



**AVIAN DIVERSITY OF THE WESTERN NAYAR VALLEY (PAURI GARHWAL)
UTTARAKHAND**

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ABSTRACT

Present paper deals with study was carried out in Western Nayar valley (latitude $29^{\circ} 5'$ to $31^{\circ} 25'N$ and longitude $77^{\circ} 45'$ to $81^{\circ}E$) including part of Jwalpa devi, Patisain, Metakund and Satpuli in district Pauri Garhwal, Uttarakhand. Study was carried out in urban and forest habitat in the valley for one year during May 2008 to April 2009. Out of the total 119 bird species belonging to 11 orders, 31 families recorded in study area. Highest diversity of birds (Shannon index- H') was recorded in summer seasons $H'= 4.1195$, lowest diversity of birds (Shannon index- H') was recorded in winter seasons $H'= 3.3843$. The order Passeriformes and family Muscicapidae were dominant on other group of birds. Seven species of game birds viz., Red jungle fowl *Gallus gallus*, Pea fowl *Pavo cristatus*, White crested kaleej pheasant *Lophura leucomelanos hamiltani*, Cheer pheasant *Catreus wallichii*, Chukar partridge *Alectoris chukar*, Black partridge *Francolinus francolinus* and Hill partridge *Aborophila torqnela* were sighted in the study area.

KEY WORDS: Avian diversity, Relative abundance, Bird species, Shannon index- H' .

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