

Hill Mynah

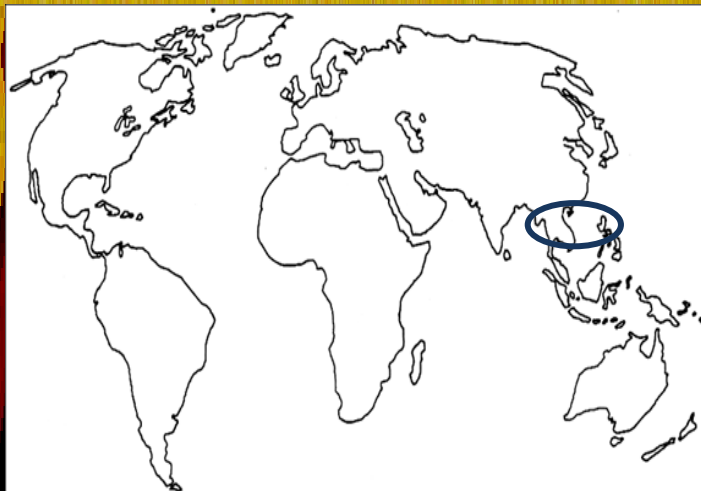
Cracula religiosa



These very attractive members of the Starling family are the mynahs most often seen in zoos and collections around the world. In South Africa though, they are not commonly kept.

Commonly found in large flocks in forested areas, the Hill Mynah can also be found now around human settlements. Found from India and Sri Lanka to south-eastern China and south to Borneo, Java and Sumatra; also occurs on some small islands in Indian Ocean. They have been kept as pets by people in these areas for many hundreds of years – most often because of their ability to mimic the human voice and other calls.

This unfortunately has led to them being stolen out of their nests for the illegal pet trade. Since 1997, stricter controls have been out in place to stop the massive trade in these birds from the wild. Although their numbers have dropped, they are quick to recover if left alone.



Lifespan: 30 Years
Weight: 230 - 250 g
Size: 27 - 30 cm
Breeding Season: April - July
Incubation Period: 14 - 18 Days
Number of Chicks: 2 - 3
Diet: Mostly Fruits but also Insects, Frogs, Small Reptiles, Birds Eggs and Baby Birds
Problems They Face: Habitat destruction, trapping for illegal pet trade
Conservation Status: Not Globally Threatened