



## AVIFAUNA OF SAYAJIRAJE PARK OF AKLUJ, DIST. SOLAPUR (M.S.)

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### ABSTRACT

Man made small water bodies in parks and gardens are not only attractive places for the tourists, but they also attract the birds. Sayjiraje park is one of the recreation and adventure park in Solapur district with a small man made water body. Throughout the year many birds are found at this place. In the present study a check list of birds found in this area is prepared. The study area is nearly about 130 kms away from district place and about 15 kms away from tahasil place. The study is carried for 12 months i.e. from the period of June-2016 to May-2017. On an average every month, bird watching camps were conducted at study site during the study period. Total 58 species of birds belonging to 26 families have been recorded from the study site. They were categorized as residential, local migratory and migratory, aquatic and terrestrial. It is concluded that varieties of birds are noticed in all season and maximum number of species of birds were recorded in the winter season.

**KEYWORDS:** Avifauna, Sayjiraje Park, Recreation and Adventure park, Residential, Local migratory, Migratory.

### INTRODUCTION :

Birds are an ideal-indicators and useful models for studying a variety of environmental problems as they are very sensitive to the slightest of environmental changes . They are also important health indicators of the ecological conditions and productivity of an ecosystem. Birds are a natural way to control pests in gardens and on farms. They are important units in the pollination of plants. Birds are important group of aquatic food chain. They feed on vegetation, fishes and other animals of the reservoir. One of the most spectacular events concerned with birdlife is the seasonal migration of many species. Migration helps to the birds to avoid adverse climatic extremes. Birds constitute a well defined group of vertebrate animals. About 9000 living species of birds in the world and more than 1250 species in India are known at present 25 to 30 avian orders are recognized depending on the taxonomists. According to recent studies and investigations most of the birds are on the edges of extinct. The present study is not carried out only to prepare the checklist of birds, but to create awareness for their conservation. The avifaunal diversity of water bodies were studied by Kedar *et.al.*,(2008), Yardi *et.al.*,(2004), Kumbhar *et.al.*,(2014).

**MATERIALS AND METHODS:****MATERIALS:**

Sayajiraje park is a tourist destination and it is constructed during the year 2006 – 07. Geographically the park is located on 17°-45'-2" latitude and 74°-58'-34" longitude. The park is located at the bank of Nira river about 130 kms away from Solapur district and about 15 kms away from Malashiras tahasil. The average rainfall is 500 mm per annum. The temperature ranges between 12° C in winter and 42° C in summer. A water body is created artificially boating for tourists. The bank of this water body is rich in woody vegetation. Green foliage of ornamental herbs and shrubs are also rich at this site. The ecological situation of the tank is so favorable that it attracts good number of birds of different varieties.

**METHODS:**

Every month bird watching camps were conducted at study site during Jun-2016 to May-2017. The Olympus made binoculars with the magnification of 8X35 were used for the observations of birds. The photography was carried with the help of SLR camera with zoom lenses. The book "Indian Birds" (Ali, 1993 & 1996) and Birds of Lonawala and Khandala (Pandey, 2006) were referred for identification of birds.

**DISCUSSION**

An attempt was made to prepare check-list of avifauna of Sayajiraje Park of Solapur district for the period of 12 months including a monsoon, winter and summer season. According to the variability in the climate, the record of noted birds was maintained throughout the study period. Total 58 species of birds which are of mostly aquatic belonging to 26 families have been recorded from the study site. They were categorized as residential, local migratory and migratory. The avifauna of Sayajiraje Park were also categorized as aquatic and terrestrial birds.

**Record of Avifauna of Sayajiraje park, Akluj**

<b>Sr.No</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Date of Record</b>	<b>Number of Aquatic Birds</b>	<b>Number of Terrestrial Birds</b>	<b>Number of Local Birds</b>	<b>Number of Local Migratory Birds</b>	<b>Number of Migratory Birds</b>
1	June- 2016	01-06-2016	22	64	76	12	6
2	July- 2016	01-07-2016	20	93	76	12	6
3	Aug-2016	01-08-2016	16	96	96	18	6
4	Sept-2016	01-09-2016	18	94	90	09	9
5	Oct-2016	01-10-2016	22	97	95	10	10
6	Nov-2016	01-11-2016	26	88	100	10	14
7	Dec-2016	01-12-2016	30	90	92	08	18
8	Jan-2017	01-01-2017	23	87	88	19	16
9	Feb-2017	01-02-2017	29	95	93	12	17
10	Mar-2017	01-03-2017	18	95	78	08	13
11	Apr-2017	01-04-2017	18	87	80	10	07
12	May-2017	01-05-2017	20	85	92	10	06

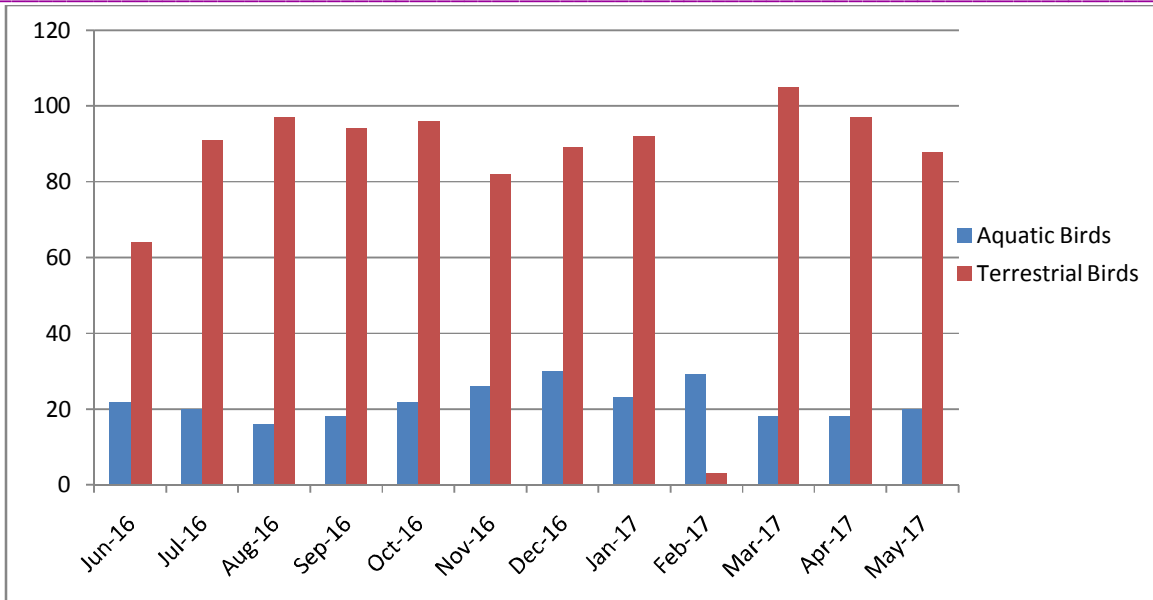


Diagram showing record of aquatic and terrestrial birds during the period of June 2016 to May 2017 at Sayajiraje Park.

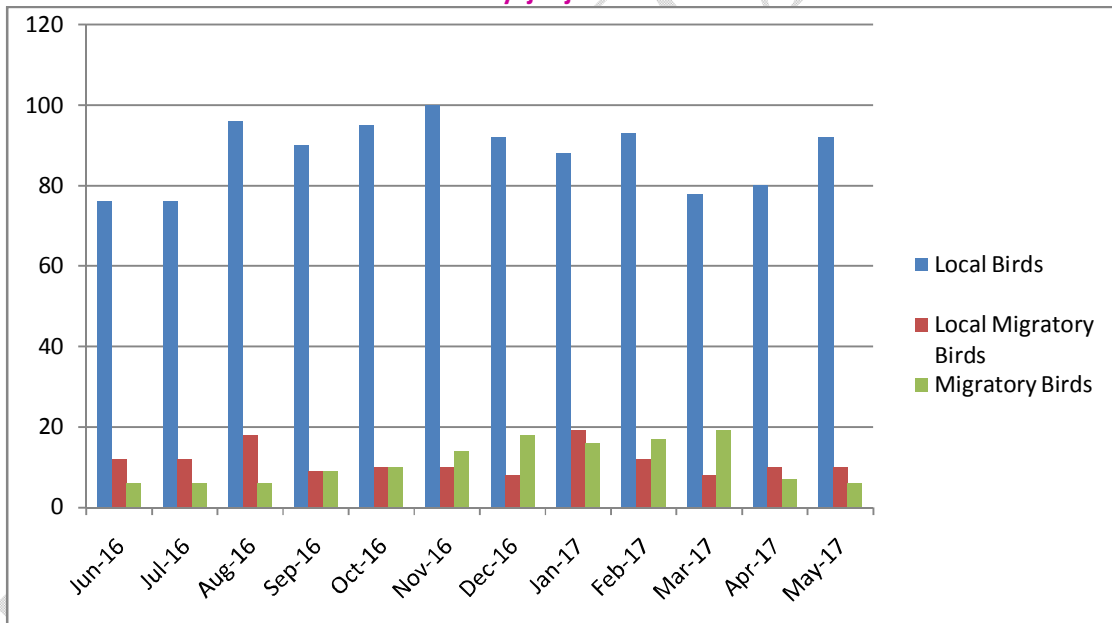


Diagram showing record of local, local migratory and migratory birds during the period of June 2016 to May 2017 at Sayajiraje Park.

## CHECK-LIST OF AVIFAUNA OF SAYAJIRAJE PARK

Sr.No.	Name of the Family	Species No.	General Name	Scientific Name	Occurrence
1	Phalacrocoracidae	1	Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbosinesis</i>	R, C
2	Ardeidae	2	Little Egret	<i>Egreta intermedia</i>	R, C
		3	Large Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>	R, C
		4	Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>	R, C
		5	Pond Heron	<i>Ardeola grayii</i>	R, C
		6	Purple Heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>	L, M
		7	Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>	L, M
3	Ciconiidae	9	Painted Stork	<i>Mycteria leucocephala</i>	R, O
4	Threskiornithidae	10	Black Ibis	<i>Pseudibis papilosa</i>	R, O
		11	White Ibis	<i>Threskiornis melanocephalus</i>	
5	Anatidae	12	Spot Billed Duck	<i>Anas poecilorhyncha</i>	R, C
6	Accipitridae	13	Brahminy Kite	<i>Haliastur indus</i>	R, C
		14	Pariah Kite	<i>Milvus migrans</i>	R, C
7	Falconidae	15	Black Winged Kite	<i>Elanus axillaris</i>	R, C
		16	Falcon	<i>Falco peregrine</i>	L, M
		17	Shikra	<i>Accipiter badius</i>	R, O
8	Danidae	18	Gray Shrike	<i>Lanius excubitor</i>	R
9	Recurvirostridae	19	Black Winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>	O
10	Phasianidae	20	Peafowl	<i>Pavo cristatus</i>	R, C
		21	Quail	<i>Coturnix coturnix</i>	R, C
		22	Grey Partridge	<i>Francolinus pondicerianus</i>	R, O
11	Laridae	23	Indian River Tern	<i>Sterna aurantia</i>	LM, C
12	Charadriidae	24	Red Wattled Lapwing	<i>Vanellus indicus</i>	R, C
		25	Little Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius dubius</i>	O
13	Columbidae	26	Blue Rock Pigeon	<i>Columba livia</i>	R, C
		27	Ring Dove	<i>Streptopelia senegalensis</i>	R, C
		28	Spotted Dove	<i>Streptopelia chinensis</i>	R, C
		29	Little Brown Dove	<i>Streptopelia senegalensis</i>	R, C
14	Caculidae	30	Koel	<i>Eudynamis scolopacea</i>	R, C
		31	Brain Fever Bird	<i>Hierococcyx varius</i>	LM, O
		32	Crow Pheasant	<i>Centropus sinensis</i>	R, C
15	Alcedinidae	33	White Breasted Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon smymensis</i>	R, C
		34	Pied Kingfisher	<i>Ceryle rudis</i>	R, C
		35	Small Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>	R, C
16	Meropidae	36	Green Bee Eater	<i>Merops orientalis</i>	R, C
17	Laniidae	37	Gray Shrike	<i>Lanius excubitor</i>	R, C
18	Sturnidae	38	Common Myna	<i>Acridotheres tristis</i>	R, C
		39	Brahmany Myna	<i>Stumus pagodarum</i>	R, C
		40	Rosy Pastor	<i>Stumus roseus</i>	M, O
19	Corvidae	41	House Crow	<i>Corvus splendens</i>	R, C
		42	Jungle Crow	<i>Corvus macrorhynchos</i>	R, O
20	Muscicapidae	43	Jungle Babbler	<i>Turdoides caudatus</i>	R, C

21	Pycnotidae	44	Red Vented Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus cafer</i>	R, C
22	Muscicapidae	45	Tailor Bird	<i>Orthotomus sutorius</i>	R, C
		46	Ashy Wren Warbler	<i>Prinia hodgsonii</i>	R, C
23	Irenidae	47	Common Iora	<i>Aegithina</i>	
24	Tirdinae	48	Magpie Robin	<i>Copsychus saularis</i>	R, C
		49	Indian Robin	<i>Saxicoloides fulicata</i>	O
25	Passeridae	50	House Sparrow	<i>Passor domesticus indicus</i>	R, C
		51	Baya Weaver Bird	<i>Ploecus philipinus</i>	R, O
		52	Spotted Munia	<i>Lonchura punctulata</i>	R, C
		53	Small Minivet	<i>Pericrocotus erithrophygius</i>	R, C
		54	Black Headed Munia	<i>Lonchura malacca</i>	R, C
		55	Yellow Wagtail	<i>Motocilla cenereea</i>	M, O
		56	Gray Wagtail	<i>Motocilla cenereea</i>	M, O
26	Nectarinidae	58	Indian Purple Sunbird	<i>Nectarinia asiatica</i>	R, C

**Key to Abbreviations:****First Suffix as per the Status**

R: Resident

M: Migratory

LM: Local migratory

**Second Suffix as per the Occurrence**

C: Common

O: Occasional

U: Uncommon

**SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION:**

Total 58 species of birds belonging to 26 families have been recorded in Sayajiraje Park during the period of June, 2016 to May, 2017. It can be concluded that the park site has obviously no scarcity of food, which is enough safe for resident and migratory, terrestrial as well as aquatic avifauna. The rich woody vegetation around the park and small island in the water body provide enough safe places for roosting and nesting. Plenty of food and good shelter may be the main reasons for the attraction of resident as well as migratory avifauna in the tank. It can be also concluded that the maximum number of species of birds were recorded in the winter season. This indicates that many migratory birds are visiting in winter season in this park. In future the study site will become an emerging “**Bird Sanctuary**”.

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Heronry of Painted storks in the Sayajiraje Park



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