Journal of the Asian Elephant Specialist Group



### Journal of the Asian Elephant Specialist Group Number 38 (2013)

The journal is intended as a medium of communication on issues that concern the management and conservation of Asian elephants (*Elephas maximus*) both in the wild and in captivity. It is a means by which members of the AsESG and others can communicate their experiences, ideas and perceptions freely, so that the conservation of Asian elephants can benefit. All articles published in *Gajah* reflect the individual views of the authors and not necessarily that of the editorial board or the AsESG. The copyright of each article remains with the author(s).

#### **Editor**

#### Jayantha Jayewardene

Biodiversity and Elephant Conservation Trust 615/32 Rajagiriya Gardens Nawala Road, Rajagiriya Sri Lanka romaliji@eureka.lk

#### **Editorial Board**

#### **Dr. Richard Barnes**

Centre for Community Health Division of Academic General Pediatrics 9500 Gilman Drive, MC 0927 La Jolla, CA 92093-0927 USA

e-mail: rfwbarnes@znet.com

#### Dr. Jennifer Pastorini

Centre for Conservation and Research 35 Gunasekara Gardens Nawala Road, Rajagiriya Sri Lanka e-mail: jenny@aim.uzh.ch

#### Dr. Alex Rübel

Direktor Zoo Zürich Zürichbergstrasse 221 CH - 8044 Zürich Switzerland

e-mail: alex.ruebel@zoo.ch

#### Dr. Prithiviraj Fernando

Centre for Conservation and Research 35 Gunasekara Gardens Nawala Road Rajagiriya Sri Lanka e-mail: pruthu62@gmail.com

#### Heidi Riddle

Riddles Elephant & Wildlife Sanctuary P.O.Box 715 Greenbrier, Arkansas 72058 USA e-mail: gajah@windstream.net

#### **Dr. Arnold Sitompul**

Conservation Science Initiative
Jl. Setia Budi Pasar 2
Komp. Insan Cita Griya Blok CC No 5
Medan, 20131
Indonesia
e-mail:asitompu@forwild.umass.edu

Journal of the Asian Elephant Specialist Group Number 38 (2013)

This publication of Gajah was financed by the International Elephant Foundation



#### **Editorial Note**

Articles published in *Gajah* may be used, distributed and reproduced in any medium, provided the article is properly cited.

*Gajah* will be published as both a hard copy and an on-line version accessible from the AsESG web site (www.asesg.org/gajah.htm). If you would like to be informed when a new issue comes out, please provide your e-mail address. If you would like to have a hardcopy, please send a request with your name and postal address by e-mail to <romalijj@eureka.lk> or to:

Jayantha Jayewardene 615/32 Rajagiriya Gardens Nawala Road, Rajagiriya Sri Lanka

Cover: Dwarf elephant in Udawalawe National Park (Sri Lanka) Photo by Brad Abbott

> Layout and formatting by Dr. Jennifer Pastorini Printed at E & S Prints Solutions, Rathmalana

#### **Instructions for Contributors**

*Gajah* welcomes articles related to Asian elephants, including their conservation, management, and research, and those of general interest such as cultural or religious associations. Manuscripts may present research findings, opinions, commentaries, anecdotal accounts, reviews etc. but should not be mainly promotional.

All articles will be reviewed by the editorial board of *Gajah*. *Gajah* also has a peer reviewed section. Peer reviewed papers will carry a notation to that effect. Authors are requested to specify that they are submitting their paper to the "**peer reviewed section**". Word limits for submitted articles are for the entire article (title, authors, abstract, text, tables, figure legends, acknowledgements and references).

**Correspondence:** Readers are encouraged to submit comments, opinions and criticisms of articles published in *Gajah*. Such correspondence should be a maximum of 400 words, and will be edited and published at the discretion of the editorial board.

**News and Briefs:** Manuscripts on anecdotal accounts and commentaries on any aspect of Asian elephants, information about organizations, and workshop or symposium reports with a maximum of 1000 words are accepted for the "**News and Briefs**" section.

**Research papers:** Manuscripts reporting original research with a maximum of 5000 words are accepted for the "**Research Article**" section. They should also include an abstract (100 words max.). Shorter manuscripts (2000 words max.) will be published as a "**Short Communication**" (no abstract).

**Tables and figures** should be kept to a minimum. Legends should be typed separately (not incorporated into the figure). Figures and tables should be numbered consecutively and referred to in the text as (Fig. 2) and (Table 4). The lettering on figures must be large enough to be legible after reduction to final print size. Include tables and line drawings in the MS WORD document you submit. In addition, all figures must be provided as separate files in JPEG or TIFF format.

**References** should be indicated in the text by the surnames(s) of the author(s) with the year of publication as in this example: (Baskaran & Desai 1996; Rajapaksha *et al.* 2004)

Avoid if possible, citing references which are hard to access (e.g. reports, unpublished theses). Format citations in the 'References' section as in the following examples, writing out journal titles in full.

Baskaran N & Desai AA (1996) Ranging behavior of the Asian elephant (*Elephas maximus*) in the Nilgiri biosphere reserve, South India. *Gajah* **15:** 41-57.

Olivier RCD (1978) On the Ecology of the Asian Elephant. Ph.D. thesis, University of Cambridge, Cambridge, UK.

Rajapaksha RC, Mendis GUSP & Wijesinghe CG (2004) Management of Pinnawela elephants in musth period. In: *Endangered Elephants, Past Present and Future*. Jayewardene J (ed) Biodiversity & Elephant Conservation Trust, Colombo, Sri Lanka. pp 182-183.

Sukumar R (1989) The Asian Elephant: Ecology and Management. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, UK.

Manuscripts should be submitted by e-mail to the editor <romalijj@eureka.lk>. Submission of an article to *Gajah* is taken to indicate that ethical standards of scientific publication have been followed, including obtaining concurrence of all co-authors. Authors are encouraged to read an article such as: Benos *et al.* (2005) Ethics and scientific publication. *Advances in Physiology Education* **29:** 59-74.

Deadline for submission of manuscripts for the next issue of Gajah is 30. November 2013.

### Journal of the Asian Elephant Specialist Group

Contents Gajah 38	3 (2013)
Editorial Alex Rübel	1-2
Announcement	2
Notes from the co-chairs IUCN/SSC Asian Elephant Specialist Group <i>Ajay A. Desai &amp; Simon Hedges</i>	3-4
The dangerous myth of the noble beast <i>Ahimsa Campos-Arceiz</i>	5
Does moonlight affect Asian elephants?  Richard F. W. Barnes	6-7
Birth sex ratio and determinants of fecundity in female timber elephants of Myanmar <i>Khyne U Mar</i>	8-18
Diurnal activity and food choice of free-foraging captive elephants at the Seblat Elephant Conservation Center, Sumatra, Indonesia <i>Arnold F. Sitompul, Curtice R. Griffin &amp; Todd K. Fuller</i>	19-24
A comparison of stereotypic behaviour in Asian elephants at three different institutions in Sri Lanka R. K. de Mel, Devaka K. Weerakoon & W. D. Ratnasooriya	25-29
Disproportionate dwarfism in a wild Asian elephant Rohan Wijesinha, Nadika Hapuarachchi, Brad Abbott, Jennifer Pastorini & Prithiviraj Fernando	30-32
Human-elephant conflict due to movement of elephants between India and Nepal and WWF-India initiatives to address it Sangita Mitra	33-36
Patrolling and law enforcement for elephant management in Nam Pouy National Protected Area, Xayabouly Province, Lao PDR <i>Khamkhoun Khounboline</i>	37-38
Death of Asian elephants due to railway accidents in Odisha, India Nimain C. Palei, Bhakta P. Rath & C. S. Kar	39-41
Assessment of response of elephants to beehives placed in a paddy field K. Pavithra Shri, C. Gunasekaran, M. Salahudeen, A. Asaikkutti & A. Agnes Deepa	42-43
Recent publications on Asian elephants	44-63
News briefs	64.73