

Mwaghavul Bird names

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This is a list of bird names in the Mwaghavul language, spoken around Panyam, in Plateau State, Nigeria. It has yet to be fully updated with results from a workshop held in April 2012. The main source for identifications is Borrow & Demey (2001).

Mwaghavul	Hausa	Latin	English	Notes
cúghúr			duck spp.	
daa kí dààm			bird sp.	with long neck and kind of sack where it keeps insects/fish etc. pelican?
dàà tiis		<i>Centropus senegalensis</i>	Senegal coucal	lit. 'father of <i>tiis</i> [tree sp.]'
dààpyáá náá níng		<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>	cattle egret	
dàkàkàk		<i>Haliaetus vocifer</i>	African fish eagle	
dàpen			kingfisher spp.	
dìghìm		<i>Pogoniulus chrysoconus</i>	yellow-fronted tinkerbird	
gòrò		<i>Corvus albus</i>	pie crow	
kapkang			bustard	
kin líghít			bird sp.	
kúljem/			bird sp.	cf. nkúljem
kup dughul			long-tailed birds	also <i>yer dang</i> .
kùríít			black bird	cf. nkùríít always in the company of cattle while grazing
kuryeem			great egret	
kùshìng		<i>Lagonosticta spp.</i>	firefinch, waxbill	
kwaalaa			canary	
kwèè jwák		<i>Turnix spp.</i>	quail	
kwegher			bird sp.	that eats maize
kwoom		<i>Francolinus spp.</i>	bush-fowl	bird sp. that eats maize
laat ⁺		<i>Balearica pavonina</i>	crown-bird	also the nickname of s.o. who is very fearful
lang laghap			standard-wing nightjar	
mbùl			pigeon generic	
mbùl àm			pigeon sp.	'pigeon of water'
mbùl as		<i>Oriolus auratus</i>	oriole ?	
mbùl gàng		<i>Columba guinea</i>	pigeon	
mbùl gùuk		?	blue-headed wood dove	<i>gùuk</i> imitates sound of pigeon
mbùl kíráng			pigeon sp.	
mbùl koon		<i>Treron calva</i>	green fruit-pigeon	
mbùl tùlú		<i>Streptopelia turtur</i>	dove	<i>tùlú</i> 'house'. Nowadays can be reared in the house
mbùl yen		<i>Turtur</i>	tambourine dove	<i>yen</i> is 'medicine'

Mwaghavul	Hausa	Latin	English	Notes
		<i>tympanistria</i>		
mbwaghalong			Abdim's stork	migratory bird
mok d̄yēs			sparrow	
nd̄igh̄m		<i>Ploceus cucullatus</i>	village weaver	
ndirit			waxbill	
nfyéém		<i>Terathopius ecaudatus</i>	bateleur	or perhaps other eagles
nḡinḡàà			ibis	also the name of a village in Ampang where this bird used to be seen
ngoro		<i>Corvus albus</i>	pied crow	
nḡùpyáá		<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>	cattle egret	
nḡúryaat			African grey parrot	
nḡúúl			bird sp.	
n̄ijet		<i>Mirafra spp., Galerida spp.</i>	lark	
n̄ijwak			lark	
n̄jèghèn		<i>Ardea cinerea</i>	grey heron	but H. shamuwa = stork
n̄jer kilek			oxpecker	
nk̄l̄ng		<i>Milvus migrans</i>	black kite	
nk̄ng l̄gh̄t			eagle sp.	believed to be lazy, jumps on the ground before flying
nk̄úljem		<i>Scopus umbretta</i>	hammerkop	cf. kúljem
nk̄ùríít			black bird	mostly found on the back of sheep while grazing ?
nkwee piya			bird sp.	oxpecker
nlaat			? little egret	that feeds on insects, grasshopper, fish
nn̄ilip	<i>dogarin</i>		red bishop	also milipi
nsidik	<i>tsuntsaye</i>	<i>Agapornis spp.</i>	lovebird	pest on crops
ntááséét		<i>Uraeginthus sp.</i>	cordón-bleu	
ntíl k̄ñ			hornbill	
nveet			smaller owls	
nyer dang			bird with long tail	
nyiiyì			owl spp.	
pùùl			eagle sp.	very large eagle believed to be able to carry off young children or goats and sheep
ryeem			bird sp.	
sak ting			woodpecker	
shíí nàat			bird that eats maize	lit. 'foot red' it runs on the ground and then hides in a

Mwaghavul	Hausa	Latin	English	Notes
shwaa shuu ⁺			sunbird ?	tuft of grass
súm cáár		<i>Hirundo spp.</i>	swallow spp.	uses cotton to make its house
ten yil ya yoghon			wagtail	cf. nsún cáár
tízik			bird sp.	
tòghòm		<i>Numida meleagris</i>	guinea-fowl	
vùrshì		<i>Necrosyrtes monachus</i>	vulture	and the others. Also kavurshii
waghák		<i>Coracias spp.</i>	roller	probably the Abyssinian roller
wùlèng			bird sp.	
wúwék		<i>Nycticorax sp.</i>	night heron	
yaghazem			ostrich	
yèr			bird (generic)	also nyer
yèr am			water bird	generic term for all types of ducks and grebes
yèr byel			cuckoo	
yèr caar			paradise flycatcher	one of the long-tailed cuckoos, perhaps, such as the greater spotted
yèr dang			widowbird	
yèr jet			lark	= ni jwak. bird sp. that eats maize
yèr kas			<i>quelea</i> bird	
yèr kushing	ba'u		bird sp.	
yèr mulu			ostrich	
yèr paa			raptor	eagle which hovers in the air for some time before diving and is believed to be divining (paa)
yèr sak tíng			snipe ?	
yèr tam			bird sp.	

References

Borrow N. and Demey, R. 2001. *Birds of Western Africa*. London: Christopher Helm Publishers.