

A REVIEW OF GLASSFISHES (FAMILY AMBASSIDAE) FROM PAKISTAN

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ABSTRACT

Glassfishes belonging to Family Ambassidae are known to inhabit freshwater, estuarine and marine habitat. From Pakistan, 7 species belong to 4 genera are reported which includes 2 marine and 5 freshwater species. *Ambassis gymnocephalis* seems to be common in shallow coastal waters, intertidal areas and rockpools on sandy and muddy areas. *Chanda nama* and *Parambassis ranga* are of frequent occurrence in freshwater habitats of Sindh, Balochistan and Punjab. All members of family Ambassidae are considered to be important in aquarium trade because of their transparent body and high survival rate. A number of other species of this family is imported from southeast Asian countries, however, none of them is known to establish in natural water bodies that have accidentally or intentionally released.

Key-words: Ambassidae, *Ambassis*, *Chanda*, *Parambassis*, glassfishes, aquarium trade.

INTRODUCTION

Glassfishes or glassy perchlets belong to family Ambassidae (formerly known as Channidae) are found in both marine and inland waters of Asia and Oceania (Menon, 1999; Nelson, 1994; Roberts, 1994). Most species are small having semi-transparent body and are inhabitant of freshwater bodies as well as estuarine and coastal waters. Glassy perchlets are not of much economic significance except some species are kept in aquaria as ornamental fishes and few others are consumed by poor classes in India, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and Myanmar. Members of family Ambassidae are locally known in Pakistan by a variety of names. It is generally known as 'shisha machi', however it is also called 'photani', 'motar', 'phud', 'peeda', 'put-to-lah' or 'mittho' in Sindhi and 'kasha' in Balochi and 'makhni', 'phed-du-ah', 'kangee', or 'ched-du-ah' in Punjabi and 'chnada' (Bangali) in Karachi market.

Although members of this family are reported both from freshwater and marine environment in Pakistan, however, no work exclusively cover this family. In the present paper, a review of the species found in Pakistan and distributional record of each known species is given. Members of family Ambassidae is widely distributed in coastal, brackish as well freshwater habitat in Pakistan and their presence has been mentioned in a large of papers published on various aspects of fish biology, distribution and other aspects related to fisheries. In the present paper an attempt was made to refer to the publications that mention species of family Ambassidae. If any published paper is not mentioned in this study, it may not be intentional but missed because of availability or access to the said paper.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

In addition to the literature review samples of family Ambassidae were collected from commercial landings as well as from the coastal and inland areas of Pakistan. The specimens were photographed and later on preserved in 5 % neutralized formalin and kept in the Museum of Marine Fisheries Department for future reference.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

A total of seven species belonging to four genera were reported from Pakistan. Of these two species i.e. *Ambassis ambassis* and *Ambassis gymnocephalus* were reported from marine and estuarine areas whereas four species i.e. *Chnada nama*, *Parambassis thomassi*, *Parambassis ranga*, *Parambassis lala* and *Pseudambassis baculis* were reported from freshwater habitat. Of these, *Chanda nama* and *Parambassis ranga* seems to be most dominating species which is landed in commercial quantities and mostly utilized locally by the immigrant Bangladeshi and Burmese population settled in Karachi and its vicinity. All members of family Ambassidae are considered to be important in aquarium trade because of their transparent body and high survival rate. In

addition, a number of other species of this family is imported mainly from southeast Asian countries, however, none of them is known to establish in natural water bodies that have accidentally or intentionally released.

Ambassis ambassis (Lacepède, 1802)
(Fig. 1)



Fig. 1. *Ambassis ambassis* collected from Buleji on 31 December, 2009 (9 cm TL)

This species is commonly known as Commerson's glassy perchlet and is reported from coastal areas of Sindh and Balochistan inhabiting coastal creeks and sheltered waters. From Balochistan, this species was reported by Ahmed (1996) and Zugmayer (1913) whereas Sindh it was reported by Sorley (1932). Additionally this species was reported from Baba Island, Bhit Island, and Port Qasim by Ahmed and Wazarat (1993) and from Sandspit, Karachi, Bambhore, Keti Bunder, and Korangi Creek (Ahmed *et al.*, 1999). In all of these studies it was reported as *Ambassis commersonii* Cuvier and Valenciennes, 1828 which is considered as a synonym of this species (Frickle *et al.*, 2022).

This species was originally described as *Centropomis ambassis* from Réunion Islands by Lacepade (1802), however, no holotype is known. Syntypes are housed in Museum National d'Historie Naturelle, Paris, France (Frickle *et al.*, 2022). *Ambassis commersonii* described from Réunion, Pondicherry (India), Mahé (Seychelles) and Java (Indonesia) by Cuvier and Valenciennes (1828) is considered to be a synonym of this species. No holotype of this taxa is known, however, syntypes are housed in the Muséum d'histoire naturelle de la Ville de Genève (MHNG) and Museum National d'Historie Naturelle, Paris, France (Frickle *et al.*, 2022).

Ambassis ambassis is known to be widely distributed in Western Indian Ocean from East Africa, South Africa, Persian Gulf, Madagascar, Réunion and Mauritius (western Mascarenes) east to western India (Frickle *et al.*, 2022). During the present study, a number of samples collected from Pakistan (both Sindh and Balochistan) were examined. The photograph of specimen given in this paper was collected from sandy shore at Buleji on 31 December, 2009 using cast net.

Ambassis gymnocephalus (Lacepede, 1802)
(Fig. 2)



Fig. 2. *Ambassis gymnocephalus* collected from Damb, Balochistan on 11 November, 2014 (13.4 cm TL)

It is commonly known as bald glassy perchlet. It is found in marine, brackish and freshwater along Sindh and Balochistan coast. This species reported from Pakistan by Hoda (1985, 1988), Hussain (2003) and Jalil and Khaliluddin (1972, 1981) whereas it is also reported from Sindh coast by Anonymous (1999) and Jayaram (1981, 1999). It was originally described as *Lutjanus gymnocephalus* from Indo-Pacific Ocean (le grand Océan équinoxal or dans les parties de ce grand Océan voisines des tropiques") by Lacepede (1802), however, no type is known (Frickle, *et al.*, 2022). This species is known to be widely distributed in the Indo-West Pacific area including East Africa and South Africa east to Philippines and New Guinea, north to Taiwan, south to Queensland, Australia (Frickle *et al.*, 2022). Detailed description of the species is given in Allen and Burgess (1990). This species is distinguished from its congeners on the basis that its lateral line is interrupted and its preorbital bone has exposed and posteriorly directed rostral spine below anterior nostril.

This is most common glassfish found along the coast of Pakistan including in the intertidal water along open sea, bays, lagoons and estuaries. It is also found in lower reaches of the River Indus in almost freshwater. The photograph of specimen given in this paper was collected from Damb, Balochistan on 11 November, 2014 using bottom set gillnet.

Ambassis natalensis Gilchrist and Thompson, 1908

This species is commonly known as slender glassy and was originally described from Inner harbour, Durban, KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa, southwestern Indian Ocean by Gilchrist and Thompson (1908). Its holotype is not known, however, its syntypes are housed in Australian Museum at Sydney (AMS IA.6944-45), Natural History Museum, London (BMNH 1927.12.6.26-29) and South African Museum at Cape Town (SAM 9887 + 11665). It was reported from Pakistan by Shaikh and Panhwar (2021). This species is reported Indo-West Pacific area including South Africa, East Africa, Madagascar and western Mascarenes, Red Sea east to Philippines, north to China and Taiwan, south to northern Australia (Frickle *et al.*, 2022). According to Shaikh and Panhwar (2021) this species, the pre-opercular spine, predorsal scales, and teeth on the vomer and palatines are the key identification characters based on Martin and Heemstra (1988).

Examination of the photograph published in Shaikh and Panhwar (2021) shows that hind margin of preopercle is entire whereas in general morphology it seems to be more close of *Ambassis ambassis*. The colour given in the photograph seems to be adjusted as all fins appears to be pinkish. No specimen of this species was examined during the present study.

Chanda nama Hamilton-Buchanan, 1822

(Fig. 3)



Fig. 3. *Chanda nama* collected from Karachi Fish Harbour on 31 May, 2013 (8.0 cm TL)

It is commonly known as elongate glassy perchlet. It is commonly found fresh and brackish waters almost throughout Pakistan except for cold waters of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Azad Kashmir, and Northern Areas. This species was reported from Pakistan by Ahmad (1963y, 1963z, 1979), Ahmad and Khamis (1969), Ahmad *et al* (1980), Ahmed (1996), Butt and Nawaz (1978), Froese and Pauly (2022), Iqbal (1993), Kehar *et al* (1987), Mirza

(1990), Mirza and Alam (1994), Mirza and Bhatti (1993, 1999), Qureshi (1965), Sheri and Saied (1975) and Zaman (1980), however, no specific location was identified. It was also reported from zoogeographic area Indus Balochistan by Rafique (2000), Indus plain and adjoining hills by Mirza (1974, 1975a) and Roberts (1994) and northern mountane and submountane regions by Mirza (1976).

It was reported from Sindh without identifying any specific location by Ahmad (1949-50), Ahmad *et al* (1976), Day (1875, 1889), Jayaram (1981), Lone (1983), Mirza (1970, 1972, 2003), Mirza and Omar (1984), Mirza and Sharif (1996), Murray (1880), Rafique (2000) and Sorley (1933). It was also reported from Dadu (Ahmad, 1963c), G. M. Barrage, Sunhari Canal, Ghulamullah, Pir Pattho, Wir, Mirpur Sakro, Ghorabari, Gharo and Dhabeji (Khatoon and Baqai, 1972, Haleji Lake (Baqai *et al*, 1974; Kehar *et al*, 1995, Khatoon and Baqai, 1972), Habibkot, Rohri Sukkur District (Ahmad *et al*, 1976), Hyderabad (Ahmad, 1963h; Ali and Jafri, 1984), Jhangi Sir and Kharo Chan (Ahmed *et al*, 1999), Khairpur (Ahmad, 1963k; Khatoon and Baqai, 1972), Khairpur Nathan Shah, Kahirpur District (Ahmad and Khan, 1974; Ahmad *et al*, 1976), Kharo Chan (Abro *et al.*, 2020), Kinjhar Lake (Ahmad and Khan, 1974; Ahmad *et al*, 1976; Kehar *et al*, 1995, Khatoon and Baqai, 1972; Korai *et al.*, 2008; Siddiqui *et al*, 1973; Sufi, 1957), Larkana (Ahmad, 1963m), Leth Nullah, Mirpur Sakro (Ahmad *et al*, 1984, 1985; Niazi and Moazzam, 1999), Lower Indus Basin (Husain, 1973), Lower Indus Plain (Mirza and Mirza, 2014), Manchar Lake (Baig and Khan, 1976; Khatoon and Baqai, 1972; Prashad and Mukerji, 1930; Sufi, 1962), Manjhand (Abro *et al.*, 2020), Nara Game Reserve (Khan, 2004), Rapp Lake, Gouspur, Jacobabad District (Ahmad *et al*, 1976), Ring Dam, Kotri Barrage (Kehar *et al*, 1995), Sanghar (Ahmed, 1963s), Rohri, Sukkur District (Ahmad and Khan, 1974), South-West hills (Mirza, 1975a), Sukkur (Ahmad, 1963v; Anonymous, 1993) and Thatta (Ahmad, 1963x; Khatoon and Baqai, 1972).

From province of Punjab, this species was reported without specifying any location by Ahmad *et al* (1976), Anonymous (1999), Day (1875, 1889), Jayaram (1981), Lone (1983), Mirza (1970, 1972, 2003), Mirza and Alam (2002), Mirza and Omar (1984), Mirza and Sharif (1996), Rafique (2000). It is also reported from Attock (Ahmad, 1963b), Bajwat Area, District Sailkot (Qazi *et al*, 2000), Chenab River, Manha Canal (Roberts, 1994), Dera Ghazi Khan (Ahmad, 1963d), Faisalabad (Ahmad, 1963n), Gujranwala (Ahmad, 1963f; Lincoln, 1936), Gujrat (Ahmad, 1963g; Naik, 1977), Haro River (Rafique, 2001; Razaq and Mirza, 1992), Head Khanki, River Chanab (Latif *et al.*, 2016a), Head Marala, Chenab River (Latif *et al.*, 2016b), Head Qadirabad, River Chenab (Latif, *et al.*, 2016c, Altaf *et al.*, 2011), Indus River at Taunsa Barrage (Iqbal and Saleemi, 2017), Jhang (Ahmad, 1963i), Jehlum (Ahmad, 1963j), Jehlum Bridge (Mirza, *et al.*, 2006), Jelum near Khewra, Dharyala Japalppond, Salt Range (Anonymous, 2001), Jinnah Barrage (Rafique *et al*, 2003), Kalabagh (Mirza and Jan, 1993), Lahore (Ahmad, 1943, 1963l; Ahmad *et al*, 1976; Anonymous, 1916, 1999; Khamis, 1963; Mirza, 1970, 1975a, 1982), Link Canal No. 1, Dera Ghazi Khan (Ahmad *et al*, 1976), Multan (Ahmad, 1963o), Muzaffargarh Canal, Magasson Drain, Muzaffargarh District (Ahmad *et al*, 1976), Nullah Aik and Palku (Qadir, 2010), Potohar Plateau and Salt Range (Mirza, 1975a), Rahimyar Khan (Ahmad, 1963q), Rawalpindi (Ahmad, 1963r), Rawalpindi, Islamabad and Wah area (Akhtar *et al*, 1990), River Chenab (Altaf *et al.*, 2015), River Chenab between Khanki and Qadirabad (Javed *et al*, 1997), River Chenab in District Jhang (Afzal *et al*, 1995), River Indus near Taunsa, Dera Ghazi Khan District (Qureshi and Ali, 1975), River Jehlum (Mirza and Sulehria, 2011), River Ravi (Pervaiz *et al.*, 2018), Sang Jani, tributary of Haro River (Qureshi *et al*, 1988), Sargodha (Ahmad, 1963t), Sheikhpura (Ahmad, 1963u), Sailkot (Ahmad, 1963v), Shrakpur, Sheikhpura District (Ahmad *et al*, 1976), Soan River (Rafique, 2001) and Sutlej River in Lahore District (Bashir and Mirza, 1975).

Mirza (2003) and Mirza and Sharif (1996) reported this species from, Balochistan and by Mirza (1974, 1975a) from south-southeastern Balochistan and adjoining areas. It is also reported from Nulli-ni near Kota Meer Muhammad by Day (1880), Mirza (1972) and Mirza and Omar, 1984). From the province of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa it was reported by Ahmad *et al* (1976), Lone (1983), Mirza (2003), Mirza and Omar (1984) and Mirza and Sharif (1996) without identifying any specific location. It was however, reported from Bannu (Ahmad, 1963a), Bunair Valley (Butt *et al*, 2005), Dera Ismail Khan (Ahmad, 1963e; Ahmad *et al*, 1976; Butt, 1986; Mirza and Ahmad, 1974), Indus River in Dera Ismail Khan (Butt and Nawaz, 1978), Hazara (Rafique, 2000), Kohat hills (Mirza, 1975a), Kohat Toi Stream (Shahjehan and Khan, 1997), Nowshera, Peshawar District (Butt, 1986; Butt and Mirza, 1981), Peshawar (Ahmad, 1963p), Rafique, 2000), River Indus near Kalinger, Mian Dehri, Haripur (Mirza *et al*, 1995) and Spur No. 1, Chasma Road, Dera Ismail Khan District (Ahmad *et al*, 1976; Butt and Nawaz, 1978). This species was also reported from Azad Kashmir (Mirza, 2003; Rafique, 2000) and Mangla Lake (Mirza *et al* (1989).

This species was originally described from ponds throughout Bengal by Hamillton-Buchanan (1822), however, no type is known (Frickle *et al.*, 2022). During the present study, a number of samples collected from Pakistan (both Sindh and Balochistan) were examined. The photograph of specimen given in this paper was collected from Karachi Fish Harbour on 31 May, 2013 possibly using gillnet.

Parambassis baculis (Hamilton-Buchanan, 1822)
(Fig. 4)



Fig. 4. *Parambassis baculis* collected from River Hub at Karachi-Quetta Bridge on 17 March, 2017. (4.3 cm TL)

This species is known as Himalayan glassy perchlet and known to inhabit fresh and brackish waters. It is widely distributed in Pakistan and Azad Kashmir. It is reported by Ahmad (1963y, 1963z, 1979), Ahmad *et al* (1980), Ahmed (1996), Froese and Pauly (2022), Iqbal (1993), Jayaram (1999), Mirza (1990), Mirza and Alam (1994), Mirza and Bhatti (1993, 1999), Qureshi (1965) and Sheri and Saied (1975) without specifying any specific location. . It was also reported from zoogeographic area Indus plain and adjoining hills by Mirza, (1974, 1975a) and Roberts (1994).

From province of Sindh, this species was reported by Ahmad *et al* (1976), Jayaram (1981), Lone (1983), Mirza (1970, 2003), Mirza and Sharif (1996), Misra (1962), Rafique (2000) and Sorley (1933) but no specific area was identified. It was also reported from Daro, Thatta District (Ahmad and Khan, 1974; Ahmad *et al*, 1976), Jhangi Sir and Kharo Chan (Ahmed *et al*, 1999), Kalri Lake, Sunhari Canal, Ghulamullah, Pir Pattho, Wir, Mirpur Sakro, Ghorabari, Gharo, Thatta (Khatoon and Baqai, 1972), Leth Nullah, Mirpur Sakro (Ahmad *et al*, 1984, 1985; Niazi and Moazzam, 1999), Lower Indus Basin (Husain, 1973), Manchar Lake (Prashad and Mukerji, 1930) and Sukkur (Anonymous, 1993; Roberts, 1994).

From Punjab, it was reported by Ahmad *et al* (1976), Day (1875, 1889), Jayaram (1981), Khan (1943), Lone (1983), Mirza (1970, 2003), Mirza and Alam (2002), Mirza and Sharif (1996), Misra (1962), Rafique (2000) and Zaman (1980) without identifying any specific location. It is, however, reported from Haro River (Rafique, 2001), Indus River at Taunsa Barrage (Iqbal and Saleemi, 2017), Jinnah Barrage (Rafique *et al*, 2003), Kalabagh (Mirza and Jan, 1993), Lahore (Ahmad, 1943; Ahmad *et al*, 1976; Mirza, 1970, 1975b, 1982; Misra, 1962), Muzaffargarh (Lincoln, 1930), Rangla Wetland Complex, Muzaffargarh (Sheikh *et al*, 1997), River Chenab in District Jhang (Afzal *et al*, 1995), River Chenab in Multan District (Khan *et al*, 1991; Mahmood and Salam, 1997), River Indus, Dera Ghazi Khan District (Qureshi and Ali, 1975), River Jehlum at Bhera (Mirza and Ahmad, 1987), River Ravi (Pervaiz *et al.*, 2018), Soan River (Rafique, 2001) and Sutlej River in Lahore District (Bashir and Mirza, 1975).

This species was reported from Khyber Pakhtunkhwa by Mirza (2003) and from Peshawar by Rafique (2000). It was also reported from Azad Kashmir (Mirza, 2003), Mangla Lake (Mirza *et al* (1989) and River Punch at Kotli, Azad Kashmir (Mirza and Waheed-ud-din, 1976; Waheed-ud-din, 1979).

This species was originally described as *Ambassis baculis* from northeastern Bengal by Hamilton-Buchanan (1822), however, no type is known (Frickle *et al.*, 2022). Himalayan and Indo-Gangetic plains. Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Myanmar, India, Nepal, Thailand and Pakistan. During the present study, a number of samples collected from Pakistan (both Sindh and Balochistan) were examined. The photograph of specimen given in this paper was collected from River Hub at Karachi-Quetta Bridge on 17 March, 2017 using castnet.

Parambassis lala (Hamilton-Buchanan, 1822)

This species is known as highfin glassy perchlet and reported by Roberts (1994) from Thatta collected through Peabody Museum Expedition in 1955. The collected specimens were housed in Museum of Comparative Zoology, Cambridge and was 25.3 mm long. There is no other/subsequent record of this species from Pakistan. This species is known from lowlands of Ganges-Brahmaputra and Mahanadi basin in India and Nepal, Irrawaddy basin in Myanmar and Indus basin in Pakistan (Froese and Pauly, 2022, Roberts, 1994; Talwar and Jhingran, 1991). Originally it was

described as *Chanda lala* from freshwaters of Gangetic province by Hamilton Buchanan, however, no holotype is known. Syntypes are housed Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris, France (Frickle *et al.*, 2022). Its presence in Pakistan is considered to be doubtful. During present study no specimen of this species was examined.

Parambassis ranga (Hamilton-Buchanan, 1822).
(Fig. 5)



Fig. 5. *Parambassis ranga* collected from Chilya Hatchery, Thatta on 24 September 2022. (5.2 cm TL)

This species is also known to inhabit fresh and brackish waters. It is widely distributed in Pakistan and Azad Kashmir. It is reported by Ahmad (1963y, 1979), Ahmad *et al* (1980), Ahmed (1996), Butt and Nawaz (1978), Froese and Pauly (2022), Iqbal (1993), Jayaram (1999), Kehar *et al* (1987), Mirza (1990), Mirza and Alam (1994), Mirza and Bhatti (1993, 1999), Qureshi (1965) and Sheri and Saied (1975) without specifying any specific location.

This species was reported from Sindh by Ahmad *et al* (1976), Day (1875, 1889), Jayaram (1981), Lone (1983), Mirza (1970, 2003), Mirza and Sharif (1996), Murray (1880), Qureshi and Ali (1975), Rafique (2000) and Sorley (1932). In addition this fish was also reported from Dadu District (UBC, 1996), Deh Abro Kota, Larkana District and Habibkot, Rohri, Sukkur District (Ahmad *et al*, 1976), Ghulamullah, G. M. Barrage, Sunhari Canal, Pir Pattho, Wir, Mirpur Sakro, Ghorabari, Gharo, Dhabeji (Khatoon and Baqai, 1972), Haleji Lake (Baqai *et al*, 1974; Kehar *et al*, 1995; Khatoon and Baqai, 1972), Hyderabad (Ahmad, 1963h; Kehar *et al*, 1992), Jacobabad (Ahmad, 1949-50), Jhangi Sir (Ahmed *et al*, 1999), Jugul Kumb, Kasmore, Jacobabad District (Ahmad and Khan, 1974), Kotri (Kehar *et al*, 1992), Khairpur (Ahmad, 1963k; Khatoon and Baqai, 1972), Kinjhar Lake (Kehar *et al*, 1995, Khatoon and Baqai, 1972; Korai *et al.*, 2008; Siddiqui *et al*, 1973; Sufi, 1957), Larkana (Ahmad, 1963l), Leth Nullah, Lower Indus Basin (Husain, 1973), Manchar Lake (Ahmad, 1949-50; Baig and Khan, 1976; Jafri, 2004; Jafri *et al*, 1999; Khatoon and Baqai, 1972; Prashad and Mukerji, 1930; Sufi, 1962), Mirpur Sakro (Ahmad *et al*, 1985; Niazi and Moazzam, 1999), Nara Game Reserve (Khan, 2004), Rapp Lake, Kasmore, Jacobabad District (Ahmad *et al*, 1976), Ring Dam, Kotri Barrage (Kehar *et al*, 1995), Rohri, Sukkur District (Ahmad and Khan, 1974), Sanghar (Ahmed, 1963s), Sehwan, Dadu District (Ahmad *et al*, 1976), Sukkur (Ahmad, 1963w), Thatta (Ahmad, 1949-50, 1963x) and Khatoon and Baqai, 1972).

This species was reported from Punjab by Ahmad *et al* (1976), Jayaram (1981), Lone (1983), Mirza (1970, 2003), Mirza and Alam (2002), Mirza and Sharif (1996), Qureshi and Ali (1975) and Rafique (2000). It is also reported from Attock (Ahmad, 1963b), Bajwat Area, District Saikot (Qazi *et al*, 2000), Dera Ghazi Khan (Ahmad, 1963d), Head Qadirabad, Gujranwala (Altaf *et al.*, 2011; Latif, *et al.*, 2016c), Faisalabad (Ahmad, 1963n), Gujranwala (Ahmad, 1963f), Gujrat (Ahmad, 1963g), Head Baloki, Trimmu (Khan *et al.*, 2011), Head Khanki, River Chanab (Latif *et al.*, 2016a), Head Marala, Chenab River (Latif *et al.*, 2016b), Indus River at Taunsa Barrage (Iqbal and Saleemi, 2017), Jhang (Ahmad, 1963i), Jehlum (Ahmad, 1963j), Jinnah Barrage (Rafique *et al*, 2003), Kalabagh (Mirza and Jan, 1993), Kasur District (Roberts, 1994); Khanpur Dam, Hard Bridge near Lawrencepur (Qureshi *et al*, 1988), Lahore (Ahmad, 1943, 1963l; Ahmad *et al*, 1976; Anonymous, 1999; Mirza, 1970, 1975b, 1982), Marala, Saikot District (Mirza and Khan, 1988), Multan (Ahmad, 1963o), Muzaffargarh Canal, Magasson Drain, Muzaffargarh District (Ahmad *et al*, 1976), Nullah Aik and Palku (Qadir, 2010), Rahimyar Khan (Ahmad, 1963q), Rawalpindi (Ahmad, 1963r), Rawalpindi, Islamabad and Wah area (Akhtar *et al*, 1990), River Chenab (Altaf *et al.*, 2015), River Chenab between Khanki and Qadirabad (Javed *et al*, 1997), River Chenab in District

Jhang (Afzal *et al.*, 1995), River Indus near Taunsa, Dera Ghazi Khan District (Qureshi and Ali, 1975), River Ravi (Pervaiz *et al.*, 2018), Sargodha (Ahmad, 1963t), Sheikhpura (Ahmad, 1963u), Sailkot (Ahmad, 1963v), Soan River basin (Rafique, 2001), Sutlej River in Lahore District (Bashir and Mirza, 1975) and Trimu, Jhang District (Ahmad *et al.*, 1976).

From Khyber Pakhtunkhwa it is reported by Ahmad *et al.* (1976), Mirza (2003), Bannu (Ahmad, 1963a) and Qureshi and Ali, 1975). It was reported from Charsada (Butt and Mirza, 1981; Khattak *et al.*, 2015), Dera Ismail Khan (Ahmad, 1963e; Butt, 1986; Mirza and Ahmad, 1974; Qureshi and Ali, 1975), Indus River in Dera Ismail Khan District (V), Hazara (Rafique, 2000), Mardan (Butt and Mirza, 1981; Khattak *et al.*, 2015), Nizampur (Butt and Mirza, 1981; Khattak *et al.*, 2015), Nowshera (Butt, 1986; Butt and Mirza, 1981; Khattak *et al.*, 2015), Peshawar (Butt and Mirza, 1981; Qureshi and Ali, 1975; Rafique, 2000), Risalpur, Peshawar District (Butt and Mirza, 1981), River Indus near Mian Dehri (Mirza *et al.*, 1995) and Spur No. 15 Chasma Road, Dera Ismail Khan District (Ahmad *et al.*, 1976; Butt and Nawaz, 1978). It is also reported from southeastern Balochistan (27° N, 67° E) Dak bungalow (UBC, 1996), Azad Kashmir (Mirza, 2003; Mirza and Sharif, 1996; Rafique, 2000) and Mangla Lake (Mirza *et al.* (1989).

This species is also known from zoogeographic areas Indus Balochistan (Rafique, 2000), Indus plain and adjoining hills (Mirza, 1974, 1975a) and northern mountane and submountane regions of Pakistan (Mirza, 1976). Originally this species was described as *Chanda ranga* from Gangetic provinces, India by Hamillton-Buchanan (1822), however, no type is known (Frickle *et al.*, 2022). This species is known to occur in Pakistan, India, Bangladesh, Myanmar, Thailand, Malaysia and Nepal (Froese and Pauly, 2022). This species is found in sluggish and standing water. During the present study, a number of samples collected from Pakistan (both Sindh and Balochistan) were examined. The photograph of specimen given in this paper was collected from Chilya Hatchery, Thatta by scoop net on 24 September 2022.

Parambassis thomasi (Day, 1870)

This species is commonly known as Western Ghat glassy perchlet. It was reported by Misra (1962) and Sorley (1932) from Sindh. Originally it is described as *Ambassis thomassi* from Calicut and Manglore, India by Day (1870). No holotype is known, however, syntypes are housed in Australian Museum, Sydney, N. S. W., Australia, British Museum of Natural History, London, U. K., MCZ, Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris, France, Zoologisches Museum, Humboldt University, Berlin, Germany Zoological Survey of India, Kolkata (Frickle *et al.*, 2022). This species is known to be distributed in Western Ghats of Kerala and Karnataka in India and Mynamar (Froese and Pauly, 2022; Talwar and Jhingran, 1992). Its presence in Pakistan is considered to be doubtful. During present study no specimen of this species was examined.

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