

## OBSERVATIONS IN MODIFIED ANIMAL BEHAVIOUR FOR POSSIBLE ADAPTATION TO CHANGED ENVIRONMENT

### I. A Bonnet Monkey Troop With A Beautiful Faced Female During Covid 19 At Cauvery Sangama, Karnataka

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On 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> September 2021, a medium size troop of more than twenty infants, sub-adults and adult Bonnet Monkeys (*Macaca radiata*; Figs.1-3) were observed at the Cauvery River Sangama Tourist location of Karnataka State Tourism Development Corporation (KSTDC). Only one female was found with bright red-faced (Fig. 3), appearing rouge smeared. Such an occurrence of female beauty is in contradiction to the usual male beauty in the animal world.

The Cauvery River Sangama ([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cauvery\\_Wildlife\\_Sanctuary](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cauvery_Wildlife_Sanctuary)), confluence with the Arkavathi River, is located under Cauvery Wildlife Division, Sangama Wildlife Range, Kanakpura district of Karnataka, around 100 km from Bengaluru, where 15 roadside food stalls and eateries were closed except one of the KSTDC due to Covid 19 lockdown impact on tourism. As a result, the BonnetMonkey troop was found mal-nourished due to lack of readily available food obtained from tourist activities; only twelve visitors were noted at this weekend. Perhaps, the troop had developed a dependency on tourists' food provision and was gradually forgetting the taste of wild fruits and leaves.



Figs. 1-3. Bonnet monkeys at Cauvery River Sangama Tourist location on boundary wall.

## REFERENCE

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cauvery\\_Wildlife\\_Sanctuary](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cauvery_Wildlife_Sanctuary)

## II. Conflict Or Joy Of Eating Roti Between Pigeons And Dogs

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Food is often an item of conflict, be it intraspecific, interspecific, or even between widely unrelated tetrapod species of two different classes like pigeons and dogs. Pigeons are primarily grain eaters, while dogs are basically carnivorous, yet accustomed to roti and rice. For a few occasions in Bengaluru, India, it has been observed that pigeons also like to eat roti, tearing it into pieces and thus there was conflict and chasing of the pigeons by the dogs. Two well-nourished free roaming pet dogs in the vast premise of a very affluent landlord were found on some occasions to chase pigeons for stale rotis thrown to feed pigeons from adjacent verandahs of a five-storied apartment (Fig.1). It seems pigeons turn to herbivory or even omnivory and can be found eating roti as and when available.

The present conflicts appeared to be joy for two domestic dogs as they are found somewhat reluctant to eat dry rotis, while pigeons find pleasure to fly nearby and gather around pieces of roti again.



Fig.1 Pigeons feeding on roti and rice grains thrown from apartment