

Thesis Title Vocal Communication of Pycnonotidae

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Abstract

The purpose of this study was to compare the characters and meaning of the vocalization and relationships of vocal communication within each species and among the three species of bulbuls: red-whiskered bulbul (*Pycnonotus jocosus*), streak-eared bulbul (*Pycnonotus blanfordi*) and sooty-headed bulbul (*Pycnonotus aurigaster*). Vocal recordings and behavioral observations were made during this study. The results showed that the vocal characterizations of each species could be classified into two types: calls and subsongs. Red-whiskered bulbul, streak-eared bulbul and sooty-headed bulbul have 355, 258 and 80 different forms of signals, respectively. Interestingly, alarm calls were used for their intercommunication within these three species. It was also found that alert and contact calls were used more frequently than other vocalization.