

John Schmitt
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3 Feb. 1994
Forwalk, Calif.

Greetings Ashesh and Emrit !!

This is a quick note simply to express my appreciation of your thoughtfulness by your Christmas card which I recieved about a week ago. Beautiful card - Thanks!

I hope that you and your family are well and happy and that you had a joyous holiday season.

I think of the many people I met in India a lot in these past few months, as I am now illustrating the raptors for an upcoming guide to the Birds of India that is authored by P. Dillon Ripley et al. So consequently I have frequent need to refer to my note books from my India visit and naturally I am reminded of many things, including our visit with your birding club.

The drawings on the reverse side of this letter are studies I've developed for one of the plates for the book I mentioned above. I use a lot of copies in the preparation of the plates and consequently have a lot of scrap paper left over. I often use it for writing letters as in this instance - it makes for an interesting stationery and gives you a bit of a preview of the coming book.

I've seen a few of the finished plates for the book, i.e; drongos, jays, fuchs, waterfowl, etc. They are stunning, and if the authors/artists maintain this standard of excellence this book will be the standard by which all others will be measured!

In closing, I thank you again for thinking of me. Express my regards and best wishes to all in your Bird club. Warmest Regards, John

Basra 28-34
E. Sparrowhawk 32-38
Chikra 30-36

