

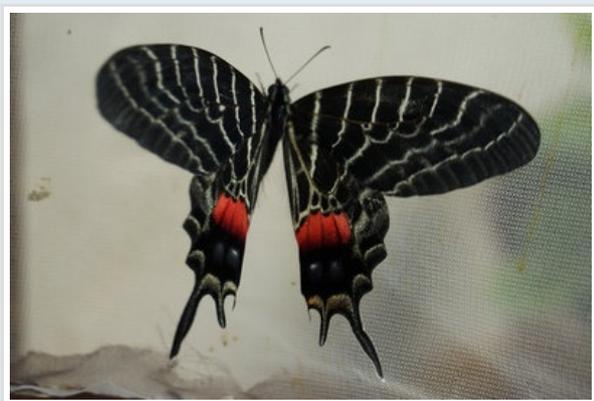
Re: Bhutan Butterflies

by Sonam Dorji, 26-Mar-17 07:56 PM GMT

Hi Everyone,

Missed you all guys. Great pictures from the members and since the season has started, hope to keep you all updated. For now, please do find the pictures of Ludlow's Bhutan Glory (Bhutanitis ludlowi). These are from my archive which i took in 2012. I got the opportunity to meet the researcher and was allowed the take pictures from the net. I did try to go to that place in June, 2016 but was discouraged as it lies in the border area. But i do hope that members can atleast know about it pictorially. The species was later released in the same place.

rgds,
Sonam



Re: Bhutan Butterflies

by David M, 27-Mar-17 08:45 PM GMT

Sonam, Bhutan seems to be almost magical for butterflies. You really DO have a treasure trove of species at your disposal.

Re: Bhutan Butterflies

by Sonam Dorji, 28-Mar-17 08:38 AM GMT

Hi David,

Nice to hear from you. As of now, About 720 of them have been identified. There will be more as Bhutan has relatively remained unexplored for centuries. I do hope to take pictures of some of them if not all.

rgds,
Sonam

Re: Bhutan Butterflies

by David M, 28-Mar-17 12:04 PM GMT

Absolutely. To us in the West it is one of the most mysterious nations on earth. What a wonderful opportunity you have to maybe discover things unknown to anyone else.

I will follow your attempts with great interest.

Re: Bhutan Butterflies

by NickMorgan, 28-Mar-17 08:47 PM GMT

I am enjoying your photographs. The different species of Junonia are fantastic. It must be the most colourful and varied genus of butterflies. I can't imagine living somewhere where there are 720 species of butterflies. In this part of Scotland I only have 24 species to look forward to and then only for 8 months of the year!!
I look forward to seeing more of your pictures.

Re: Bhutan Butterflies

by Sonam Dorji, 09-Apr-17 02:26 AM GMT

NickMorgan wrote:

I am enjoying your photographs. The different species of Junonia are fantastic. It must be the most colourful and varied genus of butterflies.

I can't imagine living somewhere where there are 720 species of butterflies. In this part of Scotland I only have 24 species to look forward to and then only for 8 months of the year!!

I look forward to seeing more of your pictures.

David M wrote:

Absolutely. To we in the West it is one of the most mysterious nations on earth. What a wonderful opportunity you have to maybe discover things unknown to anyone else.

I will follow your attempts with great interest.

Thanks Nick and David. I will try to post frequently. As for now, i have uploaded a video in youtube of Pallid faun. I did not know how to post it here as the file format does not seem to be working. Here is the link though

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sA4wqDISzHE&feature=youtu.be>

rgds,
Sonam

Re: Bhutan Butterflies

by NickMorgan, 11-Apr-17 09:07 PM GMT

Sonam Dorji wrote:

Thanks Nick and David. I will try to post frequently. As for now, i have uploaded a video in youtube of Pallid faun. I did not know how to post it here as the file format does not seem to be working. Here is the link though

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sA4wqDISzHE&feature=youtu.be>

rgds,
Sonam

Beautiful

Re: Bhutan Butterflies

by Sonam Dorji, 26-May-17 12:00 PM GMT

Hi,
I have been on small trip to central and western Bhutan. Posting some few pics from the trip.

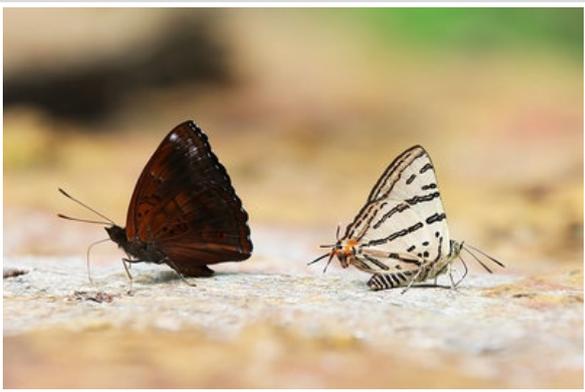
rgds,
Sonam



*Dodona adonira*_Striped Punch



*Polyura eudamippus*_Great Nawab



Spindasis rukmini Khaki Silverline



*Abisara chela*_Spot Judy



*lethe gulniha*_Dull Forester



*Palilio krishna*_Krishna Peacock

Re: Bhutan Butterflies

by Sonam Dorji, 26-May-17 12:09 PM GMT

Hi all,

Some more pics from the trip.

Rgds,
Sonam



Phaedyma aspasia falda. This subspecies is reported from Bhutan.



Parasarpa dudu_White Commodore



Spindasis nipalicus



Penthema lisarda_Yellow Kaiser

Re: Bhutan Butterflies

by Tony Moore, 26-May-17 12:38 PM GMT

Hi Sonam,

I've just been close to the Bhutan border in Arunachal Pradesh. I'm very jealous of your Striped Punch 🇮🇳🇮🇳 . I saw Lesser, Tailed, Orange and Mixed, but missed what is arguably the most beautiful – nice find!

Tony M.

Re: Bhutan Butterflies

by Sonam Dorji, 26-May-17 02:21 PM GMT

Tony Moore wrote:

I've just been close to the Bhutan border in Arunachal Pradesh. I'm very jealous of your Striped Punch . I saw Lesser, Tailed, Orange and Mixed, but missed what is arguably the most beautiful – nice find!

Tony M.

Hi Tony,

Thanks a lot. The striped is also common here. All the species mentioned by you can be seen here. Of course, the main highlight was seeing this *Athyma punctata* (White-patched Sergeant). Could be a new record for the subcontinent. For Bhutan, it is definitely the first. It was seen and photographed first by Mr. Antonio Giudici from Thailand who I was accompanying.

rgds
,Sonam



Re: Bhutan Butterflies

by Sonam Dorji, 30-May-17 05:58 PM GMT

Hi All,

Some more pics from the trip. Hope you all like it!!!

rgds,
Sonam



Everes huegelii huegelii_Dusky Blue Cupid, UP



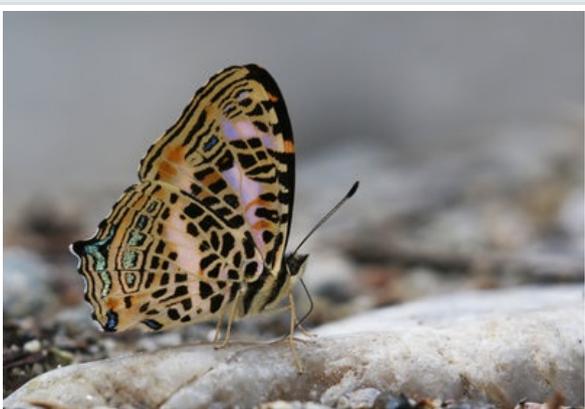
*Everes huegelii huegelii*_Dusky Blue Cupid, UN



Neptis arandia melba, Variegated Sailer, UN



Neptis arandia melba, Variegated Sailer, UP



Symbrenthia niphanda, Blue-tailed Jester, UN



Symbrenthia niphanda, Blue-tailed Jester, UP

Re: Bhutan Butterflies

by Tony Moore, 30-May-17 06:41 PM GMT

Great stuff, Sonam,

Please can I come to Bhutan... 🇧🇹 🇧🇹 🇧🇹

Tony M.

Re: Bhutan Butterflies

by trevor, 30-May-17 07:23 PM GMT

I envy the access you have to some very beautiful, exotic Butterflies.
Many thanks for posting your superb images of species most of us will never get to see.

Best wishes,
Trevor.

Re: Bhutan Butterflies

by Padfield, 30-May-17 09:47 PM GMT

Just catching up on your latest photos. Really wonderful butterflies and brilliant pictures too.

Congratulations on *Athyma punctata*! Bozano (2013) doesn't show it as flying anywhere closer to you than Myanmar. How amazing if it has lived in the Himalayas unnoticed until now. Or is it spreading its range? Beautiful insect anyway.

Guy

Re: Bhutan Butterflies

by Martin Jenkins, 30-May-17 10:28 PM GMT

Just wanted to comment on the quality of your photographs...truly stunning!

Martin.

Re: Bhutan Butterflies

by Sonam Dorji, 31-May-17 04:46 AM GMT

Tony Moore wrote:

Great stuff, Sonam,

Please can I come to Bhutan... 🇧🇹 🇧🇹 🇧🇹

Tony M.

Anytime Tony. People say Bhutan is expensive to visit but if you cut down the cost, not that expensive. Bhutan is trying to maintain its natural and cultural resources. At least 60% of the forest to be maintained under forest cover under the constitution.

trevor wrote:

I envy the access you have to some very beautiful, exotic Butterflies.

rgds,
Sonam

Many thanks for posting your superb images of species most of us will never get to see.

Best wishes,
Trevor.

Hi Trevor,

Thanks for the compliment. But you know, UK also has great butterflies which I would greatly like to see and photographs. Have always admired the works of British researchers on butterflies.

rgds,
Sonam

Padfield wrote:

Just catching up on your latest photos. Really wonderful butterflies and brilliant pictures too.

Congratulations on *Athyma punctata*! Bozano (2013) doesn't show it as flying anywhere closer to you than Myanmar. How amazing if it has lived in the Himalayas unnoticed until now. Or is it spreading its range? Beautiful insect anyway.

Guy

Dear Guy,

Thanks for the kind words. I think the the evidence of *Athyma punctata* clearly shows that it has great range extension as mentioned by you. Maybe it was already there. I am told that this butterfly hardly comes down so to sight it becomes really difficult. It came down for about 2-3 hours flying around and then never came back. Hope we can unveil more species as not much work has be done on butterflies of Bhutan.

rgds,
Sonam

Martin Jenkins wrote:

Just wanted to comment on the quality of your photographs...truly stunning!

Martin.

Hi martin,

Thanks for the compliment and it is a great encouragement.

rgds,
Sonam

Re: Bhutan Butterflies

by Sonam Dorji, 16-Jun-17 04:21 PM GMT

Hi all,

I am here at Chukha, Western Bhutan for few days. The monsoon has started and rain is frequent. But I did capture some winged jewels.

rgds,
Sonam



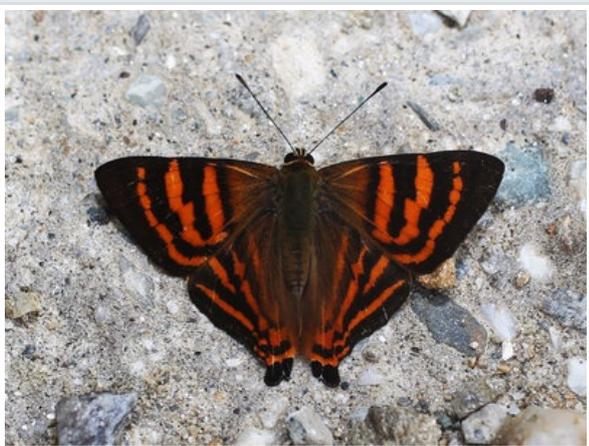
Common Woodbrown (Lethe sidonis)



Blue tit (Chliaria kina)



Chocolate Royal (Remelana jangala)



Striped Punch (Dodona adonira) UP



Striped Punch (Dodona adonira) UN



Metallic Cerulean (Jamides alecto)



Golden Sapphire (Heliophorus brahma)

Re: Bhutan Butterflies

by Sonam Dorji, 24-Jun-17 06:23 PM GMT

Hi everyone,

Rain is now constant in Thimphu (2400 masl), the Capital of Bhutan. But I did get a break yesterday. I was able capture the following species. Another common species was Bhutan Blackvein (*Aporia harrietae*) but they mostly fly on flowers and difficult to photograph them. Hope to shoot them soon.

rgds,
Sonam



Hocky Sticksailer, *Neptis nycteus*, rare at this altitude



Great Blackvein, *Aporia agathon*, uncommon species at this altitude of 2400 masl



Indian Purple hairstreak, *Iwaseozephyrus mandara ssp. irma* (Evans, 1925). Uncommon species.



Pale Jezebel, *Delias sanaca*, A very common species in June end – July

by David M, 25-Jun-17 11:42 PM GMT

You really are spoiled in your part of the world, Sonam. You seem to have a never ending supply of exceptionally beautiful species.

I'd love to visit one day and see a few for myself (maybe when I retire).

Re: Bhutan Butterflies

by Sonam Dorji, 26-Jun-17 05:49 AM GMT

David M wrote:

You really are spoiled in your part of the world, Sonam. You seem to have a never ending supply of exceptionally beautiful species.

I'd love to visit one day and see a few for myself (maybe when I retire).

Dear David,

I would love to go butterflying with you as well. From tomorrow, I start one new journey for 10 days in western and central part, hopefully more butterfly pictures to post. Am worried about the rain and but then again, the season is best for single brood butterflies.

rgds,
Sonam

Re: Bhutan Butterflies

by Mark Tutton, 26-Jun-17 01:19 PM GMT

Hi Sonam

The variety of species and their stunning appearance leaves me in wonder with every post you make – Bhutan is definitely on my list of go to places following your posts – please keep them coming 😊 Good luck with your latest trip and I hope the rain lets up – I'll await the photos with interest.
Kind Regards

Mark

Re: Bhutan Butterflies

by Sonam Dorji, 26-Jun-17 04:07 PM GMT

Mark Tutton wrote:

Hi Sonam

The variety of species and their stunning appearance leaves me in wonder with every post you make – Bhutan is definitely on my list of go to places following your posts – please keep them coming 😊 Good luck with your latest trip and I hope the rain lets up – I'll await the photos with interest.

Kind Regards

Mark

Hi Mark,

Thanks for going through my pics. Will definitely post the pics. Hope to atleast have few days of sunshine. Please find attached my route map.

rgds,
Sonam



My route map.

Re: Bhutan Butterflies

by Sonam Dorji, 06-Jul-17 04:50 PM GMT

Hi everyone,

have concluded my trip. Rain was a BIG problem. I did manage to photograph some butterflies. here are some of them and will keep posting more from the trip after some little cropping and all.

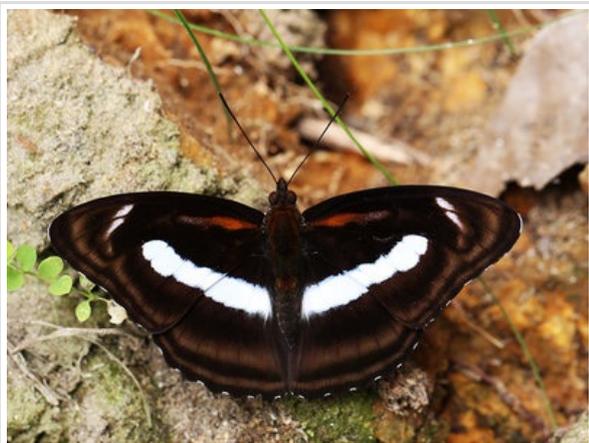
rgds,
Sonam



Malayan (left) and Common hedge Blue



Common Lascar



Small Staff Sergeant



Plain Plum Dart



Studded Sergeant and Bhutan Sergeant together

Re: Bhutan Butterflies

by Sonam Dorji, 07-Jul-17 11:46 AM GMT

Hi all,

Some more pics. from my trip.

sonam



Common Copper



Dark Archduke



Studded Sergeant



Yellow Jezebel



Blue Duke



Brown Prince



Golden Emperor



Cruiser male



Bi-spot Royal

Re: Bhutan Butterflies

by Tony Moore, 07-Jul-17 02:10 PM GMT

Wow!! 🍄🍄🍄

Tony M.

Re: Bhutan Butterflies

by bugboy, 07-Jul-17 04:13 PM GMT

Stunning! That Common Copper (or Small Copper as we call it, assuming it is *L. phlaeas*) looks somewhat out of place amongst all that exotica!

Re: Bhutan Butterflies

by Sonam Dorji, 07-Jul-17 05:00 PM GMT

Tony Moore wrote:

Wow!! 🍄🍄🍄

Thanks Tony

Tony M.

bugboy wrote:

Stunning! That Common Copper (or Small Copper as we call it, assuming it is *L. phlaeas*) looks somewhat out of place amongst all that exotica!

Thanks bugboy!!! It is definitely *L. phlaeas*. It does look out of place but they are also beautiful species too!!! It is at an altitude of 2400 masl whereas rest are below 1300 masl.

rgds,
Sonam

Re: Bhutan Butterflies

by Sonam Dorji, 24-Jul-17 06:52 PM GMT

Hi all,

A comparative plate of 4 species of sapphires found in Bhutan. There are 7 of them in Bhutan.

1. Top left : Azure sapphire, *H. moorei*
2. Top right : Powdery green sapphire, *H. tamu*
- 3: Indian Purple sapphire : *H. indicus*
- 4: Golden sapphire : *H. brahma*

Azure sapphire is found at 2400 masl while the rest are all below 1500 mas

Hope you all like it.

rgds,
Sonam



Sapphires from Bhutan

Re: Bhutan Butterflies

by Kip, 24-Jul-17 08:01 PM GMT

First time I've looked in on your diary and just had to add my bit.... it is awesome, incredible, beautiful as others have said.... thank you for posting images of these breathtaking species. 😊

Re: Bhutan Butterflies

by Sonam Dorji, 25-Jul-17 03:22 AM GMT

Kip wrote:

First time I've looked in on your diary and just had to add my bit.... it is awesome, incredible, beautiful as others have said.... thank you for posting images of these breathtaking species. 😊

Thanks Kip

Re: Bhutan Butterflies

by David M, 25-Jul-17 07:16 PM GMT

What a quartet! And here's me thinking female Brown Hairstreak can't be beaten!

She'd stand no chance in a beauty contest against these stunners.

Re: Bhutan Butterflies

by Sonam Dorji, 26-Jul-17 09:10 AM GMT

David M wrote:

What a quartet! And here's me thinking female Brown Hairstreak can't be beaten!

She'd stand no chance in a beauty contest against these stunners.

Hi David,

I think the Hairstreaks are great too. But their usual closed-wing stand is really frustrating when you are photographing.

Sonam

Re: Bhutan Butterflies

by David M, 26-Jul-17 05:58 PM GMT

Three of our five Hairstreaks always settle with wings closed, Sonam, but Brown Hairstreaks (along with Purple) open up quite regularly:



The undersides are especially attractive too:



Re: Bhutan Butterflies

by Art Frames, 26-Jul-17 08:30 PM GMT

Sonam

Can I add my thanks for such an inspiring and beautiful collection of pictures. For me this is another world and I am pleased to have a chance to see it

through your pictures. I have looked through the diary from start to finish in one sitting. I don't know how I missed it before. The more I investigate here at UKB the more I enjoy the knowledge and passion that so many people share.

I look forward to your updates and to more extraordinarily wonderful butterflies 😊😊 Thank you. Peter

Re: Bhutan Butterflies

by Sonam Dorji, 27-Jul-17 03:21 AM GMT

David M wrote:

Three of our five Hairstreaks always settle with wings closed, Sonam, but Brown Hairstreaks (along with Purple) open up quite regularly:

The undersides are especially attractive too:



Dull Green Hairstreak UP.

David M,

Thanks for sharing the Brown Hairstreak. Is the open wing male or female? This looks similar to females of Sapphires. Attaching here a pic. of the Dull Green hairstreak open wing. It was knocked down unconscious by a passing vehicle. Normally you don't see them with open wings.

rgds,
Sonam

Art Frames wrote:

Sonam

Can I add my thanks for such an inspiring and beautiful collection of pictures. For me this is another world and I am pleased to have a chance to see it through your pictures. I have looked through the diary from start to finish in one sitting. I don't know how I missed it before. The more I investigate here at UKB the more I enjoy the knowledge and passion that so many people share.

I look forward to your updates and to more extraordinarily wonderful butterflies 😊😊 Thank you. Peter

Dear Peter,

No need to thank. I guess we are all nature lovers. it is great to share the joys. I enjoy British butterflies which some of them can be found in Bhutan as well.

Will keep posting pics. after each trips i make.

rgds,
Sonam



Dull Green Hairstreak UN. Posted earlier also.

Re: Bhutan Butterflies

by MikeOxon, 27-Jul-17 12:45 PM GMT

Sonam Dorji wrote:

David M, Thanks for sharing the Brown Hairstreak. Is the open wing male or female?

This photo is of a female. Unusually, it is the female of this species that is the more brightly coloured. This has confused many people, including one of our well-respected field guides, which got it wrong in the first edition!

Re: Bhutan Butterflies

by Sonam Dorji, 04-Oct-17 02:45 PM GMT

Hi all,

I am currently chasing Bhutan Glory as this is the time. It is in Western Bhutan. I got some record shots that I would like to share with the forum members. I will be here for some time, so hopefully, I get better pics to share with you all.

rgds,
Sonam



Re: Bhutan Butterflies

by trevor, 04-Oct-17 03:27 PM GMT

Just when I think that the Butterflies from your country can't get any more exotic, they do !.

Looking forward to much more,
Trevor.

Re: Bhutan Butterflies

by David M, 04-Oct-17 05:52 PM GMT

Sonam Dorji wrote:

I am currently chasing Bhutan Glory as this is the time. It is in Western Bhutan. I got some record shots that I would like to

share with the forum members. I will be here for some time, so hopefully, I get better pics to share with you all.

What a spectacular insect. I shall await more images with anticipation, Sonam. You really DO have some exquisite butterflies in your country.

Re: Bhutan Butterflies

by Sonam Dorji, 09-Oct-17 06:35 AM GMT

David M wrote:

What a spectacular insect. I shall await more images with anticipation, Sonam. You really DO have some exquisite butterflies in your country.

[/quote

trevor wrote:

Just when I think that the Butterflies from your country can't get any more exotic, they do !.

Looking forward to much more,
Trevor.

Thanks Trevor and David. Will definitely keep you guys posted when I get better pics. I see more of worn out species now.

rgds,
Sonam

Re: Bhutan Butterflies

by David M, 11-Oct-17 11:05 PM GMT

Sonam Dorji wrote:

Thanks Trevor and David. Will definitely keep you guys posted when I get better pics. I see more of worn out species now.

Bring on as many worn out species as you can find, Sonam!! Your butterflies are almost other-worldly to we Brits. How I wish I lived in a place with such beautiful insect companions. You truly are very fortunate.

Re: Bhutan Butterflies

by Sonam Dorji, 17-Oct-17 03:29 AM GMT

Hi everyone,

These are not my pics. I had accompanied a group from Singapore in Sept. and they were able to get good pics. of Bhutan Glory. These pics. are by Mr. KC Tsang and I really liked the quality so I am sharing it with you all.

My quest for better pics. on Bhutan Glory still continues.

rgds,
Sonam





Re: Bhutan Butterflies

by bugboy, 17-Oct-17 08:22 AM GMT

Just WOW!!! It doesn't look real 😲

Re: Bhutan Butterflies

by MikeOxon, 17-Oct-17 01:27 PM GMT

Mr Tsang has taken some remarkable photos. Good luck with your own quest.

Mike

Re: Bhutan Butterflies

by trevor, 17-Oct-17 01:44 PM GMT

Incredible !.

Re: Bhutan Butterflies

by Sonam Dorji, 17-Oct-17 07:06 PM GMT

bugboy wrote:

Just WOW!!! It doesn't look real 😲

MikeOxon wrote:

Mr Tsang has taken some remarkable photos. Good luck with your own quest.

Mike

trevor wrote:

Incredible !.

Thank you all. This is one common species in Bhutan.

Sonam

Re: Bhutan Butterflies

by David M, 18-Oct-17 10:56 PM GMT

Amazingly beautiful, Sonam. As Bugboy says, it almost doesn't seem real. The fact that they're quite common is even better. What a joy to have such a companion flying around you.

Re: Bhutan Butterflies

by Andrew555, 20-Oct-17 08:23 AM GMT

Wow, just wow, what a stunning array of butterflies, great pics too!
Thanks for posting Sonam, really interesting.

Andrew