

study time

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Date: 11/2/2020

MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT SUN

Dst. Rajesh Verma, Assistant professor
and Head, U.G. Department of zoology
D.K. college Durgam (Burai), Noida
for B.Sc. part 3rd, paper VII.

Q. - Write Notes on CHARACTERISTI-
-C AND PECULIAR FAUNA OF
ORIENTAL REGION.

Ans. - 1 Fauna of Asia :-

Fauna includes Orang-Utan, proboscis monkey, Malayan badger, Tupia, gibbons, flying lemurs, tapirus and broad bills. Rhinoceros sondaicus is the lesser one-horned rhinoceros which is found in Java and Rhinoceros unicornis is found in India and Terai regions of Nepal. Swamp deer (Cervus duvauceli).

All the animals living in Asia and its surrounding seas and islands are considered the fauna of Asia. Since there is no natural biogeographic boundary in the

west between Europe and Asia, the term "fauna of Asia" is somewhat elusive. Temperate Asia is the eastern part of the Palearctic realm which in turn is part of the Holarctic and its south-eastern part belongs to the Indomalayan realm (previously called the Oriental region). Asia shows a notable diversity of habitats, with significant variations in climate, altitude, topography, temperature and geological history, which is reflected in its richness of animal life.

Origins of Asian wildlife :-

The formation of the Asian fauna began in the Mesozoic with the splitting of Laurasian supercontinents of Laurasia and Gondwana.

Gondwanian elements were introduced from Africa and India, which detached from Gondwana approximately 90 MYA, carrying its fauna (see also Sahasrabudh theory). Eurasia and North America were many times connected by the Bering land bridge, and have very similar mammal and bird faunas, with many Eurasian species having moved into North America, and have very similar, fewer North American species having moved into Eurasia (many zoologists consider the Palearctic and Nearctic to be a single Holarctic realm). See also List of extinct animals of Asia.

European - Siberian region :-

The boreal and temperate European and Siberian

region is the Palearctic largest region, which transitions from tundra in the northern reaches of Russia and Scandinavia to the vast taiga, the boreal coniferous forests which run across the continent. Liquid water is unavailable for much of the winter, and plants and many of the animals undergo a winter dormancy in which metabolism is very slow. South of the taiga are a belt of temperate broadleaf and mixed forest and temperate coniferous forests. The vast region is characterized by many shared plant and animal species, some characteristic mammals are Siberian moose, deer, gray wolf, moose and wolverine.

Human Impact :-

Wildlife populations across Asia
 - tats are being and habi-
 by poorly controlled industrial
 - tion, by agricultural exploiter-
 development infrastructure
 dams, roads and tourist
 fertilizers) and by illegal
 activities such as poaching
 and timber theft.

see also :-

- Indomalayan realm
- of
- Palaartic realm
- fauna of Afro Africa
- Fauna of Australia
- Fauna of Europea.