



K.L.E. Society's  
Basavaprabhu Kore Arts, Science and Commerce  
College, CHIKODI -591 201

## DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY

### B.Sc Second Semester

### CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that Mr / Miss Keerti Godwadkar of  
second semester has satisfactorily completed the study tour as prescribed in the  
practical syllabus by the Rani Chennamma University Belagavi, during the  
academic year 2019-2020.

  
Staff-member in-charge

  
Head of the Department  
HEAD  
DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY

### List of the students who have participated in study tour

R. No	Sl. No	NAME OF THE STUDENTS
150	1	KAVITA ANIL SHIPURAKAR
151	2	MANALI MANIK PATIL
153	3	ROHINI RAJU BADIGER
154	4	SAGAR BAPU HERWADE
155	5	SUCHITA SUNIL HAVALE
157	6	VASUNDHARA KRISHNA GHATAGE
159	7	VINAYAK PRAKASH BENADE
160	8	VINUTA UTTAM KAMBLE
161	9	AISHWARYA DAYANAND SANE
162	10	AKANKASHA BABAGOUDA PATIL
163	11	BASAVARAJ ANNASAB CHOUGALE
164	12	KAVERI SUBHAS KHOT
165	13	KEERTI MALLESHI GADIWADDAR
166	14	LAXMI PUNDALIK NAIK
167	15	MADHU RAVIKUMAR RAMALAD
168	16	NANDINI MAHANTESH MAGADUM
169	17	NAVEEN RAVASAB SADALAGI
170	18	NIKHIL VIJAY NAIK
171	19	POOJA ANNASAB KUMBAR
172	20	POOJA RAJAGOUDA PATIL

173	21	PRAMOD BHARAMAPPA JAGANURE
174	22	REKAH RAMESH HUDED
175	23	SANDESH ASHOK ZALAKE
176	24	SHREESH PRASAD KULKARNI
177	25	SNEHA JITTENDRA MADYAPPAGOL
178	26	SOUMYA SHRISHAIL PATTANSHETTI
179	27	SUHASINI SIDRAM KABADAGI
180	28	TEJESWINI SANJEEV KILLEDAR
190	29	SUHAS R
191	30	SAHANA BASAVARAJ HANJI
197	31	KRUTIKA BASAVARAJ KALLATTI
198	32	RAKSHITA RAJU BINDAGE
200	33	ISHA PRAVEEN JAIN
201	34	JEEVAN RAMESH KAGALE
209	35	SAMIKSHA MILIND PATIL
210	36	VIKAS MARUTI KAMBLE
213	37	D DASARI VINAY RAMAKRISHNA
214	38	AKKINI VINOD SRIINIVAS
216	39	SUPRIYA MAHADEVAPPA CHALAWADI

As per the Rani Chennamma University Belgavi, B. Sc II semester Zoology curriculum (both theory and practical) is based on "Biodiversity of Animals". Making a trip to any habitat having diverse fauna and writing a report about what is observed is the partial fulfillment of the course.

We have decided to study the animal biodiversity at "Chitri-ecotourism" at Awandi, Ajara on Friday, 13<sup>th</sup> March 2020. The distance of Chitri forest from Chikodi is around 75 Km. We have accompanied a total of 38 students, 4 staff members and 1 peon. We left the Chikodi by 8:00 A.M. and reached Chitri by 10:00 A.M in a government bus.

There we met Prof. Anil Magar, Head, Department of Zoology, Dr Ghali College Gadhinglaj. After breakfast at 11:00 A.M we have started the "Blind Trek" with the help of rope under the guidance of Prof. P. P. Shete. Blind trekking was very nice experience.

After completion of blind trek at 1:00P.M, we went for jungle trail towards Chitri Dam Backwaters, about 4 Km from the entry point. During jungle trail, we have observed different types of plants, mosses, epiphytes, birds, butterflies and insects. The entire visit was finished by 3:00 P.M. After finishing the jungle trail at 3:30P.M, we had delicious lunch together. After lunch we enjoyed various activities like tyre passing, spider net climbing etc.

At 4.30 P.M, a lecture was organized. Prof. Anil Magar, Head of the Department Zoology, Dr Ghali College Gadhinglaj explained about poisonous and non-poisonous snakes. He also explained how to handle snakes with live limbless reptile. Like this we studied and enjoyed whole day with lots of knowledge. We left the Chitri at 6.30 P.M. and returned to the Chikodi by 8.30 P.M. The entire study excursion was found to be very successfully completed and academically satisfied and beneficiary.

## INTRODUCTION

As per the Rani Chennamma University Belagavi, B. Sc second semester Zoology syllabus, Project is based on "Biodiversity of Animals". In theory we study only one animal as representative of the respective phylum. To know and understand the habitat where these animals live, study excursion is useful. As it is one day field visit, we restricted our visit to Chitri-Ecotourism centre, Awandi – Ajara. It is situated in the chitri forest of Maharashtra state and this provided us to study the animal diversity of a forest (terrestrial) habitat. The tour was conducted on 13<sup>th</sup> March 2020.



K.L.E Society's  
**BASAVAPRABHU KORE COLLEGE,  
ARTS, SCIENCE AND COMMERCE COLLEGE,  
CHIKODI – 591 201 (District Belagavi)**

(Re-accredited at 'A' grade by NAAC with CGPA of 3.26 in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Cycle)

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**DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY**  
**B. Sc Second Semester [2019-2020]**



**A PROJECT REPORT ON**  
**“BIODIVERSITY OF ANIMALS AT AWANDI – AJARA”**

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## BIODIVERSITY AT CHITRI-ECOTOURISM AWANDI – AJARA

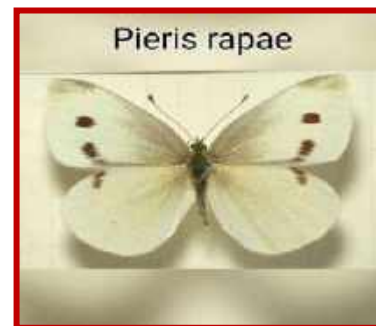
In Chitri forest we have observed a few animals in their natural habitat. We have observed different types of butterflies, insects, frogs, snakes and birds. This area is known for hundreds of different species of butterflies. Along with the animals we also observed different types of plants which provide shelter to the specific animals and medicinal plants also. Biodiversity is the variety and variability of life on earth. Following are the details for the species which we have seen in Chitri forest.

### BUTTERFLIES

**Cabbage White Butterfly:** It is commonly called as “Cabbage White Butterfly”. It is wide spread and populations are found across Europe, North Africa, Asia, South America and Great Britain. The caterpillar of this species, often referred to as the "imported cabbageworm", is a pest to crucifer crops such as cabbage and broccoli. The butterfly can be distinguished by the white colour with small black dots on its wings. Under wings are yellowish with black spots.

#### Classification:

Phylum: Arthropoda  
Class: Insecta  
Order: Lepidoptera  
Family: Pieridae  
Genus: *Pieris*  
Species: *rapae*



**Grassy Yellow Butterfly:** It is commonly called as “Grassy Yellow Butterfly” found in Asia and Africa. They are found flying close to the ground and are found in open grass habitat. Male upper side has yellow variable to rich lemon yellow according to locality with light or heavy rain fall. Female are very similar to males but without sex mark. Fertilization is internal and shows indirect development.

#### Classification:

Phylum: Arthropoda  
Class: Insecta  
Order: Lepidoptera  
Family: Pieridae  
Genus: *Eurema*  
Species: *hecabe*



**Common Crow Butterfly:** It is commonly called as “Common crow butterfly” found in South Asia and Australia. In India it is referred as “Common Indian Crow”. The common crow is glossy black butterfly has brown undersides with white markings along the outer margins of both the wings. It has velvety black band located near the rear edge on upper side of forewings. On underside, there is white streak in the same location both in male as well as female. Fertilization is internal and shows indirect development.

**Classification:**

Phylum: Arthropoda  
Class: Insecta  
Order: Lepidoptera  
Family: Nymphalidae  
Genus: *Euploea*  
Species: *core*



**Tiger Butterfly:** It is also known as “Tiger butterfly” and is one of the common butterflies of India. It mainly occurs in scrub jungles, dry and moist deciduous forest. It prefers the area of moderate to heavy rain fall. It closely resembles the Monarch butterfly (*Danaus plexippus*) of America. Male has prominent black and white spots on the underside of hind wings. Female has pouch on the hind wings. It visits to the flowers of Cosmos, Celosia, Lantana for nectar. Fertilization is internal and shows indirect development.

**Classification:**

Phylum: Arthropoda  
Class: Insecta  
Order: Lepidoptera  
Family: Nymphalidae  
Genus: *Danaus*  
Species: *genutia*



**INDIAN POISONOUS SNAKES**

The Dense and dark forest of India is best habitat for the reptiles. The jungle offers a wide range of area for snakes. There are around 270 species of snakes in India, out of which about 60 are highly venomous (poisonous). We saw a few snakes in the forest area. Their description with pictures is mentioned in the next few pages:



**Indian Cobra [Spectacled Cobra] (*Naja naja*), commonly known as ‘Holy Snake’:** The Indian cobra, is one of the species of highly venomous snake found throughout India. Cobras prefer open forest edges, fields, and the areas around villages. It feeds on rodents, lizards, and frogs. The Indian cobra usually hides in holes in embankments, termite mounds, tree hollows, rock. It exhibits the hood mark, located at the hood. These markings are formed by two circular ocelli connected by a curved line, resembling spectacles. Hence the common name spectacled cobra.

**Classification:**

Phylum: Chordata  
Subphylum: Vertebrata  
Division: Gnathostomata  
Superclass: Tetrapoda  
Class: Reptilia  
Order: Ophidia  
Genus: *Naja*  
Species: *naja*



**Indian Krait [Common Krait] – (*Bungarus caeruleus*):** Krait venom is extremely neurotoxic. It induces paralysis. Its bite is lethal to man. There are 12 species; some of them are the common krait, banded krait and Indian Krait. The body is cylindrical, tapering towards the tail. The tail is short and rounded. The eyes are small with rounded pupils. The head shields are normal, without loreals. The scales are highly polished and hexagonal.



**Malabar Pit Viper – (*Trimeresurus malabaricus*):** The Indian Green Pit Viper is also known as bamboo snake or tree viper. These are arboreal, living in bushes and amidst bamboo vegetation. It feeds on frogs, lizards and insects. It grows to a length of 2.5 feet. Tail is prehensile. The species inhabits moist forests, both evergreen and deciduous, where it may be found on low vegetation, or in shrubs. The Malabar pit viper is nocturnal and usually inactive in the day, sometimes seen basking on rocks or trees near streams. The species preys upon tree frogs, geckos, musk shrews, and other small animals



**Russell's viper:** The species is found in Asia throughout the Indian subcontinent, much of Southeast Asia, Southern China and Taiwan. It is a common highly poisonous snake. Head is flattened triangular, and distinct from the neck. Snout is blunt, rounded and raised. Nostrils are large, single nasal scale. It possesses paired erectile fangs in front of upper jaw. Its body rhythmically swells and hissing sound is produced. Its bite is fatal to man.

**Classification:**

Phylum: Chordata  
Subphylum: Vertebrata  
Division: Gnathostomata  
Superclass: Tetrapoda  
Class: Reptilia  
Order: Ophidia  
Genus: *Dobia*  
Species: *russelii*



**BIRDS**

**Cotton Teal (*Nettapus coromandelianus*):** It belongs to the Anatidae family. Appears from a distance like a miniature comb duck. This is our wide spread resident small duck and gregarious in habit. The male has a white head and neck with a black cap and breast band. The female is dull in color. It is said to be the



smallest duck in the world. It is wide spread in better watered areas of India, but nowhere it is really abundant. Usually found in pairs or small flocks on weedy tanks where it feeds on aquatic plants. Though not good adapted for either diving or walking, but it flies fast and very well.

**Large Egret (*Casmerodius albus*):** The egrets belong to family Ardeidae. It is solitary bird having black legs and toes. There is a dark line from yellow (black



when non-breeding) beak extending behind the eyes. Feathers are highly ornamental on the back.

**Lesser Whistling duck (*Dendrocygna javanica*) :** It belongs to the family Anatidae. Both male and female look alike. These are widely found in water bodies in the low lying areas of Kokan, Malabar and foothills of the Western Ghats and Deccan Plateau. It is commonly encountered on water bodies amidst human habitation, even if the water is partially polluted. Being a good diver and grazer, it is seen on water bodies. Nesting coincides with south west monsoon. Generally it makes nests in tree holes or in reed beds. It is still hunted for flesh.



**Pheasant Tailed Jacana (*Hydrophasianus chirugus*):** It belongs to the family Jacanidae. The Pheasant-tailed Jacana is a large (39-58 cm, including a 25-35 cm tail), distinctive bird with a long tail and very long toes. In breeding plumage the body is blackish below, browner with a greenish tinge above, the wings are white and the long tail is black. The head, face and front half of the neck are white, and the hind-neck is a shiny yellow-buff.

A black patch on the rear of the crown continues as a line down the neck, separating the yellow hind neck from the white fore-neck. The bill and legs are bluish gray and the iris is brown. In non-breeding plumage the under-parts are white, with a



brownish bar across the breast, the upperparts are paler greenish brown and the tail is much shorter. Sexes are alike, but the female is significantly larger. The Pheasant-tailed Jacana frequents freshwater wetlands with extensive aquatic vegetation such as lakes, ponds and swampy ground. It walks on floating water plants to feed on insects and other invertebrates. The nest is a pad of stems and pieces of aquatic vegetation, constructed chiefly by the male. The sex roles are reversed, with the female defending three or more males, and laying successive clutches of four eggs, up to about 10 per year. The eggs are left with the males for incubation and all parental care. The female, however, defends the nesting territory.

**Purple Moor Hen (*Porphyrio porphyrio*):** It belongs to the family Rallidae. It is a beautifully shy rail. Flocks graze on the edges of lakes and soon enter into aquatic plants when sense the presence of human beings. They playfully chase each other. White rump flashes as the tail is flicked now and again. The low flight is clumsy with much effort and wings will be fluttering. They generally walk on floating vegetation, eating tubers and insects.



**Bronze Winged Jacana (*Metopidius indicus*) :** It belongs to the family Jacanidae (Charadriidae). It is the only member of the genus *Metopidius*. The jacanas are a group of waders in the family Charadriidae, which are identifiable by their huge feet and claws which enable them to walk on floating vegetation in the shallow lakes that are their preferred habitat. They are found worldwide within the tropical zone. The Bronze-winged Jacana breeds in India and southeast Asia. It is sedentary apart from seasonal dispersion.

It lays four black-marked brown eggs in a floating nest. The males, as in some other wader families like the phalaropes, take responsibility for incubation. These are conspicuous and unmistakable birds. They are 29 cm (11 in) long, but the females are larger than the males. They are mainly black, although the inner wings are very



dark brown and the tail is red. There is a striking white eye stripe (white eye brow is conspicuous). It is mostly seen in the lake having Hydrilla, Water Lily, Trapa, Water Hyacinth. These are excellent swimmers and divers. The yellow bill extends up as a red coat-like head shield, and the legs and very long toes are grey. Young birds have brown upperparts. Their under-parts are white, with a buff fore-neck. The Bronze-winged Jacana's feeds on insects and other invertebrates picked from the floating vegetation or the water's surface. When forced they sometimes choose to hide by submerging themselves. The male may carry chicks between the wings and body. Metallic bronze coloured under wings surrounding the tail are conspicuous.

**Common Coot (*Fulica atra*):** Coots are medium-sized water birds that are members of the rail family Rallidae. They constitute the genus *Fulica*. Coots have



predominantly black plumage, and unlike many rails they are usually easy to see, often swimming in open water. They are close relatives of the moorhen. They have prominent frontal shields (decoration on the forehead) and bill.

Like other rails, they have lobed toes. The featherless shield gave rise to the expression "as bald as a coot," which the Oxford English Dictionary cites in use as early as 1430. They tend to have short, rounded wings and are weak fliers and nevertheless can cover long distances on rare occasions. Coots can walk and run vigorously on strong legs, and have long toes that are well adapted to soft, uneven surfaces. These birds are omnivorous, eating mainly plant material, but also small animals and eggs. They are aggressively territorial during the breeding season, but are otherwise often found in sizeable flocks on the shallow vegetated lakes they prefer.

**Red Wattled Lapwing (*Vanellus indicus*):** This Lapwing is a large plover, a wader in the family Charadriidae. It has characteristic loud alarm calls which are variously rendered as did he do it or pity to do it leading to colloquial names like the did-he-do-it bird. Usually these are seen in pairs or small groups not far from water. These are large waders, about 35cm long. The wings and back are light brown with a purple sheen, but head and chest and front part of neck are black. Prominently white



patch runs between these two colours, from belly and tail, flanking the neck to the sides of crown. Short tail is tipped black. A red fleshy wattle in front of each eye, black-tipped red bill, and the long legs are yellow. In flight, prominent white wing bars formed by the white on the secondary coverts. Males and females are similar in plumage but males have a 5% longer wing. It is also seen in ploughed fields, grazing land, and margins and dry beds of tanks and puddles. It is also found in forest clearings around rain-filled depressions.

It runs about in short spurts and dips forward obliquely (with unflexed legs) to pick up food in a typical plover manner. This species is declining in its western range, but is abundant in much of South Asia, being seen at almost any wetland habitat in its range. In flight diagnostic features are white wing bar, and broad black band on tail. The diet of the lapwing includes a range of insects, snails and other invertebrates, mostly picked from the ground. They may also feed on some grains.

**White breasted water hen (*Amaurornis phoenicurus*):** It is a water bird of the rail and crane family Rallidae that is widely distributed across Southeast Asia and the Indian Subcontinent. They are dark slaty birds with a clean white face, breast and belly. They are somewhat bolder than most other rails and are often seen stepping slowly with their tail cocked upright in open marshes or even drains near busy roads. Adult White-breasted Water hens have mainly dark grey upperparts and



flanks, and a white face, neck and breast. The lower belly and under tail are cinnamon coloured. The body is flattened laterally to allow easier passage through the undergrowth. They have long toes, a short tail and a yellow bill and legs. Sexes are similar but females measure slightly smaller. They make short distance movements and are known to colonize new areas. Most often they are found near freshwater bodies. These birds are usually seen singly or in pairs as they forage slowly along the edge of a water body mainly on the ground but sometimes clambering up low vegetation. The tail is held up and jerked as they walk. They probe with their bill in mud or shallow water. They mainly eat insects, small fish, aquatic invertebrates and seeds. Both sexes incubate the eggs and take care of the chicks.



**Scarlet minivet (*Pericrocotus flammeus*):** It is a small passerine bird belonging to the family Canpephagidae. This minivet is found in tropical southern Asia from the Indian subcontinent east to southern China, Indonesia, and the Philippines. They are common resident breeding birds in forests and other well-wooded habitats including gardens, especially in hilly country. While the male of most subspecies are scarlet to orange with black upper parts, the females are usually yellow with greyish olive upper parts. The Scarlet Minivet is 20–22 cm long with a strong dark beak and long wings. The male has black upperparts and head, and scarlet under-parts, tail edges, rump and wing patches. The female is grey above, with yellow under-parts (including the face), tail edges, rump and wing patches.

**Peacock:** We were also lucky to witness the free movement of our National bird in the Londa forest area. Indian Peafowl (*Pavo cristatus*) : Peafowl are two Asiatic species of flying bird in the genus *Pavo* of the pheasant family, Phasianidae, best



known for the male's extravagant eye-spotted tail, which it displays as part of courtship. The male is called a peacock, the female a peahen, and the offspring peachicks. The adult female peafowl is grey or brown. Peachicks can be yellow colour with darker brown patches. The male has iridescent blue-green or green colored plumage. The peacock tail ("train") is not the tail quill feathers but the highly elongated upper tail covert feathers. The "eyes" are best seen when the peacock fans its tail. Both species have a crest atop the head. The female (peahen) Indian Peafowl has a mixture of dull green, brown, and grey in her plumage. She lacks the long upper tail coverts of the male but has a crest. Peafowl are forest birds that nest on the ground but roost in trees. They are terrestrial feeders. Peafowl are omnivorous and eat most plant parts, flower petals, seed heads, insects and other arthropods, reptiles, and amphibians.

**Jungle Babbler:** They are found in group containing seven members so also called as "Saath bhai"( seven brothers). It is common resident breeding bird in most parts of Indian subcontinent. The jungle babbler's habitat is forest and cultivation. This species is non-migratory and has short rounded wings and weak flight. The upper part of the body is usually slightly darker in shade and there is some mottling on the throat and breast. They breed throughout the year. Sexes are identical.



**Kingfisher:** All kingfishers are highly territorial; since it must eat around 60% of its body weight each day, it is essential to have control of a suitable stretch of river or water body. Kingfisher is solitary for most of the year, roosting alone in heavy cover. Common Kingfisher, also known as Eurasian Kingfisher, or River Kingfisher, is a small Kingfisher resident to the Indian Subcontinent and widespread.





**Yellow-footed green pigeon (Treron phoenicoptera):** It is known as yellow-legged green pigeon. It is a common species of green pigeon found in the Indian subcontinent. It is the state bird of Maharashtra. In marathi it is called Hola or Hariyal. The species feeds on fruit, including many species of Ficus. They forage in flocks. In the early morning they are often seen sunning on the tops of emergent trees in dense forest areas. They

especially are found sitting in couples on tree branches.

**CONCLUSION:** Biodiversity boosts ecosystem productivity where each species, no matter how small, all have an important role to play. The number of species of plants, animals, and microorganisms, the enormous diversity of genes in these species, the different ecosystems is all part of a biologically diverse Earth. Owing to habitat destruction for developmental activities in urban environment and unscientific management of natural resource, much for our some animals are disappearing and at present, their survival is under threat. Chitri reserve forest is situated northeast Chitri in Kolhapur district. This area provides polluted free and suitable habitat to different types of animals.

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:** We would like to express my gratitude to our beloved Principal of our college Prof. Udaysing R Rajput for permitting us to conduct this programme and providing the support.

We thank Dr. N. R. Birasal, Head, Department of Zoology for organizing study excursion to “Chitri Eco- Tourism centre” Maharashtra state to study the Biodiversity of animals. We thank Smt. Sridevi I Puranik, Miss. Megha P Kapurkar and Miss. Trupti P Khidrapure for their continuous support to undertake this visit and guiding us.

We would like to thank Prof. Anil Magar, Head of the Department of Zoology, Dr. Ghali College, Gadhinglaj for his Guidance and special lecture regarding identification of poisonous and non- poisonous snakes along with the necessary information regarding fauna of that place.

We also would like to thanks to Prof. P.P. Shete, Devchand College, Arjun-nagar for study tour management and their guidance.

## A FEW SNAPS OF THE STUDY TOUR WHILE PERFORMING DIFEERENT ACTIVITIES

Team members getting ready for trekking event (collecting sticks)



Students entering into the forest



## Students entering into the forest for trekking with the help of sticks



## Students along with faculty take rest after reaching trekking point



**Students visualizing scenic beauty of Chitri forest area**



**Students and staff near Chitri river**





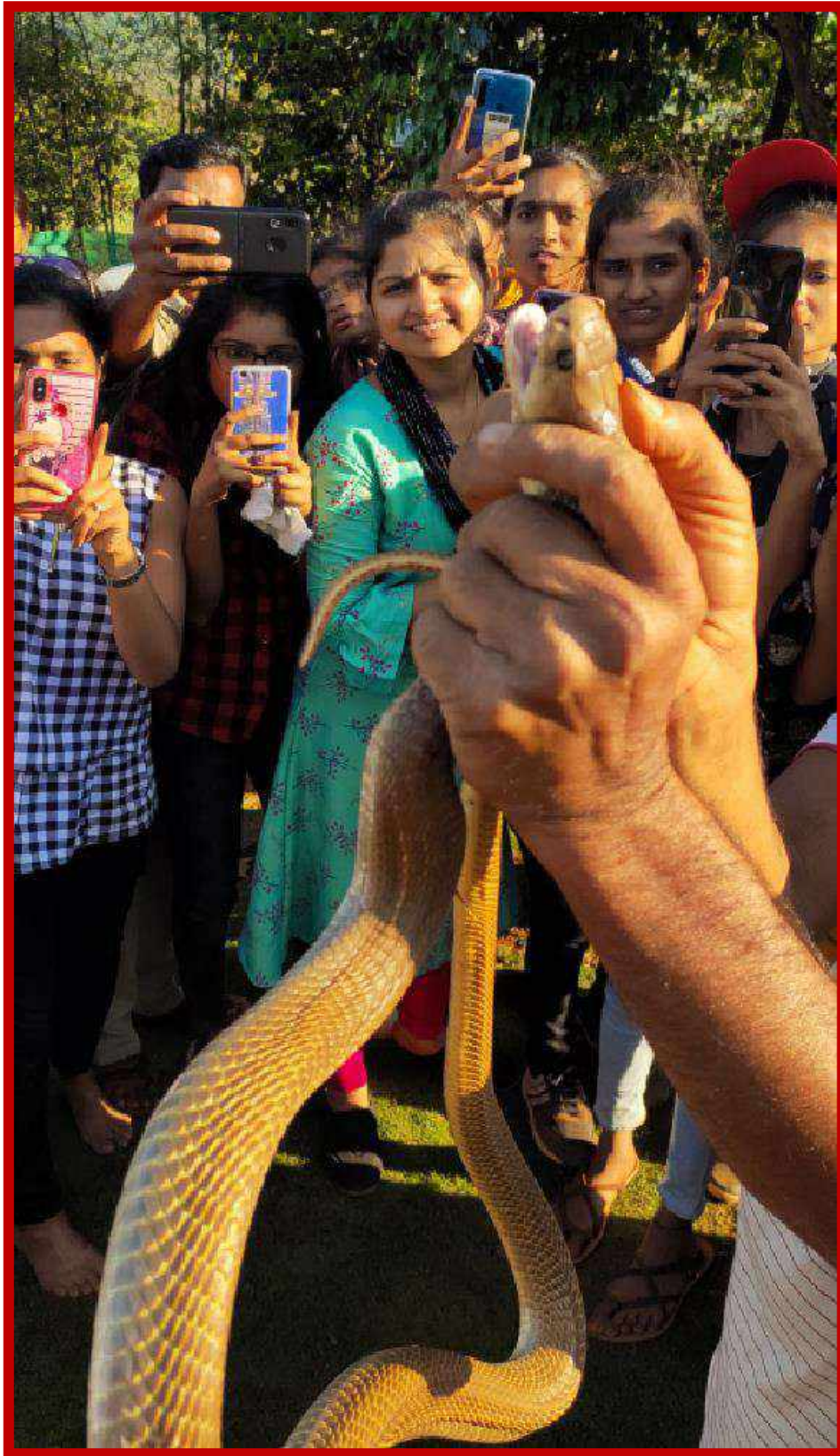
**Students knowing about snakes through the lecture of Prof. Anil Magar**





**Students observe an old well found amidst Chitri forest**





**Snake handling by Prof. Anil Magar (showing fangs of snake)**