



KAMALJIT S. BAWA

Kamal Bawa is Distinguished Professor of Biology at the University of Massachusetts Boston, and Founder-President of the Bangalore-based Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and the Environment (ATREE). His quest to understand biodiversity and peoples' interactions with nature has taken him from the Himalaya to the lowland tropical forests of Central America and back again. His work has produced more than 190 scientific papers and 10 authored or edited books and monographs. He has been the recipient of many international awards: Bullard, Cabot, and Giorgio Ruffolo Fellowships at Harvard University Guggenheim Fellowship, Pew Scholar in Conservation and the Environment, Honorary Fellow of the Association for Tropical Biology and Conservation, the Distinguished Service Award from the Society for Conservation Biology, and the Gunnerus Award in Sustainability Science from the Royal Norwegian Society of Letters and Sciences. He is also an elected member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

Himalaya: Mountains of Life is Kamal's second book with Sandesh, a sequel to *Sahyadris: India's Western Ghats*. These books, blending imagery with description, represent Kamal's desire to share his passion for natural places and living things, so that one can embark on a new path to explore the unknown, while protecting and cherishing what is known. www.kbawa.com



SANDESH V. KADUR

Sandesh Kadur is an award-winning wildlife photographer and cinematographer with a passion for natural history. His photographs have been published widely in books and magazines, while his documentaries on subjects ranging from cobras to elephants have been aired worldwide on the BBC, Discovery, and National Geographic networks. Over the years, Sandesh's work has garnered many top awards including the CIWEM Environmental Photographer Award, Nature's Best Award, BBC Camera-trap Award, International Conservation Photographer Award, and has twice been nominated for a Green Oscar at Wildscreen. He is an associate Fellow of the International League of Conservation Photographers (ILCP) and the International Environmental Photographers Association (IEPA), and serves as board member for the International Association of Wildlife Filmmakers.

A few years ago he founded Felis Creations - www.felis.in a media and visual arts company that focuses on creating content that inspires conservation. Images, Sandesh feels, have the power to move people in a way nothing else can. He hopes to harness this power through his work, and inspire his audience to protect and appreciate what remains of the wilderness. www.sandeshkadur.com

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The Eastern Himalaya—land of Gods, of ancient mountain kingdoms, of icy peaks and alpine meadows—is like no other place on Earth. The life and landscapes of the region are as diverse, spectacular and fragile as the mountains themselves. Even today, these mountains hold many mysteries: unnamed species, primeval cultures and the promise of magical cures to heal all of humanity. *Himalaya—Mountains of Life* takes us on a journey of biocultural discovery, from the great canyon of Yarlung Tsangpo and the Siang Gorge in the east to the Kali Gandaki Gorge in the west. Along the way, *Himalaya* demonstrates through breathtaking imagery and words, why the preservation of this heritage is so important—not just for us, but for the future of all life on Earth.

“From the plains of the Brahmaputra River, the home of the Great Indian Rhinoceros, up through the evergreen and coniferous forests to the alpine meadows, and finally to the sublime peaks and glaciers . . . Sandesh Kadur and Kamal Bawa have with this book made a heart-felt and major contribution to our knowledge of the region.”

George Schaller
Panthera and Wildlife Conservation Society

“The text and photographs of this book capture the sheer beauty of the Himalaya at every scale, from the intricate detail of a moth's wing to the sweep of vast alpine landscapes.”

Rohini Nilekani
Chairperson, Arghyam

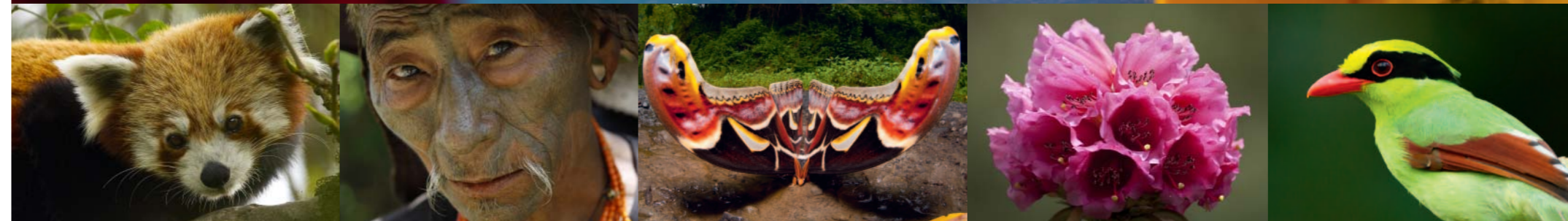
“Through the combination of visual and textual material, readers will be able to understand the richness of Eastern Himalayan life and the importance of conserving it—both for its own sake and because it collectively forms the basis for continued human existence.”

Peter Raven
Missouri Botanical Garden

H I M A L A Y A

MOUNTAINS OF LIFE

Kamal Bawa | Sandesh Kadur



H I M A L A Y A

M O U N T A I N S O F L I F E

KAMAL BAWA | SANDESH KADUR

Foreword George Schaller | Peter Raven



Arunachal Macaque *Macaca munzala*



Pretty Spiraea *Spiraea bella*

Front Cover: Lake Gurudongmar, Sikkim
Red Panda *Ailurus fulgens*
Konyak Naga, Arunachal Pradesh
Atlas Moth *Archaeoattacus edwardsii*
Flower *Rhododendron hodgsonii*
Green Magpie *Cissa chinensis*

Page 5: Golden Langur *Trachypithecus geei*
Back Cover: Blood Pheasant *Ithaginis cruentus*