

Tebay the Unexplored Valley of Turtuk (Leh Ladakh)

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ABSTRACT

Present study reveals that Tebay valley is rich in plants and animals diversity. Present study conducted throughout the valley from may to June 2021 several species of plants and animals (Domestic and wild species of animals) were found. The tribal inhabitants of the Tebay valley of Turtuk ladakh live in an area of great endemic botanic and zoology diversity. The inhabitants of this region are follower of Muslim known as balti schedule tribes.

Keywords- Ethonobotany and agriculture farming, Tebay valley, Turtuk, Leh Ladakh.

I. INTRODUCTION

Tebay is the part of Turtuk, which is an altitude of 9000ft to 17000ft above the sea level. Bfundakh the gateway of Tebay, which is located at the bank of Shayok River. Tebay Is occupy a unique bio- geographic position nature has gifted this region with high mountains, massive glaciers, magnificent streams and splendid valley like La tsarmo, La bhu, Thetsey and Arani etc. The Thetsey valley, which is connected with Hanoo and The la tsarmo is the trade route of Tebay which is connected with Domkhar. Since 1971 indo- Pak war fear trade were began in both side of the valley. That time traders have horses, Yaks and Dzoes for loader. Traders of Domkhar used to brings goods from lehto Tebay are Horse, Dzomo, Utensils, and Clothes etc. for Selling or exchange and purchase of shwals, cereals crops, vegetables, fruits etc. from Tebay Valley. Trades have been overed in 1999 due to Kargil war.

Tebay valley provides an ecological backdrop for plants and animals species. As a result, an average rainfall is under 150mm per year. Snowfall largely occur an above 2ft an increase with elevation.

Temperature in summer goes to (20- 25 degree Celsius). In winter goes to below (0- above-20 degree Celsius). The Tebay rich in biological diversity the extreme altitudinal difference and associated changes in climate and soil conditions, creating striking vertical zone in natural vegetation. A number of globally significant species animals are found in the area including some of the enlarged species like snow leopard, Tibetan wolf, Siberian ibex, Himalayan Marmot, and Ladakhpikka etc. Similarly a number of plants species are found like Juniper, Somlata, artemisia, rose and willow etc.

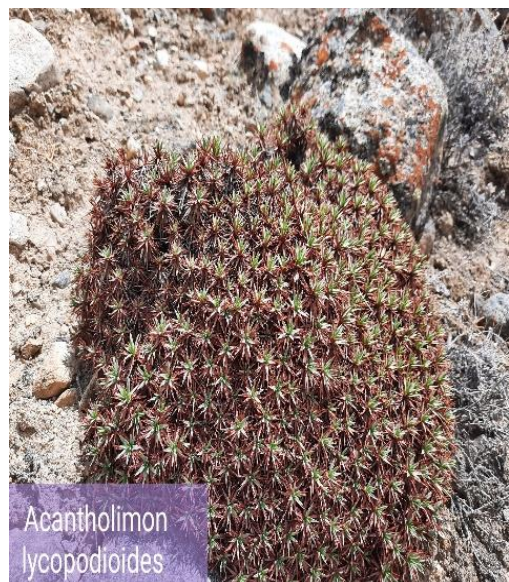


One of the most largest lake of Turtuk the Thetseytso which is located at Thetsey Tebay. Pau Fong/Crystal Stone have a unique features is also Located at La bhu Tebay.



II. PLANTS OF TEBAY

Botanical survey conducted throughout the Tebay valley From May to June 2021. Few species of plants were found at Tebay valleys are documented along with their Name.





Aconitum heterophyllum, Acantholimon lycopodioides (Longze), Delphinium brunonianum (Makhoting), Rhodiola tebitica (Darlachu), Rheum spiciforme (Khakhul), Rosa webbiana, Rosa indica, Rosa chineses (Gulab), Rosa foetida and Rosa hemisperica (Siahserpo), Artemisia maritima (Burtsey), Artemisia santolinifolia, Urticadioica (Zaatsoth), Allium Przewalskianum (Foron), Ephedra gerardiana (Tsepath), Premula macrophylla, Taraxacum officinale (Basanda), Mentha longifolia (Foling), Lycium ruthenicum (Skang), Juniper cumuness (Shukpa), Ribes orientel (Askuta), Selax spp (Changma), populous spp, Ajaina spp, Berberis ulicina, Rumex spp (Tsashing), physochaleanaprealta (Lantang), Hippophae rhammonides (Seabuckthron), Corydalis spp, Myricariaspp, Tamarisk spp, lloydia serotina, Elaeagnus angustifolia, Androsace spp, Geranium spp, Potentilla spp, Tanacetum spp, Corydalis spp, Arnebia spp, festuca spp, Thermopsis spp, Cicer microphyllum, Gentianella spp and Lendelofia stylosa etc.

Peoples of Tebay are largely depend on plants for construction materials, farm nutrients, livestock feed, medicine and fuel in winter for space heating and cooking. Firewood collection is common in Tebay the scarcity of firewood Local inhabitants to cut the plants for their energy needs which constitutes the cheapest and the most accessible source of energy. Due to extreme cold during the months of winter the majority of household use firewood for cooking and space heating the main source of firewood is own dry plants not natural forest. During summer months, mostly domesticated animals are grazing at some part of the browsing area of Tebay. Peoples are very honest they help to control deforestation and hunting.

III. AGRICULTURE FARMING



Agriculture farming are cultivated plants and domesticated animals including their closely related wild species are growing under the natural conditions agriculture farming are directly contributed to rural economies and also provides income and live hood for the people of Tebay.

Mixed farming is the most important farming systems of Tebay where the cultivation of crops, rearing of animals and poultry farming in a small area. This is called less input and more output system.

Counter strip systems/terrace system are the most common farming systems at Tebay. A small piece of land, which is located at the slope of the land where the cultivation of crops are called counter strip systems.



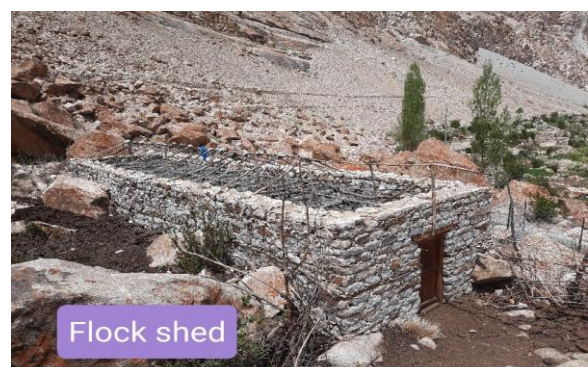
Cultivable crops of Tebay are Barley, Pea, Potatoes, Carrots, and Vegetables. Barley and Potatoes are the most famous crops in all over Turtuk valley.

Rearing o domesticated animals like Horse, Dzo, Dzomo, Yak, Cow, Donkey, Goats, and Sheeps etc.

Dzomo is the important cattle breeds of Tebay, which is survived in cold weather conditions and enough milk productions. Dzomo is famous for milking Purpose lacting Dzomo were hand milking practice twice a day morning and evening. Dung is used for fuel in winter for space heating and cooking.



Animals farming is the branch of agriculture science Concerned with animals that are raised for meat, wool, milk, fibre, manure and milk products. It includes day to day care selective breeding and the raising of livestock.



Goats and sheep farming principally for Fiber manure, and Meat. Wool, which is famous for Woolen shwal of Gilgit Baltistan. Changthangi goat breed is an important breed of cold Temperate Himalayan region, which is source of world most Luxurious natural fiber pashmina. An average domesticated animals of a single household are.

1 Horse, 1 Donkey, 2-3 Dzomo, 1 Dzo, 20-30 Goats and sheeps few household have 2-5 Yaks. Horse, Donkey and Dzoare famous for Ploughing, threshing and load carrier.



1. Cultivation of cereals crops

- (A) Sowing time 2nd week of May
- (B) Field inspection then remove all trash, weed and stone.
- (C) Farm yard manure and human wasted manure apply to all corner of the field properly.
- (D) Indigenous ploughing are most common at Tebay with Horse and Dzo (Dzo is the cross breed of Yak and Domestic cattle).
- (E) Check basin and border methods for cereals crops.
- (F) Irrigation canal system.
- (G) Twice hand weeding in a season.
- (H) Harvesting time first week of August.
- (I) Threshing with group of animals like Horse and Dzo.

2. Cultivation of vegetables.

- (A) Sowing time 2nd week of May.
- (B) Check basin and furrow methods for vegetables.
- (C) Irrigation canal system.
- (D) Potatoes and carrots last week of September.
- (E) Harvesting of Vegetables Mid August except Potatoes and carrots.

3. Cultivation of Fruits.

- (A) Ring basin method for fruits trees.
- (B) Grafting season February to March.
- (C) Budding first week of May to last of June.
- (D) Apricot is the most famous fruit of baltistan harvesting Mid July.
- (E) Apple Mid August.
- (F) Walnut Mid September.



4. *Buttering system is a unique technique in Baltistan*

- (A) Aluminum or iron pot with wooden equipment that is used for making Curd.
- (B) Curd mixed with Water in a pot churn, churn, churn half an hour properly.
- (C) Seeing butter in churn take Strainer and put into cold water for 1-2 hours.
- (D) After a few hours butter put in leather bag for long term. Leather is a material, which is help to protect the butter from spoil.

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