

Conservation Photography

SOME EXAMPLES FROM INDIA

Full article

[http://www.conservationindia.org/resources/
beyond-the-pretty-picture](http://www.conservationindia.org/resources/beyond-the-pretty-picture)

Preamble – Beyond The Pretty Picture

There are probably more amateur nature photographers in India than in any other developing country in the world. Many web portals for sharing nature photography has several thousand members, some of who now routinely produce the kind of jaw-dropping images that were once the exclusive preserve of magazines like National Geographic or Geo. While this is something to be proud of, the question we are asking today is, “is it time for India’s wildlife photographers to look beyond the pretty picture?”

Some sample
images

Road kills are a serious problem. By going low and waiting for a vehicle to appear in the background, the photographer has created an image that packs a punch.



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Image: Adwait Keole

A sambhar lies dead on a highway through the forest, after being hit by a speeding vehicle. The dramatic framing enhances the impact of the picture.



Image: Bivash Pandav

This shocking image of a frenzied mob setting a captured leopard on fire was taken with a cell phone.



Image: Belinda Wright

After a released leopard killed a man, a mob set this jeep on fire in retaliation against the Forest Department.



Image: G. Veeresh

Adult Olive Ridley sea turtles meet their death in a fishing net off the coast of Orissa. Cut loose by the fishermen, the drifting net will snag more turtles as it floats with the currents.



Image: Bivash Pandav

No words can describe the Olive Ridley massacre that happens in Orissa every year better than this image.



Image: Biswajit Mohanty

Turtle protection seems to have literally gone to the dogs in Orissa.



Image: Shekar Dattatri

A wild dog with a plastic bottle demonstrates littering by tourists
– a serious fall-out of tourism.



Image: Mahesh Bhatt

This remarkable image shows female bustards hiding from tourists in Nannaj GIB sanctuary, Maharashtra.



Image: Dhritiman Mukherjee

Does this image even need a caption?



Image: Ponnambalam

A cattle-lifting tiger lies dead after being poisoned by villagers in Ranthambore.



Image: Aditya Singh

A poignant image of a freshly killed Grey-sided Thrush that shows the pervasiveness of hunting in Nagaland. This image is now used by the government in 'Stop Hunting' posters.



Image: Ramki Sreenivasan

Sometimes multiple images tell a story better. Shown here are images of bird trapping in Murlen, Mizoram, including a white-eye that lost one of its feet after being caught in a trap.



Image: Ramki Sreenivasan

A cruelly restrained Slow Loris in a village in Nagaland. Most villagers aren't aware that keeping wildlife as pets is illegal.



Image: Nagaland Biodiversity Project

Evidence of poaching...



Image: Sanjay Gubbi

Images of habitat destruction, especially in protected areas, can be important as evidence.



Image: Shekar Dattatri

Unnecessary construction in the heart of a tiger reserve causing serious habitat fragmentation.



Image: Dharm Khandal

At the edge of the Bandipur Tiger Reserve in Karnataka, the contrast between the park and outside is clearly evident .



Image: Shekar Dattatri

A tusker walks through a tea plantation in south India, a refugee in its own land.



Image: Kalyan Varma

Workers and elephants share an uneasy relationship in many plantation areas.



Image: Ananda Kumar M.

Illegal grazing in a protected area (Nagarahole – Kabini backwaters tourism zone)



Image: Ramki Sreenivasan

A captured 'conflict leopard' lies injured and exhausted in its cage.



Image: Kalyan Varma

This illegal logging operation was observed by a birding group in Miao Reserve Forest in Arunachal Pradesh.



Image: Ramki Sreenivasan

A picture that graphically shows the dangers faced by Forest Department frontline staff everyday.



Image: Jayanth Sharma

Thank you!

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