Wildlife and Nature Photography Club, IGNFA

About the Initiative

A THE AND ALL CORES

The New Forest - the IFS training campus - an area which houses the FRI and its sister institutions including the Indira Gandhi National Forest Academy (IGNFA) is also home to a rich biodiversity. These flora and fauna become a part of our neighbourhood while we are at the campus. The campus is also adorned with heritage buildings, museums, nurseries and a beautiful landscape. This initiative is aimed at making us more familiar with our neighbourhood.

The KYC (Know your Campus) initiative started by the IFS 2019 batch in this lockdown period shall come out with a campus related topic each day.

NOW YOUR OR WOUR OR WOUR OR WOUR OR WOUR OR WOUR OF THE PROPERTY IN THE PROPERTY INTENTION FOR THE PROPERTY IN THE PROPERTY IN THE PROPERTY IN THE PROPERTY IN THE PROPERTY INTENTION FOR THE PROPERTY INTENT INTENT INTENTION FOR THE PROPERTY INTENT INTENTION FOR THE PROPERTY INTENT INTENTION FOR THE PROPERTY INTENTIAL PROPERTY INTENTY INTENTY INTENTY INTENTY INTENTY INTENTY INTENTY INTENTY

If you are a baby in the field of bird-watching , then this issue is just for you. If you are a pro you will still enjoy it.



ARE YOU CONFUSED???

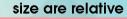
Some of the most frequently located birds are the birds of prey which are often referred to as raptors.

MANY OF US HAVE OFTEN INTERCHANGEBLY CALLED PREDATORY BIRDS WITH STRONGLY HOOKED BILLS , SHARP TALONS (CLAWS) AND KEEN EYESIGHT AND HEARING AS BAAZ, KITE, EAGLE , GIDDH AND SO ON.

Identifying Birds of Prey is not easy but here are some tips that will help you identify and differentiate among them

BIRDS OF PREY COME IN A HUGE VARIETY OF SHAPES AND SIZES. THEIR SIZE, WING SHAPE, FLIGHT PATTERN AND PREY CHOICE ARE KEY FOR IDENTIFICATION.

LETS GET THE BASICS RIGHT



Wingspan:1.8-2m Height:90-110cm

VULTURE

Wingspan:1.5-2m Height: 60-80cm



Wingspan:1.1-1.3m Height:51-57cm BUZZARD











Height: 30-45cm

Wingspan: 0.55-0.65m Height:3 0-40cm

ACCIPTER/HAWKS

Large Wingspan

Head partly/fully devoid of feather Straight wings, Fingered at end Scavenging bird, Soar high in sky Common species found in India: Egyptian, Indian, Slender-billed, Griffon Vultures

Larée hefty built Broad winés rounded end Fan-type tail Stroné bill and Flatened head

Common species found in India: Spotted , Steppe, Tawny, Serpent Crested Eagle

Medium-large raptors Fingered,slight forward tipped wing Fan-type tail

Common species found in India: Oriental Honey Buzzard

Larée, slender V-shape winé when soariné Loné tails, Loné thin leés

Common species found in India: Eurasian Marsh harrier, Pallid Harrier, Pied Harrier

Fingered backward pointed wings Forked Tail Opportunistic hunters and Scavenging food habits Common raptors,

Common species found in India: Black Kite, Brahminy Kite, Black-winged and Black-Eared Kite

Medium-size birds Loné pointy and curved winés Swift fliéht Common species found in India: Indian Hobby Kestrel, Merlin and Peregrine

Medium Size, Rounded Head Fingered backward facing wings Hunt by sudden dashes from concealed perch, tall tail

Common species found in India: Shikra, Sparrow-hawk, Gosahawk Long billec vulture









by garima bhatia



amur falcon





Lets Look closely at commonest of all: the Black Kite

Scientific Name Milvus migrans

Most populous species of raptor, with about 6 million in the world. Most often seen gliding and soaring on thermals (hot upward wind) as they search for food

Despite their name, they aren't actually black although they can look black from a distance. They are really dark brown with some lighter markings. They are commonly know as Cheel.

Unlike most other raptors, black kites can form large flocks, especially during plagues of grasshopper.

In the large cities of India, they get a lot of their food from garbage heap and even steal food out of the hands of people. Black kites are also attracted to smoke and fires because they catch prey escaping the fire

Wingspan- 1.3-1.5m

Has a shrill. almost musical whistle ewe-wit-f-f-H CLICK TO LISTEN Remember the distinguishing feature in <u>kite is forked tail</u>

Mother Bird with its chick in the nest

Trevor Road, FRI Campus



DID YOU NOX

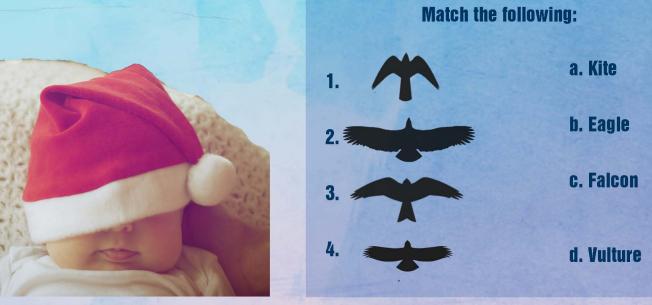
Andean Condor is the largest flying raptor and 5th largest flying bird in the world

New World vulture

Max wingspan- 3.3 m Wt - 11-15 kg Found in Andes Mountai South America and adjacent Pacific



Feeling Sleepy then we will end with a small quiz to test how much have we learnt



As top predators, they are important for healthy ecosystem functioning, and by protecting them many other species are safeguarded.

They play important role controlling populations of rodents and other small mammals that can damage crops and lands and transmit diseases to humans, domestic livestock and pets. They play scavenging role by clearing the decaying carcasses.

Birds of Prey are facing challenges like threat from pesticides, illegal hunting, electrocution from power lines, collision from wind turbine. Conservation of raptors is need of the hour.

Hope that now when you spot a Raptor in the campus or elsewhere you can broadly identify it. As for the black kite, it's urban presence makes it easy to be seen. Let's be to observe this lovely raptor the next time we see.

DESIGN and CONTENT : ABHIMANYU, IFS 2019 (abhimanyu1729@gmail.com ABHIMANYU, IFS 2019 (abhimanyu1729@gmail.com ABHIMANYU, IFS 2019 Google search
Reference: Birds of the Indian Subcontinent. Richard Grimmett, Carol Inskipp, Tim Inskipp
Bird Call : Andrew Spencer, XC547503.
Accessible at www.xeno-canto.org/547503.

We welcome your feedback: kastusule@gmail.com