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## A Grey Bushchat *Saxicola ferreus* from Surguja, Chhattisgarh

On 30 October 2022, around 0800 h, I was birding at Matringa village (22.67°N, 83.05°E), in the Udaipur forest range Surguja, Chhattisgarh. I observed a small bird with a black face and white supercilium perched on a tree sapling near the forest edge and wagging its tail like a Pied Bushchat *Saxicola caprata*, but within a second, the bird disappeared. I waited around 20 min and decided to move on to find other birds. Fortunately, on my return walk, I spotted the same bird foraging for the tiny insects around the paddy field. And later, the bird moved to the top of the farm



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102. Grey Bushchat *Saxicola ferreus* male (white supercilium, black face, grey back and breast, white outer tail feathers) recorded from Surguja, Chhattisgarh

fence and perched. Here I got enough time to photograph the bird. While observing the picture [102], I matched all the features in the field guide *Birds of the Indian Subcontinent* by Grimmett et al. (2016). The species was found to be Grey Bushchat which has no previous record in Chhattisgarh. There were several records from the neighboring states of Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh, with repeated sightings from the meadows of Kanha National Park (Newton et al. 1986; Kannan 1993), but no records from Chhattisgarh. The aerial distance to the nearest known record is c.400 km (eBird 2023). The southernmost known location of this bird in India is near Bhimgarh Wildlife Sanctuary in Karnataka (eBird 2023). Chandra & Singh (2004) listed reported the species from undivided Madhya Pradesh (when Chhattisgarh was part of it) but did not specify a locality. Grimmett et al. 1988 say that it winters in the north Indian plains, including undivided Madhya Pradesh.

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## Possible redirected behaviour of a 'Black Shaheen' Peregrine Falcon *Falco peregrinus peregrinator*

We describe here an observation of a possible redirected behaviour on the part of an adult 'black shaheen' Peregrine Falcon *Falco peregrinus peregrinator* (hereinafter, 'Shaheen'), a phenomenon that is not commonly found in avian literature. The object of redirected behaviour was an inanimate object—a fragment of a dry tree branch. On 28 July 2022, while birding in a forested area near Village Peer Muchhalla (30.66°N, 76.86°E), near Zirakpur in district Sahibzada Ajit Singh Nagar, Punjab, India, RSS and CB observed an adult Shaheen. When it was first spotted, it had landed on a dry tree branch and was holding a prey in its talons [103]. We observed it shift to a bigger branch, possibly to gain more stability or balance [104]. It was observed fiddling with the prey, during which the prey managed to suddenly free itself and escape [105]. We were quite far away from the tree; however, it was apparent that the catch was a small whitish bird with black wings, which could not be identified. After the quarry escaped, the Shaheen first tried to hold a branch but failed [106]. Then it moved to two more branches [107, 108], one after the other. Thereafter, it took off holding a fragment of some branch in its talons, and kept circling over the trees [109] and finally landed again on the tree. While perched, it looked as if it was trying to "eat" the broken branch [110].