



Online Catalogue of the Spiders (Arachnida: Araneae) of Pakistan

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Abstract: The present spiders (Arachnida: Araneae) of Pakistan's digital catalogue on the website will provide updated knowledge of the number of species, genera and families distributed in Pakistan. The current counts are 36 families, 119 genera and 19 species based on literature and intensive surveys since 2013. This website will ease the worldwide research for spider species' global biodiversity explorations and distributions.

Keywords: Spiders, <http://www.spidersofpakistan.com/>, ICUN, Pakistan

1. INTRODUCTION

The spiders of Pakistan remain incompletely studied. Besides the diverse landscape and merge Oriental, Palearctic regions with highly diverse mountains closed unreached valleys of Himalaya, Hindukush and Karakoram. The frequent literature available in the last two decades describes species from British India preserved in UK museums. While faunistic exploration after partitions are currently preserved in European, Russian, Chinese and American Museums are well studied and their revisions provide comprehensive taxonomic evidence of modern taxonomy [1-32].

The lack of proper taxonomic work, taxa ranking, inventories, species validations, inappropriate tagging and insufficient preservation in proper natural history museums spiders (Arachnida: Araneae) of Pakistan is always argued and identified species created distribution and species zoogeographic extension hurdles [10-14, 33]. Dyal, 1935 has described more than 38 species on spiders of Lahore [32] but their holotypes and paratypes may almost be lost or neither record of preservation.

The recent work of the author with others coauthors has resulted in the present catalogue of a baseline study to understand spiders taxa in

hyperdiverse mountains of Himalaya, Hindukush and Karakoram of Pakistan [35-40]. The aims and objectives of the current catalogue are; 1) an online catalogue/checklist for the spiders' diversity of Pakistan, 2) the endemic spiders' species of Pakistan for ICUN and evolutionary studies, 3) a catalogue will ease the global spiders' inventories and National Species Specialist Group experts under the ICUN Rules (2012) for listing spiders species in Pakistan, 4) catalogue will provide data for new to science species of spiders from Pakistan.

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