

Date: March 11, 2012.

Time: 6.15 – 8.30 am

Route: DH – Astachal – Old Guest House – Mango Grove – Derek's Cottage .

Students: Karthik, Aakash, Nirman.

Teachers: Santharam, Kausthub, Jyothi.

Visitors: Karen.

Not just humans ...even birds seem to have parties sometimes ... or that is how it seemed! In the mango grove behind the Study Centre cottages the bird activity was akin to a scene in a busy café. There were so many birds and of several varieties too, busy foraging for insects and perhaps some wild grains too. The dried leaves rustled as the birds hopped about. It was a pleasure to watch the birds flit quickly from one leaf to another, drinking up the dew before the sun dried them all.

List of birds that were seen and heard:

House Crow	Whitebrowed Bulbul	Rose ringed Parakeet
Jungle Crow	Blyth's Reed Warbler	Paradise Flycatcher
Koel (male and female)	Hoopoe	Redwhiskered Bulbul
Common Myna	Tailor Bird	Brown Flycatcher
Whiteheaded Babbler	Coucal	Jerdon's Chloropsis
Redvented Bulbul	Indian Pitta	Small Green Bee eater
Ashy Drongo	Button-Quail	Coucal
Coppersmith	Common Iora	Blacknaped Oriole
Purple Sunbird	Small Minivet	Magpie Robin
Red Spurfowl (male and female)	Pond Heron	

Blacknaped Oriole Bird of the day:

This oriole quite similar to the golden oriole but can be easily told apart by the lesser amount of black on its wings and the thicker black mask that extends to and encircles the back of the head. Its calls are more nasal. Like the golden Oriole, this is a winter visitor to our campus. Thought to be scarce sometime back, it appears to be commoner than the golden oriole these days.

