

RHINO RESOURCE CENTER

www.rhinoresourcecenter.com

NEWSLETTER #33 NOVEMBER 2013

Dear colleagues and friends,

This is the 33rd issue of the quarterly e-newsletter of the Rhino Resource Center. Edited by Dr Kees Rookmaaker.

The total number of references in the collection of The RRC now stands at 17,986. We have again conquered another thousand! This is an increase of 275 items in the last quarter.

Over 17,500 references are available as PDF on RRC website



SUPPORT the RRC

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The Rhino Resource Center is a Charity (Registered KvK Utrecht 30185802)

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THE BANDAR LAMPUNG DECLARATION

A meeting was held on 2-3 October 2013 at Bandar Lampung in South Sumatra with representatives of the five Asian Rhino range states - Bhutan, India, Indonesia, Malaysia and Nepal. A common action plan was agreed with the aim of increasing the populations of Asian Rhino species by at least 3% annually by 2020. The text of the declaration is found [following this link](#).

From the press release after the meeting:

This agreement, called the Bandar Lampung Declaration, was reached after two days of negotiations at the Asian Rhino Range States Meeting held in Bandar Lampung, Indonesia, hosted by the government of Indonesia and facilitated by the IUCN Species Survival Commission (SSC).

“Our decision to host this meeting reflects Indonesia’s determination to do everything we can to save our species of rhino,” says Zulkifli Hasan, Minister of Forestry, Indonesia. “We have found that when a species becomes extremely rare, occurring at a very low density, such as the Sumatran Rhino, we need to take special measures to ensure that the animals can find each other and breed.”



The commitment outlines specific conservation actions that are necessary to secure a steady growth rate of all three Asian Rhino species – Sumatran, Javan and Greater One-horned. These include improving the biological management and monitoring of the species, strengthening the protection of their habitats, performing strict anti-poaching operations, introducing tougher penalties for those that illegally kill Asian Rhinos, and maintaining the ban in the international trade of all rhino products.

“The number of surviving Asian Rhinos, especially of Javan and Sumatran Rhinos, is currently so low that maintaining their populations is not enough to secure their survival,” says Simon Stuart, Chair of IUCN SSC. “What we need to see is the recovery of these species and a steady increase of their populations. Seeing all Asian Rhino range states agree on a common and very specific action plan is a major step towards achieving this goal.”



Pressure from illegal hunting on all species of rhinos has grown seriously in recent years, mainly due to a significant increase in non-traditional use of rhino horn and a rise of rhino horn trade in Asian markets, especially in Viet Nam and China.

The Sumatran Rhino (*Dicerorhinus sumatrensis*) is listed as Critically Endangered on The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species™ and its total population could be fewer than 100 individuals. An estimated 50 individuals of the Javan Rhino (*Rhinoceros sondaicus*), also listed as Critically Endangered, survive in Java's Ujung Kulon National Park. The Greater One-horned Rhino (*Rhinoceros unicornis*), with estimated 3,339 individuals mainly in India and Nepal, is listed as Vulnerable and could easily be lost if current trends in the illicit trade in rhino horn continue.

The agreement was reached based on the latest knowledge on the status and trends of the three species provided by the IUCN SSC Asian Rhino Specialist Group.

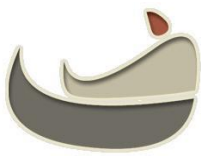
Note by the editor: The existing knowledge on the rhinoceros is of course essential to any conservation action. The RRC makes all that accessible. We can, indeed we must, learn from the work of our contemporaries and predecessors.



RHINOCEROS CAUGHT ON A CAMERA TRAP IN KALIMANTAN, BORNEO

October 2013. Using video camera traps, a joint research team that included members from WWF-Indonesia and the district authorities of Kutai Barat, East Kalimantan, have captured video of the Sumatran rhino in East Kalimantan. The footage of the rare *Dicerorhinus sumatrensis*, is the fruit of three months of research that collected footage from 16 video camera traps. The team is delighted to have secured the first known visual evidence of the Sumatran rhino in Kalimantan. There were historical records of rhino in Kalimantan, but there have been few, if any sightings for at least 50 years, though there have been occasional reports of footprints being seen, and a couple of reports of rhino being poached.

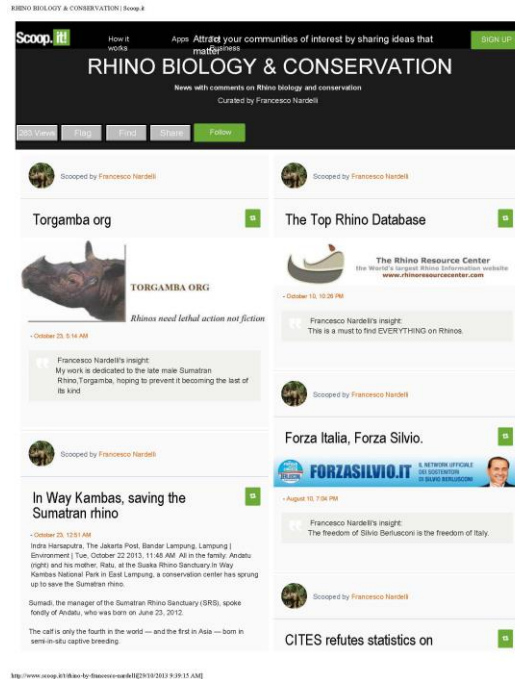
NOTE by the editor: When I was a student of biology at the Free University of Amsterdam in the 1970s, one of my pastimes was to document instances where rhinos had been recorded in the island of Borneo. It took many trips to the great libraries in my home town to read through seemingly endless travelogues of people who explored the interior of Borneo – and few of those had seen or heard of the rhinoceros. My paper of 1977 is [available here](#), while Erik Meijaard documented more recent sightings in a 1996 [paper in Pachyderm](#).



NEW WEBSITE WITH NEWS ABOUT RHINOS

And not just the news, but also evocative comments by Francesco Nardelli, the site's editor. Rhinos are constantly in the news items, some good, some bad. Nardelli has previously worked in Sumatra to save some of the last Sumatran rhinos and his insight is pertinent and useful to read. Find it here:

<http://www.scoop.it/t/rhino-by-francesco-nardelli>



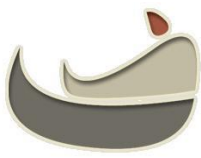
THE RHINOCEROS OF SOUTH ASIA



For the past few months I have been busy with a major compilation of all historical and recent sources regarding the distribution, status, and conservation of the three species of rhinoceros in South Asia – i.e. Pakistan, India, Nepal, Bhutan and Bangladesh. This will shed light, for the first time in a comprehensive fashion, on the ranges of the three species. I am grateful for the input of many workers in the range states. The results were only partly as they had been expected. It is hoped to make this work available soon.

– Kees Rookmaaker

Rhinoceros shooting in India. From Kinloch, A.A.A., 1904. Indian rhinoceros shooting: pp. 59-66 in Aflalo, F.G The sportsman's book for India. London, Horace Marshall and Son.



THE LATEST *PACHYDERM* HAS BEEN PUBLISHED

Pachyderm is a bi-annual journal published by the IUCN/SSC Specialists Groups for African Elephants, African Rhinos and Asian Rhinos. It always includes reports by the group chairs, as well as papers on conservation of these large mammals. It is a peer-reviewed journal and invites contributions on a wide variety of subjects. The editorial team is always ready to assist with advice and basic editing or language needs. I edit the section on all species of rhinos and am always glad to see new submissions. – Kees Rookmaaker

Pachyderm

January – June 2013

Number 53



PACHYDERM 53 - 2013

Table of contents: [on the website](#).

HISTORICAL REFERENCES ON THE RRC

While the listings in our newsletters are limited to literature of this century, there is an enormous amount of older material on the website. We silently add to this almost daily, assisted by digitisation projects of libraries and museums around the world. Jim Monson always provides details about the latest additions to his grand collection of historical rhino prints. Many of the older texts about the rhinoceros are available not just as scans but also in full text, often with added bibliographic details. Part of a project on the sources about the rhinoceros in the 16th to 18th centuries, which might be completed one day. – Kees Rookmaaker



Thomas Rowlandson (1756-1827) drew the 4th London rhino at the Exeter Change. The print was meant to be colored by hand and was a satirical comparison of the human and animal kingdoms. The above image appears again in reverse as the lower part with a man's profile with that of a camel above in a rare 1822 album (three known to exist) of pen and ink drawings and watercolours entitled 'Comparative Anatomy; Resemblances of Man and Beast', most certainly influenced by Lavater's popular book at the time.



MAMMALS OF THE FREE STATE AND LESOTHO

Boshoff, A.F. and Kerley, G.I.H., 2013. *Historical incidence of the larger mammals in the Free State Province (South Africa) and Lesotho*. Port Elizabeth, Centre for African Conservation Ecology, Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University, pp. xvi, 461

This new book has just appeared. The study of historical zoogeography is absolutely essential for an understanding on the biology and taxonomy of species. In South Africa, this work was pioneered by Jack Skead, who meticulously documented every animal mentioned by the old travellers, sportsmen and naturalists. His endeavours are now extended to parts of the country which were explored more fully from the start of the 19th century. The result: another great book, the third in the series, which will be an asset to any library or private bookshelf. More [information](#) here.



HISTORICAL INCIDENCE OF THE LARGER MAMMALS IN THE FREE STATE PROVINCE (SOUTH AFRICA) AND LESOTHO

André Boshoff and Graham Kerley

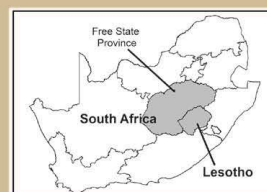
ABOUT THE BOOK

The Free State Province (one of the Republic of South Africa's nine provinces) and its south-eastern neighbour, the Kingdom of Lesotho, are characterised by very different topography. The former is dominated by vast plains, with low ridges, hills and mountains in places, and the latter by high mountains and plateaux, dissected by steep-sided river valleys. Prior to a progressive increase in their human populations, which commenced in the 1820s and 1830s, these two territories incorporated a wide range of mammal habitats in a number of almost pristine wetland and terrestrial ecosystems. The latter were dominated by extensive grasslands, with lesser areas of savanna and karroid vegetation. These habitats in turn supported a remarkable array of medium- to large-sized mammals, including the large carnivores (such as the lion, the leopard, the spotted hyaena and the African wild dog) and the very large to smaller herbivores (such as the hippopotamus, the eland, the Burchell's/plains zebra, the black wildebeest, the vaal rhebok and the steenbok).

Until now there has been no single repository for detailed information pertaining to the incidence of these animals, during the early historical period, in the territories in question. Given that many of them were exterminated, or underwent considerable declines in range and numbers, it is crucial to appreciate what occurred there historically, to enable the setting of policy to guide the management of these species, on public and private land, today.

Using a diverse range of sources of information – notably the letters, diaries and journals of early, literate, travellers, explorers, missionaries, military personnel, hunters and agri-pastoralists, supported by selected archaeological and palaeontological records and museum material – this book attempts to estimate the distributions of 54 larger mammal species for the early historical period, i.e. from the 1820s (when the first written records were made) to the 1920s (before large-scale translocations of game animals were undertaken by landowners). All the known records are presented, by decade within each territory, in a series of independent species-specific accounts. For those species for which the quantity and quality of the records is satisfactory, maps depicting the localities of qualifying written, historical records and supporting records are included. For each of the species covered, an 'Overview', which interprets the distributional information in the text and on the maps, is presented. Additional information is given in a series of Boxes.

To convey something of the life and times of the early chroniclers, and especially their interactions and experiences with the larger mammals that they encountered, the species texts contain numerous, verbatim, extracts from the original literature sources. In order to provide a human background, a brief summary of the picture – relating to the San, the Khoikhoi, the Bantu-speaking peoples and the European visitors and colonists – during the early historical period is included.



The shaded area forms the focus of the book

The book also deals with a number of related topics, namely the potential, historical distribution of the larger herbivores in relation to bioregion, some interesting distribution patterns, a review of changes in the status of the larger species since the early 1800s, and observations on movements and migrations of some of the larger ungulates. The very large numbers of plains game (notably the true quagga and the Burchell's/plains zebra, the black wildebeest and the blue wildebeest, the blesbok and the springbok) indicate that the grassland-grazer ecosystem that once existed in the Free State Province and western Lesotho was comparable to, and quite possibly eclipsed, that in similar habitat in East Africa, notably the Serengeti and Masai-Mara grasslands.

DESCRIPTION OF THE BOOK

The 480 page, A4 size, book has a hard cover, with a full-colour dust cover (with original artwork), and a gold-foiled title on the spine. It comprises text, tables and maps, and numerous black and white illustrations, a comprehensive bibliography and a user-friendly index. The content of the book has been assessed by a panel of international and national experts.

(See next page)



OUR SPONSORS

The board and staff of the Rhino Resource Center gratefully acknowledge the support of our two main sponsors, the International Rhino Foundation and SOS Rhino.

A generous donation was received from the WWF Areas Programme.



INTERNATIONAL RHINO FOUNDATION



SOS RHINO



WWF AREAS

We receive regular donations from Save the Rhino International and Rhino Carhire.



SAVE THE RHINO



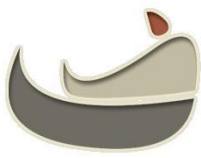
RHINO CARHIRE

We are grateful to all individuals who donate to the RRC to show their appreciation of our work.

Thank you very much.

The Rhino Resource Center is a registered charity.

We need your assistance to provide our service to all rhino lovers worldwide.



CONTENTS OF THE RHINO RESOURCE CENTER

The development of the Rhino Resource Center is shown in the table here.

RRC	2012 November	2013 February	2013 May	2013 August	2013 November	ANNUAL INCREASE
References	17,250	17,473	17,711	17,986	18,145	+ 895
PDF files	16,527	16,928	17,179	17,456	17,663	+ 1136
Images	3,086	3,152	3,202	3,236	3,272	+ 186
Members		1,613	1,765	1.885	1.942	

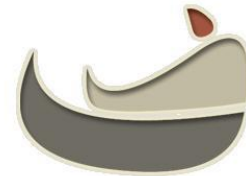
I thank everybody who has helped us by sending copies of books and papers.

All contributions are [acknowledged on the website](#).

DONATIONS TO THE RRC

Good News: - It is now possible to donate directly to the Rhino Resource Center by creditcard or Paypal. The amounts are in Euros: 10 euros = \$13.25 = £8.15. All donations, small or big, are a boost to our work. When have found the files you need for your work on the RRC, you can consider donating 10 euros.

[DONATE HERE](#)



The Rhino Resource Center is an essential tool for

- 🐾 Information and image supply to media
- 🐾 Academic research in biology, conservation studies, art history
- 🐾 Education in primary, secondary and tertiary levels
- 🐾 Conservation of rhinos both *in-situ* and *ex-situ*
- 🐾 Latest information supply of all rhino-related projects
- 🐾 Information on all the latest conservation efforts
- 🐾 All the historical and most current literature.

YES, YOU CAN HELP:

- 🐾 Authors of books, papers and reports can send us a copy after publication.
- 🐾 We are always looking for images of all rhinos in books and in the wild
- 🐾 We aim to include a picture of every rhino ever kept in captivity
- 🐾 Contribute a message to our blog and get into contact with others
- 🐾 Place a link on your website to the RRC which will be reciprocated
- 🐾 Give us a DONATION when you feel the RRC has helped your work.



NEW LITERATURE (finalised 29 October 2013)

In this quarter (August to October 2013), we have added 159 new references, to bring the total number of items in the database to 18,145.

Of these, 17,663 or 95 percent are available as PDF and searchable.

Below I have listed new entries published in the 21st century in four categories: General (all species), African rhinos, Asian rhinos and Fossil rhinos.

If you are interested in one of these titles, always check the [RRC website](#) first, because most are available there.

NEW BOOKS AND GENERAL PUBLICATIONS

Anderson-Lederer, R.M., 2013. *Genetic management of wild and translocated black rhinoceros in South Africa's KwaZulu-Natal region*. Ph.D. thesis at the University of Wellington, New Zealand, pp. 1-186. [Full version available at request by sending the RRC an email]

International Rhino Keeper Association, 2013. Various notes. *The Crash* September 2013: 1-11.

IUCN, 2013. *Bandar Lampung Declaration of the The First Asian Rhino Range States Meeting, Bandar Lampung, Indonesia, 2-3 October 2013*. Bandar Lampung, pp. 1-11.

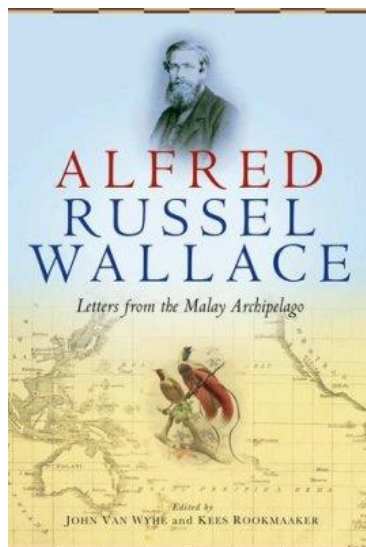
Leader-Williams, N., 2013. Fate riding on their horns—and genes? *Oryx* 47 (3): 311-312.

Martin, E.B.; Vigne, L., 2013. CITES urges stricter measures on countries flouting wildlife trade bans. *Swara, Nairobi* July-September 2013: 24-28.

Opera Gallery, 2013. *Salvador Dali: Rhinocéros cosmique*. In: Highlights: the Monaco Masters Show, pp. 82-83.

Stuart, K., 2013. *Master drawings*. Denver, Denver Art Museum .

Vigne, L.; Martin, E.B., 2013. Increasing rhino awareness in Yemen and a decline in the rhino horn trade. *Pachyderm* 53: 51-58.



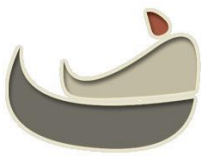
JUST PUBLISHED:

Wyhe, J. van & Rookmaaker, L.C., 2013. *Alfred Russel Wallace: Letters from the Malay Archipelago*. Oxford, Oxford University Press, pp. i-xxxii, 1-319 [ISBN: 9780199683994].

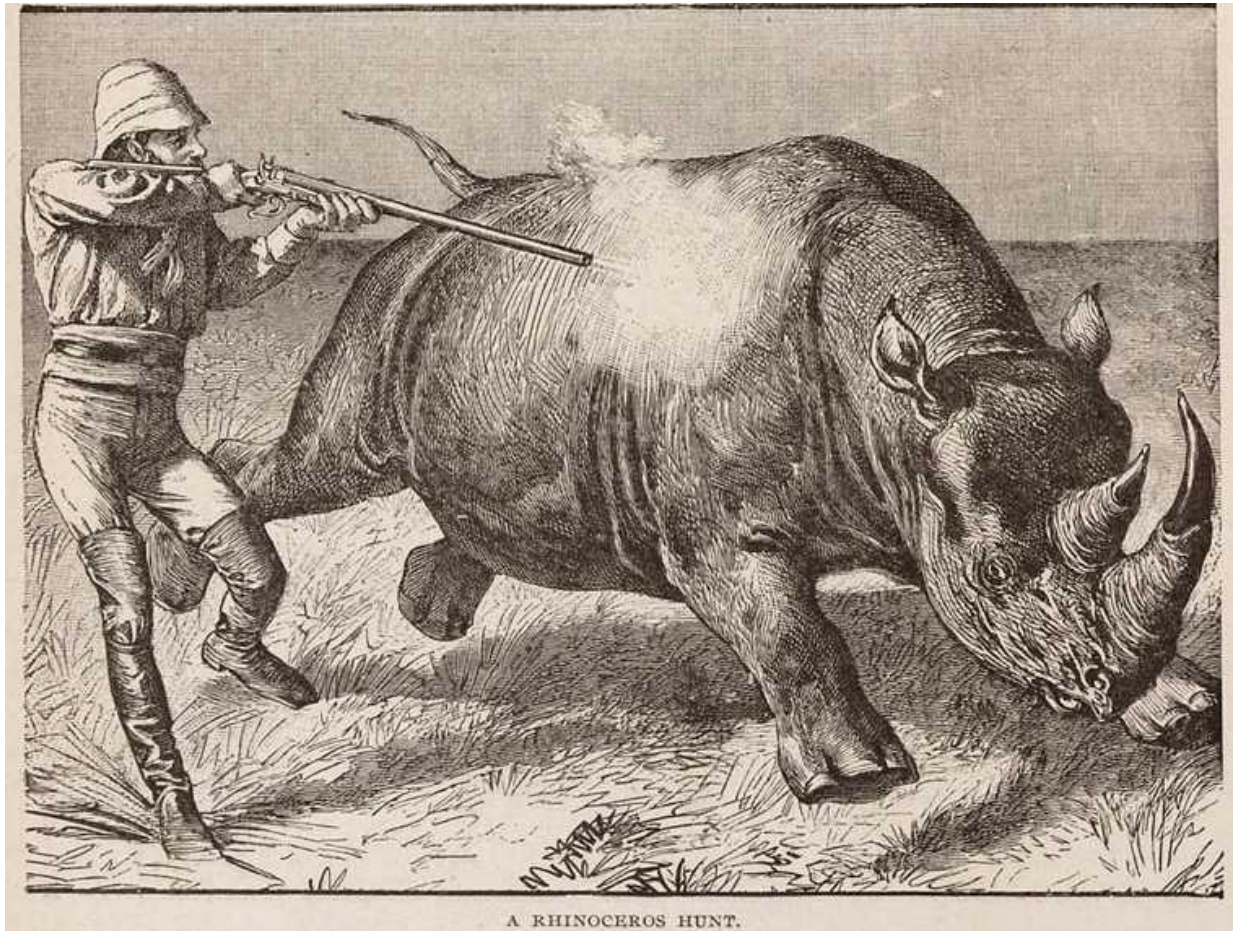


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- Boshoff, A.F.; Kerley, G.I.H., 2013. *Historical incidence of the larger mammals in the Free State Province (South Africa) and Lesotho*. Port Elizabeth, Centre for African Conservation Ecology, Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University, pp. i-xvi, 1-461 .
- Cinkova, I.; Policht, R., 2013. Identity, species and sex-specific information is contained in the contact calls of northern and southern white rhinoceros. *Proceedings of the 9th International Conference on Behaviour, Physiology and Genetics of Wildlife, Berlin 2013*, p.46.
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- Edwards, K.L.; Shultz, S.; Pilgrim, M.; Walker, S.L., 2013. Investigating reproduction and population performance in the European captive population of eastern black rhinoceros (*Diceros bicornis michaeli*). *Proceedings of the 9th International Conference on Behaviour, Physiology and Genetics of Wildlife, Berlin 2013*, p.55.
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- Fritz, J.; Hummel, J.; Streich, J.; Kienzle, E.; Clauss, M., 2013. Faecal particle size in captive rhinoceroses. Poster presentation at IZW Berlin.



African Rhinos – continued



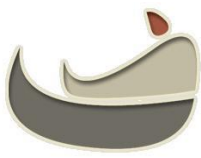
Rhino hunt. From J. W. Buel, *Heroes of the Dark Continent* (1889), p140

- Goettert, T.; Grothmann, P.; Zeller, U., 2013. Signs for eustress but not distress in black rhinos (*Diceros bicornis*) moved into new housing facilities at Magdeburg Zoo, Germany. *Proceedings of the 9th International Conference on Behaviour, Physiology and Genetics of Wildlife, Berlin 2013*, p.72.
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NEW PUBLICATIONS ON ASIAN RHINOS

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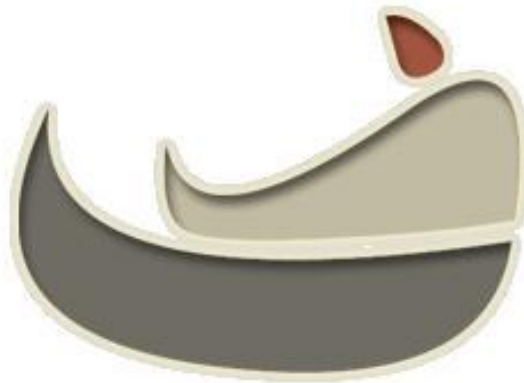
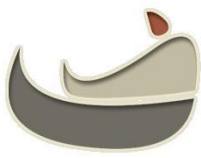
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