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FOUR NEW RACES OF BIRDS FROM EAST ASIA

BY H. G. DEIGNAN\*

Study of the bird collections made by the author in Thailand during 1952 and 1953, under a Fellowship of the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation, has led to the recognition of the following unnamed forms:

I.

The common dove of the Red Basin of Szechwan proves to be a well-marked race, separable from its relative of the maritime provinces of China by its saturate reddish coloration, similar to that that appears in so many birds of the same area. It may be called

*Streptopelia chinensis setzeri*, subsp. nov.

*Type*: U. S. Nat. Mus. No. 275893, adult female?, collected at Ipin [Suiful], Szechwan Province, China, on January 15, 1923, by David C. Graham.

*Diagnosis*: From *Str. ch. chinensis* of southeastern China separable by having the entire under parts Russet-Vinaceous (Ridgway) instead of Light Russet-Vinaceous (Ridgway), and the upper parts a deeper, slightly more rufescent, brown; from *Str. ch. vacillans* ("forresti") of southern Yunnan, and all other races except the nominate one, immediately separable by the complete absence of dark central streaks from the upper wing coverts.

*Range*: Lowland Szechwan and probably the adjacent areas of Kweichow; specimens from Shensi (south of the Tsinling Mountains) are intermediate between *setzeri* and *chinensis*.

*Remarks*: Thirteen specimens of *setzeri* have been compared with 30 of the nominate form. The new race is named for Henry W. Setzer, Division of Mammals, U. S. National Museum, who assisted me by examination of specimens of *Streptopelia* in the British Museum.

II.

The known range of *Centropus toulou* [*C. bengalensis* of authors] in the Indo-Chinese Peninsula is anomalous. Whereas in the French sphere and in Burma the species is thought to be generally distributed, in Thailand are found three populations apparently isolated from each other: the first, an uncommon winter visitor to the northern highlands and (at that season) always seen in eclipse plumage; the second, resident and common in the central plain, with adults always wearing nup-

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tial plumage in summer, eclipse plumage in winter; the third, resident and common in the Malay Peninsula from *ca.* lat. 8° N. southward, and possibly never reverting to an eclipse plumage when once adult. The peninsular form has long been recognized as inseparable from *C. t. javanensis* (Dumont); the northern visitant can only be *C. t. bengalensis* (of which *lignator* of southeastern China seems to be a synonym); the bird of the central plain has by some authors been called *javanensis*, by others *bengalensis*. Until recently pertinent material has been too scarce to permit of definitive identification, but through my own collecting and that of Robert E. Elbel a fine series of adults in nuptial dress is now available.

These show that the bird of central Thailand is in fact an unnamed race linking *bengalensis* with *javanensis*, and more distinct than any one of several of the accepted subspecies (which in some cases are founded upon no characters but those of size). I shall call it

***Centropus toulou chamnongi*, subsp. nov.**

*Type*: U. S. Nat. Mus. No. 450015, adult female (in nuptial plumage), collected at Ban Khlong Khlung [lat. 16°10' N., long. 99°45' E.], Kamphaeng Phet Province, Thailand, on April 16, 1953, by H. G. Deignan (original number 1560).

*Diagnosis*: From *C. t. bengalensis* separable by having the chestnut-rufous of the upper parts darker and duller, the scapularies distinctly nigrescent; from *C. t. javanensis*, by having the chestnut-rufous lighter and brighter, less nigrescent, and the hood highly glossed with steel blue and sharply demarcated from the remaining upper parts (as in *bengalensis*).

*Range*: Central Thailand and (apparently) southern Annam and Cochin-China.

*Remarks*: I agree with Grant and Mackworth-Praed (Bull. Brit. Orn. Club, vol. 59, 1939, pp. 50-51) that *C. bengalensis* is conspecific with *toulou* of Madagascar and Africa.

The new form is named in honor of Chamnong Thepphahatsadin, District Officer at Khlong Khlung, who rendered to my party unusual courtesies and assistance.

Both Stresemann (Nov. Zool., vol. 19, 1912, pp. 336-339) and Peters (Check-list of Birds of the World, vol. 4, 1940, p. 72) have listed *javanensis* as the form of all the Philippine Islands. I should place there the population of Paláwan, but find that those of other islands are separable by having, in fresh plumage, increased nigrescence of the anterior upper parts, the black or blackish area usually extending to the center of the back. For Philippine birds the name *molkenboeri* Bonaparte, 1850, is available.

### III.

The great salty woodpecker of the middle third of the Mayal Peninsula has by some authors been called *harterti* (northwestern Burma), by others *pulverulentus* (Java). The population is in fact exactly and consistently intermediate in color between these two and might be called

***Mülleripicus pulverulentus celadinus*, subsp. nov.**

*Type*: U. S. Nat. Mus. No. 153742, adult male, collected at Ban Phra Muang [lat. 7°20' N., long. 99°30' E.], Trang Province, Thailand, on April 14, 1896, by William L. Abbott.



*Diagnosis:* The general tone of the slate-colored upper parts is distinctly paler (more bloomed) than the blackish slate of *pulverulentus*, but equally distinctly darker than the slate gray of *harterti*.

*Range:* Twelve specimens of *celadinus* have been seen from localities as far north as the Mergui District of southern Burma and as far south as the Siamese province of Trang.

*Remarks:* Specimens examined from Singapore and Johore agree with *pulverulentus* of Java and Borneo, and it is probable that the nominate race ranges throughout all but the northwestern Malay States and into Thailand in the provinces of Narathiwat, Yala, and Pattani. Skins from southwestern Thailand as far south as Prachuap Khiri Khan Province are inseparable from birds of northern Burma.

#### IV.

Recently collected material shows that one more form of the ruby-cheeked sunbird remains to be named from Thailand. I shall name it

***Anthreptes singalensis internotus*, subsp. nov.**

*Type:* U. S. Nat. Mus. No. 451383, adult male, collected at Ban Khlua Klang [ca. lat. 11°38' N., long. 99°36' E.], Prachuap Khiri Khan Province, Thailand, on December 25, 1952, by H. G. Deignan (original number 575).

*Diagnosis:* Belonging to that group of the races in which the ferruginous of the anterior under parts is not sharply defined from the yellow of the posterior under parts, *A. s. internotus* represents the expected link between *assamensis* of northern Thailand and *interpositus* of Thailand south of the Isthmus of Kra. The ferruginous of throat and upper breast is, in either sex, darker than in *assamensis*, paler than in *interpositus*, while the yellow of the remaining under parts is more greenish than in *assamensis*, more golden than in *interpositus*.

*Range:* Southwestern Thailand, from the headwaters of the river Mae Klong to the Isthmus of Kra; Tenasserim (Mergui District), probably north to the Tavoy District.

*Remarks:* Junge and Kooiman (Zool. Verh., No. 15, 1951, p. 36) refer three males of this population to *interpositus* after comparison with a series "from Pegu and Tenasserim." True *interpositus*, however, is restricted to the Malay Peninsula south of the Isthmus, and without examination of their material I cannot surmise which race or races actually lay before them.



Deignan, H. G. 1955. "Four new races of birds from east Asia." *Proceedings of the Biological Society of Washington* 68, 145–147.

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