

Re: Bhutan Butterflies

by Sonam Dorji, 21-Jul-19 05:09 PM GMT

Hi all,

It has been quite a long time since I posted. I am posting a pic. of the Kanmuri's Green Hairstreak (*Fujiokaozephyrus camurius*), July 2019. This is female and I was lucky as it came down on the ground.

Hope you all like it.

Sonam



Re: kanmuri's Green Hairstreak

by bugboy, 21-Jul-19 05:10 PM GMT

That's a looker Sonam, kinda looks like a White-letter Hairstreak *Satyrium w-album* on steroids 😄!

Re: kanmuri's Green Hairstreak

by Sonam Dorji, 21-Jul-19 05:12 PM GMT

bugboy wrote:

That's a looker Sonam, kinda looks like a White-letter Hairstreak *Satyrium w-album* on steroids 😄!

Thanks bugboy!

Re: Bhutan Butterflies

by Pauline, 21-Jul-19 08:02 PM GMT

I've been missing out big time Sonam as I've only just discovered your diary. What stunningly beautiful images you have posted – an absolute joy to view. Please keep posting.

Re: Bhutan Butterflies

by Sonam Dorji, 22-Jul-19 01:36 PM GMT

Pauline wrote:

I've been missing out big time Sonam as I've only just discovered your diary. What stunningly beautiful images you have posted – an absolute joy to view. Please keep posting.

Thanks Pauline. Will be in the field soon. I will keep posting whatever I get.

rgds,
Sonam

Re: Bhutan Butterflies

by David M, 22-Jul-19 11:39 PM GMT

Great to see you back with your never-ending range of Asian exotica, Sonam.

I have to ask the question though.....what is 'green' about this Hairstreak?

Re: Bhutan Butterflies

by Sonam Dorji, 23-Jul-19 09:35 AM GMT

David M wrote:

Great to see you back with your never-ending range of Asian exotica, Sonam.

I have to ask the question though.....what is 'green' about this Hairstreak?

Hi David,

Nice to hear from you. Hope to post more pics. It shows green iridescence on upperwings when light falls on it. It is not totally green but I assume it is named after that. I agree that the underside colors are totally different and can be misleading.

rgds,
Sonam

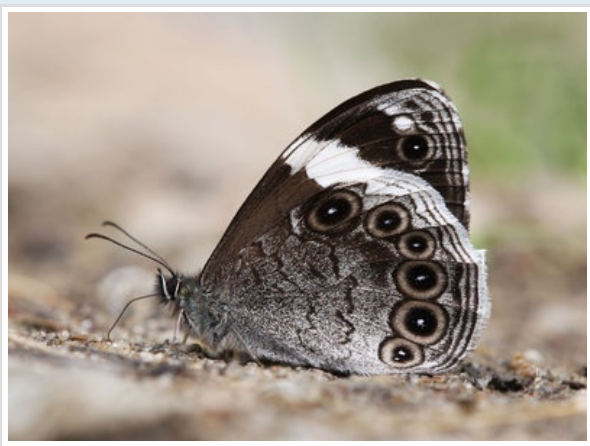
Re: Bhutan Butterflies

by Sonam Dorji, 23-Jul-19 06:05 PM GMT

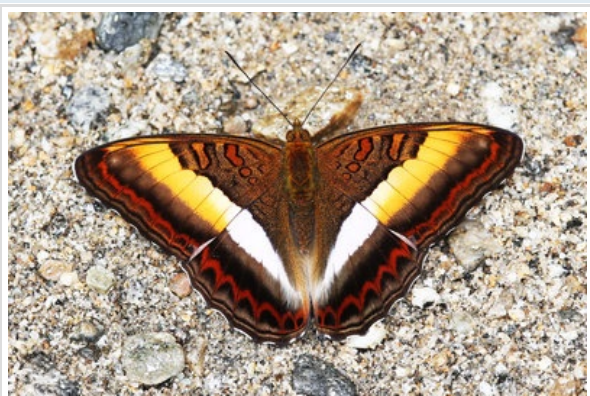
Hi all,

Some few species flying around now in Bhutan. The Bi-color Commodore is a common species during his time of the year but it is also one of my most favourite.

Sonam



Chumbi wall



Bi color Commodore

Re: Bhutan Butterflies

by David M, 24-Jul-19 05:13 PM GMT

Sonam Dorji wrote:

... It shows green iridescence on upperwings when light falls on it. It is not totally green but I assume it is named after that. I agree that the underside colors are totally different and can be misleading.

Thanks for the explanation, Sonam.

You have an incredibly rich variety of species (not surprising I guess given the mountain terrain).

Your Bi-Colour Commodore is yet another exquisite example.

Re: Bhutan Butterflies

by Sonam Dorji, 04-Aug-19 06:49 PM GMT

David M wrote:

Sonam Dorji wrote:

... It shows green iridescence on upperwings when light falls on it. It is not totally green but I assume it is named after that. I agree that the underside colors are totally different and can be misleading.

Thanks for the explanation, Sonam.

You have an incredibly rich variety of species (not surprising I guess given the mountain terrain).

Your Bi-Colour Commodore is yet another exquisite example.

Thanks David. I am back in the field and here are some of my few encounters. There are also some Hornbills nests. I was lucky to see the three hornbill nests out of four.

Sonam



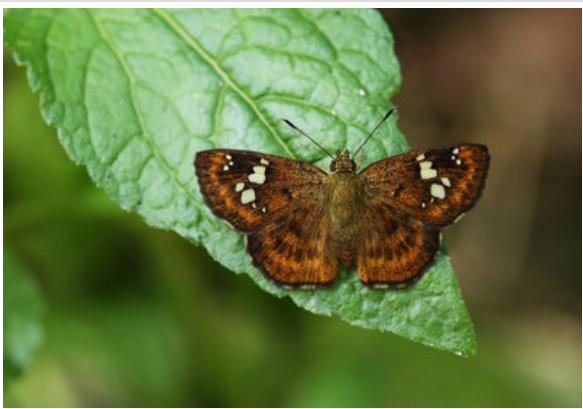
Great Hornbill



Rufous-necked Hornbill



Wreathed Hornbill



Fulvous Pied Flat



Common Tit



Tawny Emperor



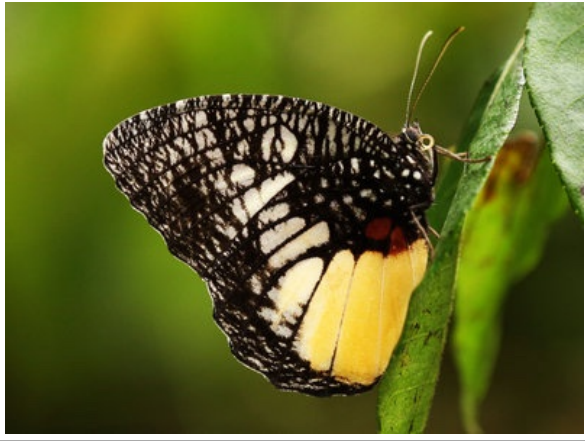
Fivebar Swordtail



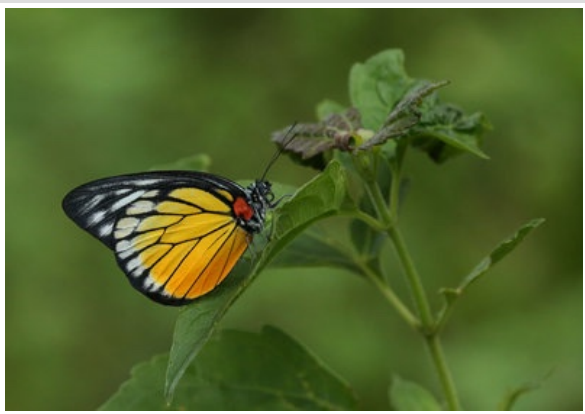
Redbase Jezebel



Powdered Baron



Palmfly Jezebel



Redspot Sawtooth



Common Maplet

Re: Bhutan Butterflies

by bugboy, 04-Aug-19 07:55 PM GMT

I'm not even gonna pretend to pick a favourite out of that bunch, you get some extra envy from me with those fantastic Hornbills too 🇧🇹!

Re: Bhutan Butterflies

by David M, 08-Aug-19 09:00 PM GMT

Your images from your home country make even the best parts of Europe seem tame by comparison, Sonam.

Bhutan has to be right up there in terms of unspoiled habitat.

Re: Bhutan Butterflies

by Sonam Dorji, 16-Aug-19 07:56 AM GMT

David M wrote:

Your images from your home country make even the best parts of Europe seem tame by comparison, Sonam.

Bhutan has to be right up there in terms of unspoiled habitat.

Thanks David M. for such lovely words. Our government does try to maintain the pristine forests but there are challenges as well.

bugboy wrote:

I'm not even gonna pretend to pick a favourite out of that bunch, you get some extra envy from me with those fantastic Hornbills too 🐦!

Thanks Bugboy. Here are some more for you all. Forgive me if I have accidently reposted some pics. These are all from August 2019 field trip to South Central Bhutan

Sonam



Popinjay



Commander



Scarce White Commodore



Small Tawny Wall



Common Peacock

Re: Bhutan Butterflies

by Jack Harrison, 16-Aug-19 09:11 AM GMT

Thanks for resuming your postings. Not only are they first class pictures of lovely butterflies (but our own Peacock is as impressive a match for any of them!) but it is so pleasing to learn how your government has such a positive attitude to conservation.

Jack

Re: Bhutan Butterflies

by Sonam Dorji, 16-Aug-19 01:08 PM GMT

Jack Harrison wrote:

Thanks for resuming your postings. Not only are they first class pictures of lovely butterflies (but our own Peacock is as impressive a match for any of them!) but it is so pleasing to learn how your government has such a positive attitude to conservation.

Jack

Hi Jack,

Nice to hear from you. Hope all is well. I definitely agree that your Peacock is one of the topmost butterfly. I really like it. We are small so cant afford to play with our natural resources a lot. Bhutan is one the only Carbon negative country in the world! Anyways, Tony Moore was here in Bhutan in July for few days. I accompanied him in some of his field trips. He may post some of them when he is done with ID confirmation.

rgds,
Sonam

Re: Bhutan Butterflies

by David M, 17-Aug-19 11:35 AM GMT

Every time you post a line-up of species I am bowled over, Sonam. Difficult to pick a favourite but that Commander is certainly very eye-catching.

Re: Bhutan Butterflies

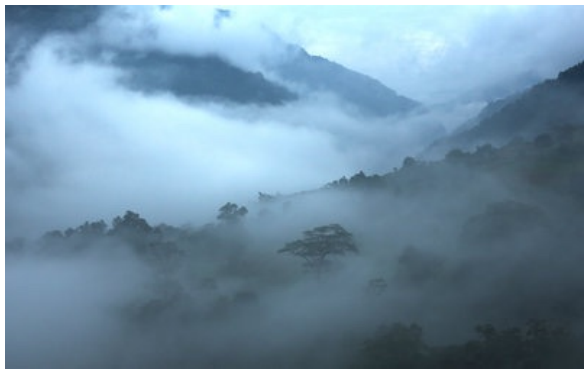
by Sonam Dorji, 18-Aug-19 05:36 PM GMT

David M wrote:

Every time you post a line-up of species I am bowled over, Sonam. Difficult to pick a favourite but that Commander is certainly very eye-catching.

Thanks David. The commander is fairly common but yes it is also a beautiful one, both the UP and UN side. Attaching here some sceneries and people faces from where I took the butterflies. This is rainy season so mostly in the morning it is mists all the way.





Re: Bhutan Butterflies

by David M, 18-Aug-19 10:06 PM GMT

Wow. Those are breathtaking landscapes, Sonam. You really are blessed in your mountain kingdom.

Re: Bhutan Butterflies

by Sonam Dorji, 30-Aug-19 06:27 AM GMT

David M wrote:

Wow. Those are breathtaking landscapes, Sonam. You really are blessed in your mountain kingdom.

Thanks David. Some more pics. from the trip. Lucky to encounter with the Moore's Cupid (*Shijimia moorei*) which is a confirmed new record for Bhutan. Got another new record for Bhutan but the pic is not so clear, Scarce Silverstreak Blue (*Iraota rochana*).

rgds,
Sonam



Scarce Silverstreak Blue (Iraota rochana), another new record for Bhutan. With this, 5 new records for Bhutan.



Moore's Cupid (*Shijimia moorei*), new record for Bhutan



Orchid Tit (*Chliaria othona*)



Sordid Emperor (*Chitoria sirdida*)

Re: Bhutan Butterflies

by David M, 31-Aug-19 04:10 PM GMT

Sonam Dorji wrote:

..Thanks David. Some more pics. from the trip. Lucky to encounter with the Moore's Cupid (*Shijimia moorei*) which is a confirmed new record for Bhutan.

No surprise that I like my eponymous little butterfly...it's a cracker, isn't it?

Great that you're getting new records for Bhutan, Sonam. Is that because butterflies generally are under-recorded there?

Re: Bhutan Butterflies

by Sonam Dorji, 01-Sep-19 07:02 AM GMT

David M wrote:

Sonam Dorji wrote:

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Bhutan.

No surprise that I like my eponymous little butterfly...it's a cracker, isn't it?

Great that you're getting new records for Bhutan, Sonam. Is that because butterflies generally are under-recorded there?

Hi,

It definitely is. As for the records, Many species (abt 735) has been recorded so far. Expected is 1000 by Japanese Researchers who have worked in Bhutan immensely. I guess not all locations were explored and I tend to go to places where there are not much trace of work done. Of course, not many nationals interested as well and in someways great for people like us. Finding new ones encourages us as well!!

rgds,
Sonam

Re: Bhutan Butterflies

by Jack Harrison, 02-Sep-19 03:33 AM GMT

Look after your country Sonam - it's beautiful. Sadly no one seems to be looking after ours at the moment.

Jack

Re: Bhutan Butterflies

by Sonam Dorji, 04-Sep-19 12:19 PM GMT

Jack Harrison wrote:

Look after your country Sonam - it's beautiful. Sadly no one seems to be looking after ours at the moment.

Jack

Thanks Jack. But i think you should not loose much hope as well. Things will turn out for good at the end. But please do take care of urself.

Rgds,
Sonam

Re: Bhutan Butterflies

by David M, 05-Sep-19 04:23 PM GMT

Sonam Dorji wrote:

It definitely is. As for the records, Many species (abt 735) has been recorded so far. Expected is 1000 by Japanese Researchers who have worked in Bhutan immensely. I guess not all locations were explored and I tend to go to places where there are not much trace of work done. Of course, not many nationals interested as well and in someways great for people like us. Finding new ones encourages us as well!!

Yes, I'm sure it adds a different dimension, Sonam. 735 recorded species is pretty good for a smallish country like Bhutan, and it's not as if it is tropical!

Who knows, there may well be 1,000 or more with thus far unrecorded species lurking in places that have not been thoroughly surveyed.

Re: Bhutan Butterflies

by Sonam Dorji, 11-Sep-19 03:59 PM GMT

David M wrote:

Sonam Dorji wrote:

It definitely is. As for the records, Many species (abt 735) has been recorded so far. Expected is 1000 by Japanese Researchers who have worked in Bhutan immensely. I guess not all locations were explored and I tend to go to places where there are not much trace of work done. Of course, not many nationals interested as well and in someways great for people like us. Finding new ones encourages us as well!!

Yes, I'm sure it adds a different dimension, Sonam. 735 recorded species is pretty good for a smallish country like Bhutan, and it's not as if it is tropical!

Who knows, there may well be 1,000 or more with thus far unrecorded species lurking in places that have not been thoroughly surveyed.

Hi David,

I agree. Hope we will discover soon before our lifetime. Anyways, here are some pics. from my recent trips.

rgds,
Sonam



Slate Royal



Great spotted Blue



Comma

Re: Bhutan Butterflies

by David M, 12-Sep-19 08:45 AM GMT

You always turn up something surprising, Sonam. 😊 That Great Spotted Blue is very striking indeed.

The Comma is obviously more familiar, though it is visibly different to the ones we see in the UK, especially the thick, dark borders to the wings.

Re: Bhutan Butterflies

by Sonam Dorji, 01-Oct-19 04:25 PM GMT

David M wrote:

You always turn up something surprising, Sonam. 😊 That Great Spotted Blue is very striking indeed.

The Comma is obviously more familiar, though it is visibly different to the ones we see in the UK, especially the thick, dark borders to the wings.

Hi David, sorry for the late reply. Was in the field. The comma was really fresh and I was surprised that I had not encountered that fresh earlier.

Anyways, some few noteworthy pics. from my recent trip. The common Blue Apollo was clicked at 3500 masl. They are normally found above 2800 masl. As for the Yellow Gorgon, this is my first pic. of the species. I have seen it before but was not able to click. In Bhutan, the species seems to be quite rare.

rgds,
Sonam



Yellow Gorgon (Meandrusa Payeni)



Common Blue Apollo UN



Common Blue Apollo

Re: Bhutan Butterflies

by Tony Moore, 01-Oct-19 05:41 PM GMT



Tony M.

Re: Bhutan Butterflies

by Old Wolf, 01-Oct-19 08:50 PM GMT

Hello Sonam, I have just finished looking at all the glorious butterflies in your diary and what a journey it has been 😊 Every new post has my 'new' favorite and I cannot comprehend 750 different species. I am yet to see all 59 we have here (this is my best year to date with 38 seen) and I think that is a lot.

Many thanks for sharing and I eagerly anticipate your next post/pictures.

Re: Bhutan Butterflies

by bugboy, 02-Oct-19 09:02 AM GMT

Those are two particularly spectacular butterflies, the wing shape to that Yellow Gorgan gives it a very regal look and the blue on your Apollo just lifts it up a notch from the European relatives. It was a particularly ghastly day yesterday here in the UK so they certainly helped to brighten it up 😊

Re: Bhutan Butterflies

by Sonam Dorji, 02-Oct-19 02:16 PM GMT

Old Wolf wrote:

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Many thanks for sharing and I eagerly anticipate your next post/pictures.

Hi,

Nice to meet you. Thanks for the compliments. Am happy you like them. You will get to 59 soon, I am sure. I guess passion is all that is required.

rgds,
Sonam

bugboy wrote:

Those are two particularly spectacular butterflies, the wing shape to that Yellow Gorgan gives it a very regal look and the blue on your Apollo just lifts it up a notch from the European relatives. It was a particularly ghastly day yesterday here in the UK so they certainly helped to brighten it up 😊

Hi Bugboy,

I thought this Apollo is there in UK. The weather here is not that great as well but the rain seems to be abating now. I was at a Bhutan Glory place but managed to get an old specimen only.

Hope to post a better pic. of a fresh one one of these days.

rgds,
Sonam





Re: Bhutan Butterflies

by David M, 03-Oct-19 12:39 PM GMT

That Common Blue Apollo is absolutely stunning, Sonam, as are the Bhutan Glory & Yellow Gorgon. You seem to come up with magical stuff every time you post. 🍄

Re: Bhutan Butterflies

by Sonam Dorji, 09-Oct-19 12:39 PM GMT

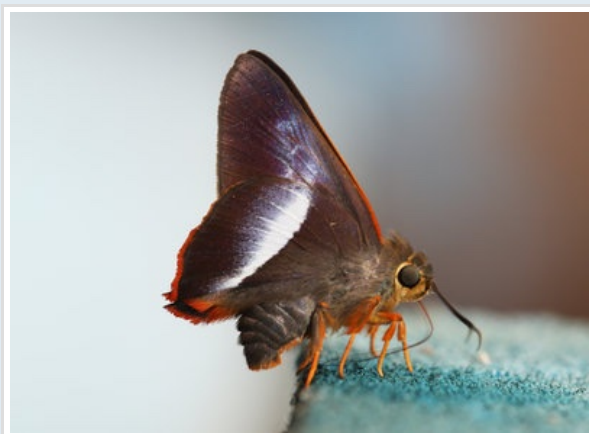
David M wrote:

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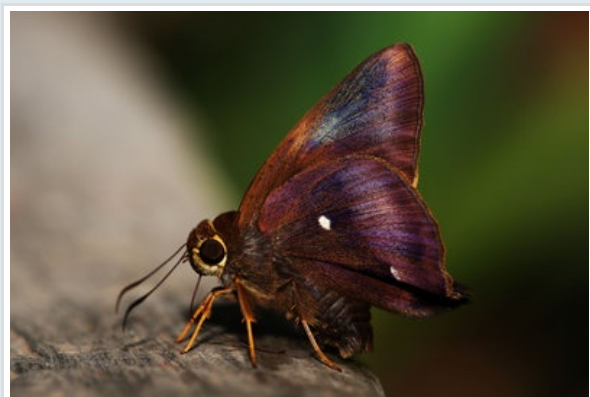
Hi David,

Thanks for the compliments. I also like to Common Blue Apollo and it is normally seen above 2700 masl in Bhutan. Here are some from my field visits. These are all Awls and Awlets. Comes during dawn mostly and are mostly subtropical species.

rgds,
Sonam



Orange-tail Awl



Common Awl



Orange stripe Awlet



Branded Orange Awlet

Re: Bhutan Butterflies

by Tony Moore, 09-Oct-19 04:14 PM GMT

Wow, Man!



Tony M.

Re: Bhutan Butterflies

by David M, 10-Oct-19 12:24 PM GMT

Just when you think you've seen the whole range....

...along comes something else from this conveyor-belt of beauty.

Those are really unusual looking butterflies, Sonam; in fact, the bodies appear more like moths.

The Orange Stripe Awlet is the pick – stunning!

Re: Bhutan Butterflies

by Sonam Dorji, 24-Oct-19 06:33 AM GMT

David M wrote:

Just when you think you've seen the whole range....

...along comes something else from this conveyor-belt of beauty.

Those are really unusual looking butterflies, Sonam; in fact, the bodies appear more like moths.

The Orange Stripe Awlet is the pick – stunning!

Thanks David. The Awls are Awlets are unique butterflies. They are found in almost the same place. You will be going there as well. It is about 150 masl. Anyways, I found several species of Yellow Gorgons. My thought was it is a rare species, but somehow after my current observations, this are not rare but uncommon. Again, you be prepared for this. It definitely one of the majestic butterflies found in Bhutan and Southeast Asia.

rgds,
Sonam





Re: Bhutan Butterflies

by Pauline, 24-Oct-19 04:55 PM GMT

Even my 'non-butterfly' friends are inspired and mesmerised by your beautiful butterflies Sonam. The sheer diversity leaves me breathless and speechless. Absolutely stunning images.

Re: Bhutan Butterflies

by David M, 24-Oct-19 08:54 PM GMT

Thanks, Sonam. Yes, these species are quite remarkable for a UK resident. I think eyebrows would be raised even were they to appear in a tropical butterfly house over here, such are their unique characteristics.

There seems to be a great deal to be discovered in Bhutan as well, unlike most parts of Europe which have been surveyed to the point of distraction.