

Arunachal Pradesh (26°28'–29°30'N, 91°30'–97°30'E), also known as the 'land of the rising sun,' is located in the north-eastern corner of India (Fig. 1). Formerly known as North East Frontier Agency (NEFA), the state of Arunachal Pradesh covers an area of 83,743 km². It is bordered by Bhutan on the west, China (Tibet) on the north and north-east, and Myanmar on the east and south-east. The Indian states of Assam and Nagaland are located to its south. The population density of the state is one of the lowest in India, with 13 persons per square kilometer, whereas the country's average is 324 {Anonymous, 2006 #106} (Anonymous 2006).

Arunachal Pradesh is rich in biodiversity and has become a hub of scientific explorations leading to the discovery of taxa new species. In 2003, a new race of Sclater's Monal *Lophophorus sclateri arunachalensis* was discovered in the Subansiri region (Kumar & Singh 2004). A new species of primate, the Arunachal macaque *Macaca munzala* was discovered from Tawang district in 2004 (Sinha *et al.* 2005). In 2006, a new bird species, the Bugun Liocichla *Liocichla bugunorum* was discovered near Eaglenest Wildlife Sanctuary in western Arunachal (Athreya 2006). Of late Arunachal Pradesh has become the focus of national and international wildlife research and conservation, partly due to its status of being in the Eastern Himalayas 'biodiversity hotspot' (Myers *et al.* 2000).

The Mishmi Hills have always attracted botanists,

Anjaw district was visited four times from 2006 to 2009 to study hunting practices of the locals, focussing on the hunting of birds (Carter 1991). The recordings are based on *ad hoc* encounters during village trails, interviews, and interactions with professional hunters, and children who hunted birds with catapults. Pictorial bird guides were used to generate interest during the interviews and were used to confirm identifications of birds. Evidence of birds found in the region was also recorded through artifacts used by the local people. Village ceremonies, festivals, and celebrations were attended to document the utility of wildlife parts, and to gather additional information about hunting. Villagers demonstrated various types of traps used by them near the *jhum* fields, or in the canopies. Occasionally villagers made models of the traps and explained the mechanism.

The Meyor, one of the lesser-known tribes of India, inhabit the Walong and Kibithoo circles of Anjaw district. They are Buddhists and are believed to have migrated from China to evade taxes. They are good at hunting and frequently travel to the snow-covered region to hunt. Unlike Mishmi, who practice slash-and-burn cultivation, Meyor practice terrace cultivation.

Bird hunting and trapping is common in the Anjaw region of Mishmi Hills. Tail feathers of Himalayan- *Lophophorus impejanus*, and Sclater's Monal *L. sclateri* are used as hand-fans, especially by chanting priests waving them during rituals. Some bird parts, like wing feathers, are used for decorative purposes, and occasionally women wear monal feathers around their necks (Aiyadurai 2007).

The hand-fan is sometimes partly covered with an ungulate's skin, usually goral *Nemorhaedus goral*, barking deer *Muntiacus muntjak*, or sambar *Cervus unicolor*. Feathers of other wild birds like Red Junglefowl *Gallus gallus*, and Racket-tailed Drongo *Dicrurus paradiseus* also find their place on the fan.

Some traps are easy to make, like *Handam*, *kheyet*, and *diow* (ㄉㄧㄡˊ), require limited skills, and can be reused. Trapping is a low investment and low cost method as traps are prepared with locally available material like bamboo. Trapping is practiced in a wide range of habitats, from farmlands, riverbeds, kitchen gardens, to forests, and mountaintops. Traps are set up at different heights: *hakap* and *tawan* (ㄊㄨㄢˊ) traps are set at tree canopy level, targeting birds that arrive to feed on fruits, which are otherwise difficult targets for catapults or gun. Traps for pheasants and other ground-dwelling birds are set on the forest floor and checked after three or four days.

1. $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{x} = \infty$ (unendlich)
 2. $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{x^2} = \infty$ (unendlich)
 3. $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{x^3} = \infty$ (unendlich)
 4. $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{x^4} = \infty$ (unendlich)
 5. $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{x^5} = \infty$ (unendlich)
 6. $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{x^6} = \infty$ (unendlich)
 7. $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{x^7} = \infty$ (unendlich)
 8. $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{x^8} = \infty$ (unendlich)
 9. $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{x^9} = \infty$ (unendlich)
 10. $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{x^{10}} = \infty$ (unendlich)

Diow*	Handam*	Paipit*	Tawan*
Hakap*	Kheyet		

Boys start hunting at the young age of 12–14 years, using catapults, mainly targeting birds and squirrels. As they grow up, they join their fathers and uncles as assistants (porters and cooks) on hunting trips when they acquire hunting and trapping skills. There is no specific age for hunting. Men in their 20s hunt till they are in their 50s, indicating that hunting continues to be a popular activity and that skills continue to be acquired by younger generation.

Hunters with guns search and pursue animals. Generally shotguns are used, but one respondent in Yatong village (Anjaw district) used Os2

