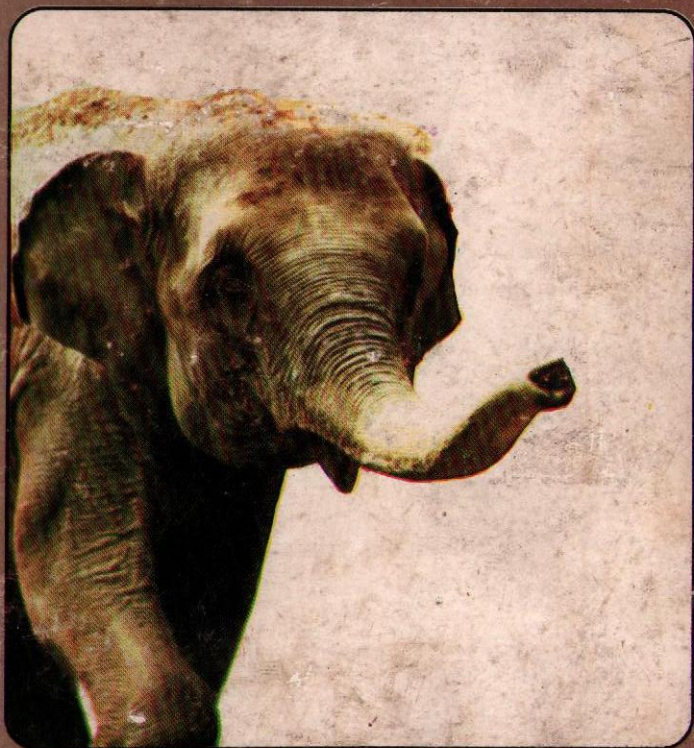


KYAW NYUNT LWIN

MAMMALS

OF MYANMAR



Elephant, gaur, banteng, rhinoceroses, tapir, tiger, leopard and all other mammalian species of Myanmar are described and illustrated together with some information on Myanmar Wild Life Law and sanctuaries.

KYAW NYUNT LWIN: Born 1943. Graduated 1966 in Veterinary Science from Yangon University and enrolled in the Army. Transferred to Yangon Zoological Gardens 1974. Visited England, India, Indonesia, Italy, Malaysia, Singapore, Sri Lanka and Thailand for further studies. Worked part-time for establishment of Hlawga Wildlife Park and Popa Mountain Park 1980-85.

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CONTENTS

PREFACE	BEARS.....31
INTRODUCTION	RED PANDA.....33
ILLUSTRATIONS	MARTENS, BADGERS AND OTTERS.34
MAP, BIOGEOGRAPHIC REGIONS	CIVETS AND LINSANGS.....38
MONKEYS.....1	MONGOOSES.....43
GIBBONS.....7	SMALL CATS.....44
SLOW LORIS.....9	CLOUDED LEOPARD.....48
TREE SHREWS.....10	LEOPARD.....48
TAPIRS.....11	TIGER50
RHINOCEROSES.....12	RABBITS AND HARES.....51
WILD PIGS AND BOARS....13	SQUIRRELS.....52
CHEVROTAINS.....14	BAMBOO RATS.....54
MUSK DEER.....16	RATS, MICE AND VOLES.....55
DEER.....17	PORCUPINES.....56
WILD CATTLE.....20	PANGOLINS.....57
GOAT ANTELOPES.....23	BATS.....58
ELEPHANTS.....25	INSECT-EATERS.....61
DUGONG.....27	FLYING LEMURS.....62
IRRAWADDY DOLPHIN.....28	REFERENCES.....63
JACKAL AND DHOLE.....29	INDEX.....64

PREFACE

This book is, in large part, a translation of the Myanmar-language book, entitled “မြန်မာနိုင်ငံ တောရိုင်းတိရစ္ဆာန်များ(နို့တိုက်သတ္တဝါများ)” which was written by the author and published by Sarpay Beikman in 1984. The manuscript for the Myanmar-language book was awarded a first prize in 1981 by Sarpay Beikman for its Manuscript Competition (Science and Applied Science Category). The book contained photographs of mammals, courtesy of various publishers, including The Johns Hopkins University Press of Baltimore and London, and Dr. Boonsong Lekagul of Bangkok. It also carried on its front page short introductory remarks by U Tun Yin, retired B.C.S., author of “Wild Animals of Burma”, and U H G Hundley, retired Conservator of Forests, Forest Department.

U Tun Yin and U H G Hundley had both helped the author in his work on the Myanmar-language book. U H G Hundley, at the request of the author, translated it into English in 1984. This English-language edition is, therefore, the work of both U H G Hundley and the author except for a few alterations and additions which the author made in view of publishing it for foreigners.

I bow my thanks with profound respect to the late U Tun Yin and to the late U H G Hundley, without whose encouragement, guidance and assistance, both books would never have come out.

I am also grateful to Mr Jonathan Murray of USA who is a scientific advisor to Mark Graham & Philip Round's "Thailand's Vanishing Flora & Fauna" (Finance One Public Co Ltd) for his kind help in proof-reading.

Yangon, December 30, 1994

Kyaw Nyunt Lwin

INTRODUCTION

Myanmar is home to a wonderful variety of wildlife. Some 220 species of mammals, nearly 1000 species of birds and about 360 species of reptiles have so far been recorded. They inhabit ecosystems ranging from rain forest in Rakine and Tanintharyi States to mangrove and estuarine forest in the Ayeyarwady delta region, from sub-tropical and temperate evergreen forest in the north to hill savanna in Shan and Kayah States, in addition to several important inland aquatic habitats. Over half the land area of Myanmar is forested.

This book covers all mammalian species of Myanmar as recorded by various workers. Facts about Rats and Bats are summarised, and fuller notes for other mammals are given.

Species are described in such a way that their English name, Latin name and Myanmar name appear first, and their distribution range, size (in inches) and body-weight (in pounds), coat colour, behaviour, food, breeding and life-span follow in that order. Short notes on genus or family or order, to which the species belong, are also given in order to introduce the species themselves.

The illustrations of the species given in this book are drawn from the plates and, in some cases, photographs found in various books listed under References.

The arrangement of the species which starts with the Monkeys and ends up with the Flying Lemur, as adopted by Hans Hwass in his book "Mammals of the World", is followed in this book.

ILLUSTRATIONS

by

Kyaw Naing

1. Stump-tailed Macaque	1
2. Crab-eating Macaque	2
3. Assamese Macaque	3
4. Rhesus Macaque	4

PLATE IV



PLATE IV

	Page
1. Javan Rhinoceros.....	12
<i>Rhinoceros sondaicus</i>	
2. Sumatran Rhinoceros.....	13
<i>Dicerorhinus sumatrensis</i>	
3. Malayan Tapir.....	11
<i>Tapirus indicus</i>	
4. Wild Boar.....	14
<i>Sus scrofa</i>	
5. Lesser Chevrotain.....	15
<i>Tragulus javanicus</i>	

RHINOCEROSES

Rhinoceroses (Family: Rhinocerotidae) are distributed in Africa and tropical Asia. Africa has two species and Asia has three species.

Of the three Asian species, two are recorded from Myanmar, namely Javan Rhinoceros and Sumatran Rhinoceros.

Javan Rhinoceros *Rhinoceros sondaicus* Kyan-sin or Kyan

This species of rhinoceros is now believed to be extinct in Myanmar. Should they still exist they might be found in the Kayin State. In Java, an estimated number of 40 are still living in the Ujung Kulon reserve.

Head and Body Length: 118 in. Tail Length: 27½ in.
Shoulder Height of male: 70 in. Total Weight: 3300-4400 lb.
Illustration: Plate IV Fig. 1.

The female lacks a horn but has a small bump in its place. Has 3 folds of skin across back, including one in front of shoulder.

This rhinoceros is found in thick evergreen forests and in the neighbourhood of streams; it loves to wallow for hours on end. It browses on leaves and is not fond of grass. It evades the enemy on sight. If caught at bay it charges and does not use its horn but attacks with its tushes.

The period of gestation in female is 17 months. Only one young is dropped at birth: which is weaned at 2 years. Longevity is about 50 years.

Extract from the Protection of Wild Life Law of Myanmar **(Law No 6/94 dated June 8, 1994)**

- (a) The Director General of the Forest Department may, with the approval of the Minister, make recommendations for the export of wild life permitted to be raised on a commercial basis or any part thereof;
- (b) The Forest Officer assigned by the Director General may permit removal or transportation from one part to another of wild life which is permitted to be hunted or to be raised on a commercial basis or any part thereof.

Sumatran Rhinoceros
Dicerorhinus sumatrensis
 Wet-kyan or Kyan

Widespread over Myanmar.

Head and Body Length: 96 in. Tail Length: 6 in.

Shoulder Height: 60 in. Total Weight: 2200 lb.

Illustration: PLate IV Fig.2.

The Sumatran Rhinoceros is the smallest of all rhinos. Has two horns; the fore being about 12 in. long and the rear a mere bump. The female has shorter horns. The whole body is covered with hair, those in the ears sticking out. This animal has but one fold of skin just behind the shoulders.

These rhinos love wallowing and soaking themselves in muddy hollows. They feed mostly on leaves of shrubs and bamboos and sometimes eat fruit that have dropped from trees. They are not fond of grass. They forage in early mornings and late evenings and lie up in sheltered places during the day. The female has a gestation period of 7 - 8 months and one calf is dropped at birth.

This rhino is very scarce today.

WILD PIGS AND BOARS

Wild pigs and boars (Family: Suidae) are found in Europe, Asia, E Indies and Africa. They were introduced into N and S America, Australia, Tasmania, New Guinea and New Zealand.

Nine species of wild pigs and boars are recognised, and one species is found in Myanmar.

Extract from the Protection of Wild Life Law of Myanmar
(Law No 6/94 dated June 8, 1994)

A person who has been granted a hunting licence shall-

- (a) pay the hunting licence fees as may be prescribed;
- (b) abide by the conditions of the hunting licence;
- (c) submit to the inspection of the Forest Department.

Females have 2 pairs of mammae in axillary position. After a gestation period of 60 days, females give birth to one single young, rarely two, at a time. Unweaned infant is carried on belly of the mother.

There are two species of Flying Lemurs, and one species, namely Malayan Flying Lemur or Malayan Colugo is found in Myanmar.

Malayan Flying Lemur or Malayan Colugo

Cynocephalus variegatus

Myauk-laung-pyan

Found in Tanintharyi.

Head and Body Length: 15-16½ in. Tail Length: 8½-11 in.

Total Weight: 2-3½ lb. Illustration: Plate XV Fig 3.

General colour is brown to reddish in males and grayish in females. Coat white-spotted. Underparts paler.

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