

Acknowledgements

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A Mistle Thrush *Turdus viscivorus* from Banni Grasslands, Gujarat, India

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On 16 December 2010, I was returning after a birding session with fellow-birder Nonnie Saran, from Banni Grasslands in Kachchh, Gujarat, near Nakhatrana, Kachchh. I kept an eye open for an Indian Courser *Cursorius coromandelicus* in the fields along the roadside. Suddenly I spotted an unfamiliar thrush-like bird in a field Bharapur (23.41°N, 69.27°E). We stopped, and went back to check it out. Having taken a few photographs [156], we tentatively identified it as a Mistle Thrush *Turdus viscivorus*. It was feeding on an insect. I showed the photographs to Jugal Tiwari, and after referring to field-guides (Kazmierczak 2000; Grimmett *et al.* 2011), we confirmed that it was indeed a Mistle Thrush.

Mistle Thrush is not included in the Gujarat checklist (Parasharya *et al.* 2004). It is resident in the western Himalayas, and in Baluchistan, and no record from Gujarat is shown in recent

field-guides (Grimmett *et al.* 2011; Rasmussen & Anderton 2012). There are three known reports of Mistle Thrush from outside its main range in the Himalayas: a specimen collected in January 1903 from Lahore (Punjab, Pakistan; Kinneer 1903); a sight record in February 2002 from Sultanpur in Haryana (Harvey 2002); and another sight record in February–March 2003 from Pachmahri, Madhya Pradesh (Prince 2003).

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Photo: V. Mishra

156. Mistle Thrush *Turdus viscivorus* in Banni Grasslands, Gujarat.

