

XXIX. DESCRIPTION OF A NEW SPECIES OF
CHARAXES FROM THE BHUTAN
FRONTIER

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Charaxes raidhaka, sp. nov.

Closely allied to *C. fabius*, Fabricius. Termen of fore wing more oblique, and both termen and dorsum shorter than in *C. fabius*, giving the wing a narrower and more pointed appearance.

Upper side.—Fore wing, ground colour a deep velvety black, darker generally than in the allied form; basal area greyish black. Immaculate except for a subterminal series of cream-coloured spots decreasing in size towards the apex; these spots larger and more marked than in *C. fabius*, those at the posterior angle being twice as large as in most examples of the latter. Hind wing, discal band as in *C. fabius*, but generally paler and narrower; subterminal series of light yellow spots complete, terminal markings greenish blue, not yellow.

Under side.—Ground colour a purplish grey, appreciably different from the usual ground colour of *C. fabius*. Markings arranged as in the latter, but the discal white bar on the fore wing obsolete and the sinuous black lines less defined. Ochreous red discal and purple submarginal lunular markings on hind wing large and distinct.

In regard to the outline of the fore wings, careful measurements of several males of *C. fabius* from different parts of India show the relative lengths of the costa, termen and dorsum to be in the proportions of 100: 75: 64 or 65; while similar measurements of the new form are in the proportions of 100: 70: 60. The difference in outline, though slight, is distinct.

The species is not represented either in the de Nicéville collection or in the Indian Museum collections; nor is it described in Rothschild's "Monograph on the *Charaxes* and allied genera" (*Novitates Zoologicae*, vols. v, vi and vii). It would appear to approach some of the Malayan forms of the genus; except for the almost unmarked fore wing, the upper side is not unlike that of *C. echo*, Butler, as illustrated and described in the above work.

Expanse 3.16 inches. Described from a single male taken near Jainti on the Raidhak River (Bhutan frontier), 2,000 feet, in June, and now in my collection.