CHAPTER-II LITERATURE REVIEW

The study on the ecological aspect of *M. munzala* is limited, since its discovery in 2005 [1-5]. This has hindered the overall understanding of the fundamental ecology and functional variances with other *sinica* group of species.

2.1 Historical back ground of Macaca munzala

The trails of Arunachal macaque (Macaca munzala) was dated back from November, 1997. Choudhury [6] encounter a troop of macaque (>20 individual) at 2500 m above mean sea level during primate survey in West Kameng district of Arunachal Pradesh. The encountered species were described as a unique in appearance with prominent buffy side-whisker, shorter tail and characteristics vocalization that different from other macaque species. Choudhury [7], tentatively consider the species as a Macaca thibetana based on appearance of the species. Later on, species was confirmed as M. assamenesis assamensis as tail length proportion lie within the eastern Assamese macaque (M. a. assamensis) [8]. Mishra et al. [9] conducted mammalian survey in high altitude area of western Arunachal Pradesh and during the survey recorded unidentified macaque troop at altitudinal range of 2000-2700 m amsl in Tawang district. Further, Alfred et al. [10] conducted primate survey in Tawang district and described the population as Assamese macaque (Macaca assamensis). Alfred et al. [10] thereafter argued that due to the larger in size and darker coat colour, the species has been mistaken as new species by Mishra et al. [9]. However, the unidentified species [9] was described as a new species (Macaca munzala) based on tail length proportion and morphological suite [2]. M. munzala differed from the species described by Choudhury [6] in terms of longer tail length and lack of prominent buffy side whisker [2]. Recently, Biswas et al. [11] claimed that enigmatic macaque [6,7] and Macaca munzala were the similar population that fall within the range of *M*. *a. assamensis*.

2.2 Macaque evolution and dispersal

Macaque evolution and dispersal has been studied extensively in terms of geographical variation and ecological adaptation [12–17]. The influence of physical barrier such as mountain, river and habitat have been studied in population radiation and variation in genetic structure [18–24]. The contact zones of primates are suggested as a greater importance in terms primate hybridization study [25].

The taxonomy of macaque species has been carried out based on genital structure, morphometric measure and external morphology [14,16,26–29]. Fooden [30] conducted taxonomy of *sinica* group of genus macaca based on the pelage, external measurements, cranial characters, caudal vertebrae, glans penis and baculum, female reproductive tract, blood proteins, karyology, and hybridization. In recent time, molecular genetic study has been found widely use in macaque taxonomy with morphometric measurement [31–37]. The sub-species description in macaque species has been carried out based on the tail length, external morphology and molecular genetics study [38–40]. Weinstein [41] have been studied limb morphology of genus macaca in terms of altitudinal and climatic influence. The new species has been described in *sinica* group of genus macaca based on tail length variation and morphological characteristics. Further, species level confirmation has been carried out with molecular genetic study [2,31,33,42,43].

The study on primate colouration has been correlated with sexual competition, social signalling, defence mechanism, physical fitness and adaptive evolution [44-50]. The colour signals and dominance behaviour in Mandrills has been studied by Setchell et al. [51]. The sexual signal colouration in male-female has been studied in terms of hormonal influence, matting behaviour and social behavioural aspect [47,50,52-54]. Dubuc et al. [48] has been studied female sexual skin colouration to identify the timing of fertile phase in Macaca mulata. Clough et al. [45] studied influence of hormone and social behaviour in individual facial colouration. The evolution of facial colour has been studied on social and ecological aspect [55]. Primate's morphometric colouration has been given significance importance in primate taxonomy, such as Macaca munzala [2] and Macaca leucogenys [42]. Bradley and Mundy [44] study on colour palette of primate suggested three general mechanisms for colour appearance viz., haemoglobin, structural colouration, and melanin pigmentation. The pelage colour of primate found to vary according to the latitude in Macaca fascucularis fascucularis [56,57]. Kamilar and Bradley [58] study on interspecific variation in primate colour was supported the Gloger's rule of colour that darker colour animal occupies the humid and warm environment compare to the colder area. Santana et al. [49] study suggested that adaptive evolution in primate facial pigmentation related to the UV radiation and thermoregulation. However, colour variation with respect to UV radiation and altitudinal gradient has given less emphasised in studies [59-64]. Pelage characteristics has been extensively use in species level identification in primate species [2,16,28,42,57,65–70].

But, it was also argued that primate coat colour is not ideal to describe species level identification [71]. Colour description of animal is a complex framework as human perspective of colour verification is vary from individual to individual [2,11]. To overcome this, colour quantification has been done using sophisticated instrument (spectrophotometer method) [72]. However, it has difficulty in field based studies and also expensive to operate [73–75]. The recent advancement in digital image processing has given improvement in colour variation studies in primates as well as other animal [76]. Stevens et al. [77] has been described the potential use of photogrammetry method in colour assessment in animal. HSB (Hue, Saturation, Brightness), RGB (Red, Green, Blue) and CMYK (Cyan, Magenta, Yellow, and Black) digital web based colour model have been given important in biological research and quantitative assessment of colour [78-84]. Of that, RGB colour model has been found significantly used in primate colouration study [53,85]. Digital phtography has been extensively used in studies of primate sexual skin colouration [60] and adaptive evolution [45,60], hybridization [86] and nutrational status study [87]. Nevertheless, the linearization in digital image has been reported as constrain in the study of colour assessment [88]. On that regard, image processing through "white balance" have potential capacities [89-91]. Recently, Siegenthaler et al. [92] have proposed quantification of pigment cover using digital image in animal colouration study.

2.3 Population distribution and habitat

Primate diversity, distribution, structure and density have been studied in terms of habitat quality [93–101]. Lehman [102] has studied effect of habitat and diet in geographical distribution of primates of Guyana. Further, density of primates has been studied based on environmental influence in food abundance [103]. The effect of anthropogenic habitat disturbance and hunting has been studied in population structure of primates [100,104–107].

The highest diversity of primates in Indian-subcontinent has been reported in north-eastern region of India [107,108]. Among the north-eastern states, Arunachal Pradesh has the highest number of *sinica* group of species [2,109,110]. The extensive research on distribution of *sinica* group of species has been reported in various studies [14,16,26,111]. The study on distribution of *sinica* group of species has been found in Indian sub-continent, southeast Asia and China [26,28,112–117]. The population

distribution of *sinica* species (genus macaca) in eastern Himalaya and northeast India has also been reported in number of studies [93,97,107,111,116,118–122,123-127]. However, researches on primate population in north-eastern part of India are lack in terms of enumeration of population demography and density estimates [119,122,123,128]. Recently, suitable habitat modelling has been carried out in India and eastern Himalaya region that has shown overlapping distribution of two sub-species of Assamese macaque (*Macaca assamensis*) [129–132].

Macaca munzala has been described from high altitude region of Tawang district of Arunachal Pradesh [2]. At present only a couple of research publications are available regarding population distribution and habitat structure of *M. munzala* in its habitat range in India [1,133]. Sinha et al. [3] studied the population distribution and conservation of the species in western Arunachal Pradesh. Kumar et al. [1] enumerate a total of 35 troops (569 individual) of *M. munzala* from western Arunachal Pradesh. The estimated mean size of troop of *M. munzala* was found to be 16.3 ± 13.4 (SD). But, detail habitat characteristics of *M. munzala* have not been investigated till date. Recently, Biswas et al.[11] conducted a population survey of enigmatic macaque (considered as a similar population of *Macaca munzala*) in western Arunachal Pradesh. Chakraborty et al.[134] confirm the presence of population *M. munzala* in Upper Subansri and West Siang district the through molecular genetic study. Choudhury [127] had studied distribution of *M. munzala* in Bhutan.

2.4 Activity and feeding pattern

The effect of habitat quality and availability of food resources has been broadly studied in feeding pattern of primates [135–138]. Primate population abundance has been studied based on the feeding ecology and food abundance [139,140]. Feeding pattern of macaque species has been reported to vary based on the habitat type [136,141–143]. The influence of altitude in diet selection has been studied in macaque species [135,144]. Quality food has been given emphasis in time spent of activity studies of primates [145]. Janmaat et al. [146] has emphasized in primates' strategies to access nutritious food during scarcity of food resources. Further, the influence of food availability and vegetation characteristics has been reported in activity pattern and ranging behaviour of primates [145,147–153]. Food resource distribution and seasonal availability has been prioritised in the study of rangeland behaviour [148,150,154–158]. Campos et al. [159] has been

studied the influence of fruit and temperature influence in the home range demarcation in neo-tropical primates. Maruhashi and Agetsuma [160] has correlated availability of food resources and social relationship between macaque groups. Mendes-Pontes [161] has studied habitat partition with relation to feeding variation in primates living in proximity. Zhou et al. [162] had studied niche separation in sympatric macaque species. Important of limited food plant resources has been studied in Gibbon, Colobus monkey, Baboons and macaque species [155,156,163–165] in general. In high altitude, time spent activity and ranging behaviour of primate have been emphasised based on seasonal cycle [166-171]. The home range structure has been studied in terms of group competition and finding of food resources [159,160,172,173]. Thermoregulatory cost has been significantly correlated in seasonal variation studies in activity pattern and diet selection, specifically in high altitude primate [166,167,174–176]. Furthermore, solar radiation has been given emphasised in ranging behaviour of sub-alpine forest primates [177]. The behavioural response in human-modified landscape matrix has been extensively studied in terms of time activity budget, ranging pattern and feeding adaptation of primates [164,178–185].

There are only 2 (two) scientific literature available on foraging ecology and time activity pattern of Arunachal macaque (Macaca munzala) [5,165]. Kumar et al. [165] reported foraging ecology of *M. munzala* in degraded broad-leaved habitat. The study was conducted during the monsoon season for the short period (July-August). Foraging was reported as major time spent activity of the species and contribution of fruit has been reported highest in diet. The diet of M. munzala comprises of food plant material and very low contribution of animal matter has been reported in the study. Besides that, M. munzala are reported to indulge in raiding in human settlement area for feeding purposes. Kumar et al. [165] study has estimated home range of M. munzala, which was argued as smaller (16-28 ha) than any other macaque species inhabited in similar habitat. Erythrina species was reported as one of the most important food plant for M. munzala. Mendiratta et al. [5] studied winter ecology of *M. munzala* in disturbed forest. Seasonal variation in time spent activity was reported as a very profound in *M. munzala*. Similarly, percentage of food plant material contribution in diet was subjected to seasonal availability. Notably, study reported highest percentage contribution of bark of Erythrina species in diet during winter season and fruit in spring season. The availability and distribution of food resource was suggested as influential factor in ranging behaviour of the species. The seasonal change in time spent activity was related with the cost of thermoregulatory in *Macaca munzala*.

Assamese macaque (Macaca assamensis) and Tibetan macaque (Macaca thibetana) are the two closely related species of Macaca munzala [2]. Diet and activity pattern of *M. assamensis* was reported to be influence by the availability of food resources and habitat type [186–188]. It has been also being observed that M. munzala and M. assamensis rely on particular food plant that available throughout the year [155,189]. Further, ranging behaviour of the species was reported to influence by distribution of preferred food plant species [155]. M. assamensis was reported as a folivore in limestone forest and frugivore in mixed broad-leaved forest [151,186]. The study on time spent activity; feeding and ranging behaviour of Tibetan macaque (Macaca thibetana) are found very limited to compare with M. munzala behaviour [190-192]. M. thibeatana has been reported to highly depend on particular food plant throughout the year like *M. munzala* and *M. assamensis* [192]. The reported home range of M. thibetana was much higher than M. munzala and M. thibetana [193]. Furthermore, literature survey and review on this topic revealed that study on activity and feeding pattern, and ranging behaviour of *M. assamensis* in north-eastern region of India are also very few [187,194,195].

2.5 Nutritional perspective of feeding pattern

In nutritional ecology of primates, it has been suggested that nutritional quality of food plays an important role in selection of diet than the habitat ecology [196]. Raubenheimer, and Boggs [197] has define nutritional ecology as a trophic branch of functional ecology and organism centred field of research. Raubenheimer et al. [198] has suggested geometric framework for animal nutritional ecology study based on organism (function, mechanism, development and history), environment (abiotic, biotic and community) and food nutrition. Further, Raubenheimer and Simpson [199] have included optimal foraging theory in geometric framework of nutritional model. Nutritional ecology is emerging as a potential tool for the study of animal phenotype (foraging behaviour, functional morphology, digestive physiology, evolution) with relation to field ecology (resource quality and distribution) [196,200,201]. Primates nutritional basis of studies are based on the chemical constituent of plant primary metabolite, secondary metabolite and minerals. Studies on food plant selection of primate have suggested greater importance

of protein-fibre ratio in plant material [202-204]. Primate food adaptation outside the natural habitat has been studied on the basis of nutritional quality [184,205]. Besides that, studies reported higher content of sugar in Lemur and Gibbon food [201,206]. Davies et al. [207] reported greater importance of carbohydrate and fats in food plant selection in south-east Asian Colobine monkey. Oftedal et al. [208] has suggested less importance of protein in non-human primates in food plant selection. The secondary metabolite component of plant materials has been studied as a factor of avoidance in primates [209,210]. However, secondary metabolites are found as major constituent in primate self-medication plant [211,212]. Zhao et al. [213] suggested a geometric framework in primate nutritional model that comprises of energy maximization, nitrogen (protein) maximization, nutrient balancing, limitation of dietary fibre and avoidance of secondary metabolites. The gradual interest of optimal foraging theory, thermoregulation and energy balance in nutritional basis of diet selection was found in studies of nutritional ecology [172,196,200-202,205,206,213-223]. Guo et al. [224] has given importance in fats and carbohydrate in energy balance strategies of high altitude primate. However, important of minerals and test perception in diet selection was found less significant in food plant selection studies of primate [196,225–227].

2.6 Primate vocalization and behaviour

The lack of proper vocal tract and breath control has been explained as a reason that primate unable to reproduce human like speech [228,229]. Fitch et al. [230] study on anatomical structure of macaque and reported vocal tracts of monkey are speech ready. Moreover, Chimpanzees were reported to have certain degree of control in their respiratory and vocal tract that enables vocal learning in the species [231]. Evolutionary biology, neurobiology, psychology, linguistic anthropology and animal communication have been studied extensively on primate vocalization. Neurobiology study has been implicated in primate emotional communication based on graded facial expression and referential vocalization [232–235]. In linguistic anthropology, vocalization studies have been conducted on evolutionary perspective between human and non-human primate vocalization [229,236–240]. Primatologist have been studying vocalization in terms of signal that communicate individual to individual and with the society. The caller identity has been studied in primate vocalization for e.g., grunt vocalization of Baboons [241,242] and Lemurs [243], lost call of White-Faced Capuchin [244] and variants in

vocalization of Campbell's Monkeys [245]. The relation among age/sex, body size and vocalization has been studied in different species of primates [246-249]. Vocalization and facial gesture has been combined for the study of primate vocal repertoire and evolution [238,250,251]. Primate vocalization have been given many name based on pattern and specific message associated with it, such as context-specific call, contact call, loud call, long call, food associated call, copulation call and alarm call. Contact calls have been reported as an intergroup communication calls that function as cohesiveness in the troop. Oda [252] reported that Ring-tailed lemurs are frequently use contact call during the resting and dispersion period. Similarly, contact calls have been reported in White-Faced Capuchin Monkeys [253] and Japanese macaques [254]. Schamberg et al. [255] have reported that travel calls of Bonobo's combination of high-low hoot. The male "Loud call" has been studied in terms of dominance signal that related with prevent contest between male for female mate [256]. Further, "Loud call" has been extensively used for the study of species difference [257,258]. Lost call has been studied in terms of individual species communication with group, when separated during the dispersion [244]. The copulation calls of female have been describe as a unique and utter prior to matting, during copulation and just after the copulation [259,260]. The copulation call had been studied in old world monkey and the apes [261-263]. Primates "food calls" vocalization has been associated with discovery of food and consumption [264-267]. Further, Clay and Zuberbühler [266] reported food associated call in primates are differ according to the food type. Deshpande et al. [268] reported Bonnet macaque (Macaca radiata) use specific call and gesture to request food from human. The most exclusively studied vocal signalling of primate was alarm call. Alarm call has been given significance importance in studies in terms of disperse information of predation risk, object information, an event likely to be occur [269]. Primate produces distinct alarm call for different predator and it has extensively studied in different species of primates [270– 281]. The advancement of computer based analytical technology and relative low cost software development provides sophisticated analysis of speech and vocalization of animal, precisely [282]. The spectrogram has been used extensively in acoustic analysis of primate vocalization from the starting of this field of research [228,283]. Bioacoustics study of primate has been extensively studied based on the frequency, pitch, intensity, harmonics of sounds [228,247,284–287]. The formant has been used to explain the energy involve in sound reproduction [288]. Moreover, fundamental frequency has been

widely used in studies of vocalization, which is associated with the anatomy of laryngeal vibration. Recently, new primate species description was found to use comparative assessment of fundamental frequency of vocalization with the closest one [42,289].

Overall, it is comprehended that several work were carried out in *sinica* group of genus macaca but limited work has been undertaken on *M. munzala*. A few studies, undertaken for a short period of time, on population distribution, habitat ecology and behavioural pattern of *M. munzala* are available for review. But, there is no report on colour variation, nutritional ecology and vocalization of *M. munzala*.

2.7 References

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