out at Goa and then at Ahmedabad.
Saw wild asses at the latter place.
Shall write details about trips later.
Waiting for a detailed, "experienced",
letter with photographs accompanied
affirmatively!!

"Good memories" Yellow-eyed Babbler.

21st dec. 1985.

~~My~~ Dear Ashesh,

Wishing You

A VERY HAPPY BIRTHDAY.....

Love,

Parvish

Mrs. & Mr. Aashesh Pitlić.

~~Scarlet Minivets (Pericrocotus flammeus)~~

Reproduced by courtesy of the artist,
J. P. Irani.

Exclusively arboreal, five sub-species of Scarlet Minivets are residents of well-wooded country and evergreen forests upto about 2000 m throughout the sub-continent. These vividly coloured birds make an entrancing sight as they flit through the tree-tops, the patches of red, yellow and black flashing against the foliage, uttering an attractive whistling note. The black and scarlet plumage of the adult male is replaced by grey and yellow respectively in the female and immature male.

The sale proceeds of this card will finance conservation and nature education projects.

Designed and produced by

World Wildlife Fund-India

Post Box 6042, Bombay 400 012.





To,

MRS & MR. AASHEESH PITTIE,

14-7-370,

BEGUM BAZAR,

HYDERABAD- 500012

BHAVAN'S NATURE CLUB

Cordially invites you to a Wildlife Festival

N A T O F E S T

(Sponsored by WORLD WILDLIFE FUND-INDIA)

*to be held on 6th, 7th & 8th Feb. 1986
in the Bhavan's College Premises, (Andheri West) - 400 058.*

Programme :

- (i) Nature Exhibition : 9 a. m. to 3 p. m.*
- (ii) Audio - Visual "Joy of Nature" : 9 a. m. to 3 p. m.*
- (iii) Inter - collegiate Wildlife Quiz Competition :
6th Feb. 1986 4 p. m. onwards.*
- (iv) Inter - collegiate "What's the Natural Word?" Competition :
7th Feb. 1986 - 4 p. m. onwards.*
- (v) Inter - collegiate Wildlife Painting Competition :
8th Feb. 1986 - 10 a. m. to 2 p. m.*
- (vi) Prize Distribution : 8th Feb. 1986 - 4 p. m.*

*Prin. **G. Z. Shah**, President*

*Prof. **M. A. Bhat**, Advisor*

***Dr. K. A. Patel**, Chairman*

*Prof. **Parvish Pandya**, Co-ordinator*

Love,

