

f. 4/9
2000

Santa Cruz Departure lounge, Mumbai.

29th August, 2000.

Dear Ashish,

I am not sure whether you will realise how much the unexpected gesture of goodwill meant to me. It created a tremendous impression on all those present and I am sure the whole action showed up how indeed we can develop a powerful network. Thanks to you and all the other members of the Society in Hyderabad. The moments will find a permanent place in my study at my Vashishtā home in the Himalayas where you and other friends from Hyderabad will expect a ready and warm welcome. Humayun too was greatly touched and every time you come to Mumbai, do set aside time to take him to Borivili Park. The gesture will mean a great deal to the old man who deserves far more respect than he has received.

It occurred to me that we might bring out a collection of his papers (reprints). I am sure they would make great reading.

We must also tie up the drawings of birds between PTTA and UIHANG. I will discuss the idea with Bakubhai Trivedi. You must come to Gujarat this winter to do some really exciting birdwatching.

I am looking forward to landing in rain in Gujarat.

The plane (I have continued writing this in my seat) is surprisingly empty; over 50% is empty. Wonder whether people are scared of flying IA. This if true, would shake things up, as indeed would the Society if it fails the ~~response~~ response envisaged for the IBA and IBCN initiatives. You must keep calm, not get impatient as you will be needed and can then make things happen. Right now we are seeing the ugly resonances still audible from the Salim Ali era and you must not get involved, however remotely in it. Also, those bickering are the "professionals"; we "amateurs" have no reason to get involved. Keep your powder dry.

Regards,

Yours Sincerely,

Karkhanavala

646, Vastunirman, Gandhinagar - 382022.

20th March, 2007.

f. 24/3
2007

Dear Aashish,

I leave for the Himalaya on 20th April. Right now there is plenty of nesting activity. All nest boxes are being hotly disputed by Common, Brahminy and Bank Mynas; Alexandrine, Rookwinged and Blossom-headed Parakeets; Indian Rollers, Magpie Robins, and Indian Robins. Spotted Owlets have firmly established control over two. The least aggressive of apartment hunters are Hoopoes. Palm Squirrels also are strong bidders. All this reveals the very obvious importance of old, gnarled trees and I suspect a major reason for the collapse in populations of White-backed Vultures is because large nesting trees are disappearing across the countryside. The listless vultures dying in trees are, in all likelihood, aging birds. But, this is too simple an explanation for our rather aggressive seminar trotting scientists.

What would Dr. Ghorpade have to say in response to this dig at the scientific community?

Nest year be prepared to have me spending time in Hyderabad sampling those figs you fed me on last occasion in Mumbai.

Regards.

Kulkarni

पिन PIN

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(2)

Parish Pittie, PO Box 45,
Banjara Hills,
Hyderabad



Tel: 079-3241410. 646, Vastunirman,
Gandhinagar. 382022.
Sunday 7th July, 2002.

Dear Aasheesh,

10-7-2002

Friends and admirers of Humayun Abdulali are pulling together a profile of the naturalist. We have to get together some Rs. 50,000/- to ensure inclusion of photographs. One of the suggestions to help out was mooted by myself that some of us might send in pre-publication orders at say Rs. 300/- per book we should be able to collect more than Rs. 30,000/- if some 100 individuals could be lined up. Some would purchase more than one book.

I know you held Humayun in high esteem and a book on him would be the right thing to do to correct a wrong.

You might write to Dr. Rachel Ray at the BNHS or to Mrs. R. Abdulali, 3, Kishma Apartments, 13, Pali Hill, Bandra, Mumbai 400050,

Replied & sent 10/vi
2002

I have an Indian Robin pair
construcing a nest in a niche
above my patio. I can watch
them at work, sitting out reading
the morning paper or from my
reviling table by a sideward
glance out of the wire screen
door. Since you love things, literally,
at your fingers tips, can you
get me a printout on all notes on
the Indian Robin? I think I have
some exciting new observations!

Yours, Gulluwan

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Shree Ashesh Pittie,
PO Box 45, Banjara Hills,
Hyderabad.

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Recd 17/2/2003

Beyl. Friday, 7th February, 2003.

Dear Rashish,

Thanks for the regular mailing of the BSAF
NL. Kindly change my address from the Gandhinagar
one to:

14, Jayant Society,
Rajkot 360004.

Tel. No. 0281-2388343.

You are indeed doing a great job and just as my
friend (if I may call him one) Dr. Bakul Trivedi in
Ahmedabad need our accolades. Keep up the good
work. Concentrate as a group on the ~~pr~~ identifica-
tion of remaining habitats. Become sensitive
to them.

There is so much to be done, but now I am
finding my energy levels falling. Merely having
a healthy day behind me is something to praise
God. Towards this, the respect and love from all
of you - young people is most valued specially
as I swim each morning in the sea towards
my 70th birthday on 24th February. How wonder-
ful it would be to have you join me here on
this day to see several hundred Crab Plovers

barely 20 feet away!

With regards,

Yours Sincerely,

Rathnam

Aasheesh Pittie

8-2-545 Road # 7, Banjara Hills, Hyderabad 500034. India.

Phone: Off: 040-23352269 Res: 040-23350683 Fax: 040-23356064 E-mail: aasheesh@vsnl.in

1 September 2004

Shri Lavkumar Khacher

646, Vastunirman

Gandhinagar 382022

Gujarat

Dear Lavkumar sahab,

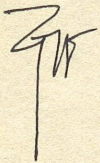
It is a great feeling when I talk to you on the phone.

Enclosed is a list of references on the *Gyps* spp., and also on *Sarcogyps calvus*. This is not a complete set. There are a few more that will take a few days to take out and put in order for they have to be done one at a time. In the meantime you could perhaps begin working on the references in the list enclosed.

This list is only for your use. I request you not to give it to anyone else. This is because this is an ongoing work and I intend to publish it sometime in the future. If you use it, I'll be grateful if you could give me as the author of the references. Something that like, "Compiled by Aasheesh Pittie," should be enough. I would also be grateful if you could send me a copy of the publication in which it appears.

With best wishes and regards,

Yours truly,



Encl: a/a. *typescript of 14 pps.*