

Amila Prasanna Sumanapala

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EDUCATION

BSc Environmental Conservation and Management (Hons) from University of Kelaniya, Sri Lanka (Second Class Upper Division): November, 2010 – February, 2015
(Student Registration Number: EM/2009/071)

Curriculum covered:

Conservation Biology and Wildlife Management
Biodiversity Conservation and Management
Applied Ecology
Reserve Design and Protected Area Management
Environmental Context of Evolution and Biogeography
Animal Diversity
Geographical Information Systems in Environmental Studies
Environmental Impact Assessment and Environmental Monitoring

Final Year Project (Dissertation):

An Assessment on Diurnal Activities, Feeding Behaviours and Trophic Niche Segregation of Two Sympatric Avian Predators (Aves: Family Ardeidae) in a Freshwater Marsh Habitat, Sri Lanka

Completed secondary education at Royal College-Colombo 7 achieving following results at the G.C.E. Advanced Level examination 2009
(Index number – 1078674)

Subject	Grade
Biology	B
Chemistry	C
Physics	C
General English	A

RESEARCH INTERESTS

I have been involved in field research activities related to macrofauna diversity, ecology and conservation biology. My current independent work mainly focuses on the taxonomy, distribution and habitat preferences of Sri Lankan odonata. I am interested in

expanding my research work to a regional level incorporating species distribution modeling, phylogenetics and biogeography to get a better understanding on the odonata of the region and to make a positive contribute to their conservation.

FIELD RESEARCH EXPERIENCES

A volunteer field team member in the National Bird Ringing Program of Sri Lanka since February 2010.

Faunal diversity surveyor in many biodiversity surveys, Environmental Impact Assessments and Initial Environmental Examinations.

Field research assistant in several undergraduate and post-graduate research projects related to avian ecology and mammals.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCES

A contributor to the bird expert panel for “The National Red List 2012 of Sri Lanka” published by the Ministry of Environment, Sri Lanka.

Completed a Professional Placement of two weeks as a requirement for BSc Environmental Conservation and Management at Biodiversity Secretariat, Ministry of Environment, Sri Lanka and undertook the project “Preparing draft Species Information System data sheets and species profiles for endemic Sri Lankan mammals”.

Co-Sub Editor of the book “Jaiwa Vividathwaye Sri Lankeeya Urumaya” [=Biological Heritage of Sri Lanka] (2013) published by Young Biologists’ Association, Sri Lanka.

Co-Sub Editor of “Cynosure 2013”, the Annual magazine of the Environmental Conservation and Management Society of University of Kelaniya.

SCIENTIFIC PUBLICATIONS: ARTICLES

Subasinghe K. and **Sumanapala A. P.** (2014). Biological and functional diversity of bird communities in natural and human modified habitats in Northern Flank of Knuckles Mountain Forest Range, Sri Lanka. *Biodiversitas*. Vol: 15, Number 2. pp 200-205. DOI: 10.13057/biodiv/d150212

Subasinghe, K., **Sumanapala, A. P.** and Weerawardhena, S. R. (2014). The impact of forest conversion on bird Communities in Northern Flank of Knuckles mountain forest range, Sri Lanka, *Journal of Asia-Pacific Biodiversity*, Vol: 7 (4). 368-373. doi: 10.1016/j.japb.2014.07.004.

Sumanapala, A. P. and Bedjanič, M. (2013). Rediscovery of a long lost endemic damselfly *Sinhalestes orientalis* (Hagen in Selys, 1862) from Peak Wilderness Sanctuary, Sri Lanka (Zygoptera: Lestidae). *Asian Journal of Conservation Biology*. Vol. 2 (1): 44–47.

SHORT ARTICLES

De Mel, R. K., Dayananda, S. K., **Sumanapala, A. P.**, Nanayakkara, R. P., Perera, T. and Withanage, M. (2014). A previously undescribed feature in the plumage of juvenile Crested Goshawk *Accipiter trivirgatus layardi* in Sri Lanka. *BirdingASIA* 21. 100-101.

ABSTRACTS AND POSTER PRESENTATIONS

Sumanapala, A. P. (2015). Diversity and Habitat Occupancy of Odonata in Sinharaja Man and Biosphere Reserve, Sri Lanka. Student Conservation on Conservation Science – Bangaluru, at Indian Institute of Science, Bangaluru, India. (Accepted).

Sumanapala, A. P. (2014). *Diversity, Habitat Preference and Phenology of Odonata Community in Talangama Environmental Protection Area, Sri Lanka (Work in Progress)*. Student Conservation on Conservation Science – Bangaluru, on 25-28 September 2014 at Indian Institute of Science, Bangaluru, India.

Sumanapala, A. P. (2014). Diversity of odonata in the Peak Wilderness Sanctuary, Sri Lanka. *Proceedings Part 1: Abstract of Papers of the Eighteenth International Forestry and Environment Symposium 2013*. Organized by the Department of Forestry and Environmental Science, University of Sri Jayawardenapura, Sri Lanka. p 143.

Cabral, L. S. J., Kotagama, S. W., **Sumanapala, A. P.** and Weerakoon, D. K. (2013) Group size and age-sex composition of *Semnopithecus vetulus nestor* (western purple-faced langurs) in relation to land use patterns. *Proceedings of the 69th Annual Sessions: Part 1-Abstracts*, Sri Lanka Association for the Advancement of Science. P 85.

Deshapriya, C. I., Liyanage, I. S. and **Sumanapala, A. P.** (2013) Career Development in a Knowledge-based Economy with special reference to the Environmental Science Sector. *Proceedings of ASAIHL International Conference 2013: Student's forum*. The Association of Southeast Asian Institutions of Higher Learning.

Sumanapala, A. P., Dayananda, H. G. S. K., Deshapriya, C. I., Jayaratne, M. R., De Silva, D. M., Vishvanath, N. and Rajatewa, R. M. A. P. M. (2012) Biodiversity baseline survey of up country tea plantations in Nuwara Eliya District, Sri Lanka, *Proceedings Part 1: Abstract of papers of the Seventeenth International Forestry and Environment Symposium 2012*. Department of Forestry and Environmental Science, University of Sri Jayawardenapura, Sri Lanka. 19-20 pp.

CONTRIBUTION TO BOOKS

Sumanapala, A. (2014) Dragonflies and Damselflies. In: Kotagama, S. (Ed.) A Pictorial Guide to Uda Walawe National Park. Field Ornithology Group of Sri Lanka & Dilmah Conservation. pp. 97-106.

Sumanapala, A. P. and Deshapriya, C. I. (2013) Prarambhaya: Sri Lankawe Jaiwa Vividathwaya [=Biodiversity of Sri Lanka: An Introduction]. In: Jaiwa Vividathwaye Sri Lankeeya Urumaya [=Biological Heritage of Sri Lanka]. Amarasekara, H., Weerakoon, D. and Wijesundara, S. (eds.). Young Biologists' Association, Sri Lanka. pp 1-10.

Sumanapala, A. P. (2013) Sri Lankawe Bathkurange Vividathwaya [=Diversity of odonata in Sri Lanka]. In: Jaiwa Vividathwaye Sri Lankeeya Urumaya [=Biological Heritage of Sri Lanka]. Amarasekara, H., Weerakoon, D. and Wijesundara, S. (eds.). Young Biologists' Association, Sri Lanka. pp 37-40.

Sumanapala, A. P. (2013) Sri Lankawe Ubhaya Jeewinge Vividathwaya [=Diversity of amphibians in Sri Lanka]. In: Jaiwa Vividathwaye Sri Lankeeya Urumaya [=Biological Heritage of Sri Lanka]. Amarasekara, H., Weerakoon, D. and Wijesundara, S. (eds.). Young Biologists' Association, Sri Lanka. pp 65-68.

Sumanapala, A. P. (2013) Sri Lankawe Uragayange Vividathwaya [=Diversity of reptiles in Sri Lanka]. In: Jaiwa Vividathwaye Sri Lankeeya Urumaya [=Biological Heritage of Sri Lanka]. Amarasekara, H., Weerakoon, D. and Wijesundara, S. (eds.). Young Biologists' Association, Sri Lanka. pp 69-72.

Sumanapala, A. P. (2013) Sri Lankawe Pakshinge Vividathwaya [=Diversity of avifauna in Sri Lanka]. In: Jaiwa Vividathwaye Sri Lankeeya Urumaya [=Biological Heritage of Sri Lanka]. Amarasekara, H., Weerakoon, D. and Wijesundara, S. (eds.). Young Biologists' Association, Sri Lanka. pp 73-76.

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

Sumanapala, A. P. (2014) *Dragonflies of Sri Lanka: An Introduction to Diversity, Distribution and Conservation*. Presentation delivered at the meeting of the Butterfly Conservation Society of Sri Lanka. November, 2014.

POPULAR ARTICLES

Sumanapala, A. P. (2013) National Red List 2012 and the Current Status of Sri Lankan Fauna and Flora. Cyanosure 2013. Environmental Conservation and Management Society, University of Kelaniya.

Sumanapala, A. P. (2015) Odonata: A Brief Introduction to their Morphology. Newsletter of the Butterfly Conservation Society of Sri Lanka. (In Press).

WORKS IN PROGRESS

Sumanapala, A. P. Dragonflies and Damselflies of Sri Lanka. Ceylon Tea Services PLC, Colombo, Sri Lanka.

Sumanapala, A. P. Social Media Networks as an Alternative Citizen Science Approach for Conservation: The Case of Sri Lankan Odonata.

Sumanapala, A. P. New Locality Records and Range Extension of *Heliogomphus lyratus* Fraser, 1933 (Odonata: Gomphidae) with Some Notes on its Identification, Habits and Habitat.

Sumanapala, A. P., Randula, D. and Dayananda, S. K. Range extension records for several threatened odonata species in Sri Lanka.

AFFILIATED ASSOCIATIONS

Young Biologists' Association, Sri Lanka – President (since November 2014)

Field Ornithology Group of Sri Lanka – Member

Sri Lanka Association for the Advancement of Science – Student Member (Section D: Life and Earth Science)

Foundation for Nature Conservation and Preservation – Asst. Secretary (Since 2012)

Butterfly Conservation Society of Sri Lanka – Committee Member (Since 2013)

SKILLS

Field research skills: I have been involved in various field researches related to biodiversity and ecology since 2009 and have experiences in conducting field biology work in various different tropical environmental conditions. My experiences mainly cover rapid biodiversity assessments, mist netting and bird ringing.

Fauna Identification Skills: Through my experience as a field biologist and my personal studies I have gained the necessary skills to identify a majority of vertebrates recorded in Sri Lanka and invertebrates in several major groups in the field.

Communication skills: Verbal and written communication ability in both Sinhala and English medium. Experiences on public presentations and talks.

Team Work: I have successfully undertaken various team projects in various environments which enhanced my team work skills since my school years.

Organization skills: I have acquired considerable amount of organization skills through the activities done in various societies and as a scout.

Computer Literacy: Knowledge and experience on Windows XP, MS word, MS Excel, MS PowerPoint, e-mail and internet. Basic knowledge on ArcGIS and MINITAB.

OTHER INTERESTS

I enjoy outdoor activities, camping, hiking, nature photography, reading and traveling.

REFERENCES

1. Prof. Sarath Kotagama
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