The ETYFish Project

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COMMENTS:

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Series ANABANTARIA (cont.)

Order ANABANTIFORMES Labyrinth Fishes

8 families · 27 genera · 287 species

Suborder ANABANTOIDEI

Family ANABANTIDAE Climbing Gouramies

4 genera · 33 species

Anabas **Cloquet 1816**
from the Greek *anabás*, having gone up, referring to the ability of *A. testudineus* to "climb" out of the water and "walk" short distances, including, according to legend, trees and shrubs growing along the banks (perhaps horizontal branches overhanging the water)

Anabas cobojius **(Hamilton 1822)**
presumably a local Bengali name, as it was Hamilton's practice to derive trivial names "from some of those used by the natives of India"

Anabas testudineus **(Bloch 1792)**
turtle-like, referring to top part of skull, which is very hard and solid like that of a turtle

Ctenopoma **Peters 1844**
ctenos, comb; *poma*, operculum, referring to serrated operculum of *C. multispine*

Ctenopoma acutirostre **Pellegrin 1899**
acutus, sharp or pointed; *rostris*, beaked, referring to "very acute" (translation) muzzle

Ctenopoma ashbysmithi **Banister & Bailey 1979**
in the memory of 2nd Lt. Adrian Ashby-Smith (1952-1976), part of the Zaire River Expedition during which type was collected (biographical footnote: he was killed at Mount Sangay in Ecuador when the volcano erupted, sending a mass of hot rocks into the air, causing Ashby-Smith and other members of the expedition to fall over 600 m)

Ctenopoma gabonense **Günther 1896**
-*ensis*, suffix denoting place: Gabon, where presumed type locality (Ogowe River) is situated (but common throughout much of the Congo River basin)

Ctenopoma garuanum **(Ahl 1927)**
-*anum*, adjectival suffix: Garua (locally spelled Garoua), Cameroon, where type locality (Benoué River) is situated and only known area of occurrence

Ctenopoma kingsleyae **Günther 1896**
in honor of writer and explorer Mary Henrietta Kingsley (1862-1900), who collected holotype (and that of *Microctenopoma nanum*)

Ctenopoma machadoi **(Fowler 1930)**
in honor of Jose Augusto Machado, Chef de Poste of the Quanza region, who collected Angola fishes for the Gray African Expedition (1929), and rendered assistance in many other ways

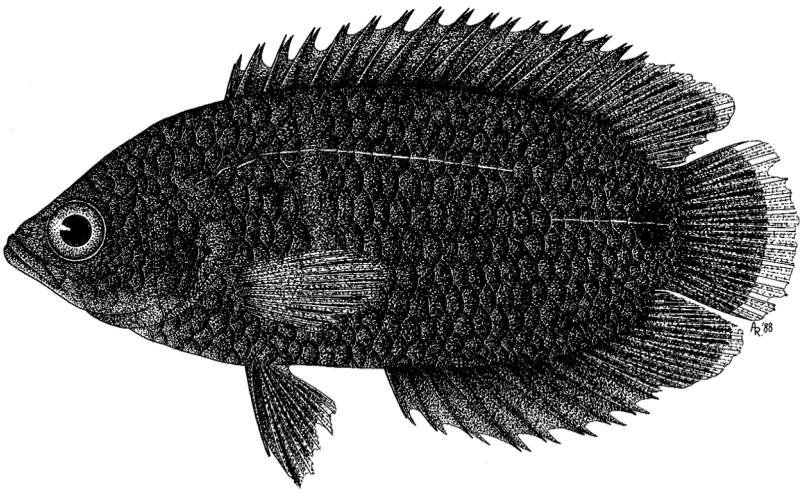
Ctenopoma maculatum **Thominot 1886**
spotted, referring to "more or less intense" (translation) spots on sides

Ctenopoma multispine **Peters 1844**
multi-, many; *spinis* (neuter: *spine*), spiny, presumably referring to numerous prickly rays on dorsal and anal fin

Ctenopoma muriei **(Boulenger 1906)**
in honor of Scottish physician and naturalist James Murie (1832-1925), who did "most of the collecting" during an 1861-1862 expedition to the White Nile River of Sudan, type locality

Ctenopoma nebulosum **Norris & Teugels 1990**
cloudy or dark, referring to its darkly mottled body

Ctenopoma nigropannosum **Reichenow 1876**
nigro-, black; *pannosum*, dressed in rags or tattered, presumably referring to black transverse bands on dark olive-brown body in spirits



Ctenopoma nebulosum. From: Norris, S. M. and G. G. Teugels. 1990. A new species of *Ctenopoma* (Teleostei: Anabantidae) from southeastern Nigeria. *Copeia* 1990 (no. 2): 492-499.

***Ctenopoma ocellatum* Pellegrin 1899**
having little eyes, referring to ocellus or eyespot at base of caudal fin

***Ctenopoma pellegrini* (Boulenger 1902)**
in honor of French ichthyologist Jacques Pellegrin (1873-1944), who has been "very busy" (translation) studying the fishes of the Congo River basin

***Ctenopoma petherici* Günther 1864**
in honor of John Petherick (1813-1882), Welsh ivory trader and consul in East Central Africa, who collected type [note latinization of name, dropping the "*k*"]

***Ctenopoma weeksii* Boulenger 1896**
in honor of John Henry Weeks (1861-1924), Baptist missionary, ethnographer, explorer and diarist, who collected type ~50 miles south of his mission station in Monsembe, upper Congo River, Zaire (now Democratic Republic of the Congo)

***Microctenopoma* Norris 1995**
micro-, small, referring to small size compared to other anabantids, especially *Ctenopoma*

***Microctenopoma ansorgii* (Boulenger 1912)**
in honor of explorer William John Ansorge (1850-1913), who collected type

***Microctenopoma congicum* (Boulenger 1887)**
-*icum*, belonging to: lower Congo River system of West-central Africa, where it occurs

***Microctenopoma damasi* (Poll & Damas 1939)**
in honor of Hubert Damas (1910-1964), professor, University of Liège (Belgium), who collected type during one of his expeditions in central Africa (Poll prepared the descriptions but added Damas as co-author of the monograph in which they appeared, therefore making Damas the co-author of a name that honors himself)

***Microctenopoma fasciolatum* (Boulenger 1899)**
banded, referring to 6-7 "wavy darker vertical bars" on body, "broader than the spaces between them"

***Microctenopoma intermedium* (Pellegrin 1920)**
described as intermediate in form between *M. nanum* and *M. ansorgii*

***Microctenopoma lineatum* (Nichols 1923)**
lined, presumably referring to "narrow pale line" separating "two longitudinal parallel dark shades" on sides

***Microctenopoma milleri* (Norris & Douglas 1991)**
in honor of ichthyologist Rudolph (Rudy) J. Miller (1934-2017), Oklahoma State University (USA), "who has long been involved in the study of anabantoid fish behavior and evolution"

***Microctenopoma nanum* (Günther 1896)**
dwarf, referring to its size, described at 67 mm in length

***Microctenopoma nigricans* Norris 1995**
blackish, referring to dark coloration of nuptial males (large males are almost black)

***Microctenopoma ocellifer* (Nichols 1928)**
ocellus, eye-spot; *fero*, to bear, presumably referring to "somewhat vertical dusky blotch" at base of caudal fin

***Microctenopoma pekkolai* (Rendahl 1935)**
in honor of Wäinö Pekkola, preparator, Zoological Institute, University of Turku (Finland), who collected fishes from the White Nile of Sudan in 1914, including type of this one

***Microctenopoma steveboyesi* Skelton, Stauffer, Chakona & Wisor 2021**
in honor of Rutledge Steven "Steve" Boyes, an "inspiring ornithologist, conservationist, and a National Geographic explorer"; he is a founder of the Wild Bird Trust and the leader of the National Geographic Okavango Wilderness Project, on which expeditions in Angola this species was discovered

***Microctenopoma stevenorrisi* Skelton, Stauffer, Chakona & Wisor 2021**
in honor of Steven "Steve" Norris, a "leading" researcher of African anabantids, who proposed the genus in 1995; he examined specimens of this species and recognized that they were new but did not describe them at the time

***Microctenopoma uelense* Norris & Douglas 1995**
-ensis, Uele River drainage, Democratic Republic of the Congo, where nearly all known specimens have been collected

***Sandelia* Castelnau 1861**
-ia, belonging to: Mgolombane Sandile (1820-1878, spelled "Sandelie" by Castelnau), Chief of the Ngqika tribe, who led his people in the Cape Frontier Wars (during which he was killed), possibly fighting against Andrew Geddes Bain, for whom the type species was likely named; these clashes marked the first use of firearms by local tribes, contributing to Sandile's reputation as a hero and mighty warrior

***Sandelia bainsii* Castelnau 1861**
in honor of "savant géologue M. [Monsieur] Bains," probably Andrew Geddes Bain (1797-1864, note spelling), Scottish-born geologist, paleontologist, road engineer, and explorer in northern South Africa; he collected zoological specimens, published articles about his journeys, and served as a captain in the Cape Frontier Wars, possibly fighting against the tribal chief Sandile, for whom genus is named

***Sandelia capensis* (Cuvier 1829)**
-ensis, suffix denoting place: Cape of Good Hope, South Africa, type locality

Family HELOSTOMATIDAE Kissing Gourami

***Helostoma* Cuvier 1829**
manuscript name coined by Kuhl, who did not explain its meaning; probably from *helos*, nail, and *stoma*, mouth, "with some connection with a nail driven into the muzzle" (per Cuvier 1831, translation), presumably referring in some way to its small, compressed and protractile mouth

***Helostoma temminckii* Cuvier 1829**
in honor of Coenraad Jacob Temminck (1778-1858), director of the Rijksmuseum van Natuurlijke Historie (Leiden, Netherlands), who supplied Kuhl and van Hasselt's unpublished description of this species (which they named *H. striolatum*) [originally spelled *temminkii*, presumably a typo]

Family OSPHRONEMIDAE Gouramies and Fighting Fishes
15 genera · 142 species

Subfamily Osphroneminae Giant Gouramies

***Osphronemus* Lacepède 1801**
according to Cuvier (1831), misspelling of *Osphromenus*, manuscript name coined by Commerçon meaning olfactory, referring to its labyrinth organ, which Commerçon supposed was an organ of smell

***Osphronemus exodon* Roberts 1994**
ex-, outside; *odon*, tooth, referring to enlarged and external teeth of large adults

***Osphronemus goramy* Lacepède 1801**
presumably from *gurami*, Malay and Javanese name for this species

***Osphronemus laticlavius* Roberts 1992**
latus, broad, *clavius*, purple or crimson stripe on a tunic (a mark of distinction worn by Romans), referring to color of pectoral-fin margin, soft-rayed portion of dorsal and anal fins, and entire caudal fin of adult males

***Osphronemus septemfasciatus* Roberts 1992**
septem, seven; *fasciatus*, striped or banded, referring to seven-barred color pattern throughout life

Subfamily Belontiinae Combtail Gouramies

Belontia **Myers 1923**
latinization of *Belontja*, one of the native names for *B. hasselti* in Palembang, South Sumatra, Indonesia

Belontia hasselti **(Cuvier 1831)**
in honor of Dutch physician and biologist Johan Coenraad van Hasselt (1797-1823), who explored the colonial Dutch East Indies and collected type with his friend Heinrich Kuhl in 1820

Belontia signata **(Günther 1861)**
marked, referring to round blackish spot on middle of base of soft dorsal fin and/or oblong blackish spot parallel to, and below, posterior portion of lateral line

Subfamily Macropodusinae Fighting Fishes and Paradisefishes

Betta **Bleeker 1849**
from *Ikan Wader bettah* (*ikan*=fish), local Javanese name of *B. trifasciata* (=*picta*)

Betta akarensis **Regan 1910**
-*ensis*, suffix denoting place: Akar River, Sarawak state, Malaysia, type locality (also occurs in Brunei)

Betta albimarginata **Kottelat & Ng 1994**
albus, white; *marginata*, edged or bordered, referring to white margin on fins (except for pectoral) of males

Betta anabatoides **Bleeker 1851**
-*oides*, having the form of: allusion not explained but probably referring to its *Anabas*-like shape or appearance

Betta andrei **Tan 2023**
in honor of Andre Chandra, "an intrepid fish collector and enthusiast, who rendered much assistance to the author in procuring specimens and information" and presumably engaged in "fishy discussions and good meals"

Betta antoni **Tan & Ng 2006**
in honor of Irwan Anton (Pontianak, Indonesia), for his "generous help and gift of specimens"

Betta apollon **Schindler & Schmidt 2006**
a handsome young man, inspired by the handsome Apollon or Apollo, mythological Greek god of music, poetry, medicine, and archery (among others), referring to the beautiful appearance of males

Betta aurigans **Tan & Lim 2004**
aurum, gold; *ganos*, brightness, referring to iridescent golden scales on body and belly

Betta balunga **Herre 1940**
named for the Balung River, 45 miles from Tawau, Malaysia, where type specimen was caught in a "tiny brook tributary"

Betta bellica **Sauvage 1884**
bellicose (warlike), allusion not explained but almost certainly referring to the fighting behavior of males

Betta breviobesa **Tan & Kottelat 1998**
brevis, short; *obesus*, fat or stout, referring to "stocky and thick-set appearance of the body"

Betta brownorum **Witte & Schmidt 1992**
-*orum*, commemorative suffix, plural: in honor of Barbara (née Demaree) Brown, Curatorial Associate in Vertebrate Zoology, Ichthyology, American Museum of Natural History, and her husband, horticulturist Allan Brown (1911-2009), who first collected this species

Betta burdigala **Kottelat & Ng 1994**
Latin name of Bordeaux, a city in southwest France famous for its red wines of "long conservation," referring to this fish's color, reminiscent of the color of "old red wine"

Betta channoides **Kottelat & Ng 1994**
-*oides*, having the form of: referring to its head, similar in shape to some species of snakeheads (Channidae, *Channa*)

Betta chini **Ng 1993**
in honor of Datuk (honorific title) Chin Phui-Kong (1923-ca. 2016), Malaysian ichthyologist, the "dean" of Sabahan freshwater fishes

Betta chloropharynx **Kottelat & Ng 1994**
chloros, green; *pharynx*, throat, referring to diagnostic green patches on throat

Betta coccina **Vierke 1979**
scarlet, referring to its red body color

Betta compuncta **Tan & Ng 2006**
branded or tattooed, referring to distinct black pattern on body (especially females); also refers to traditional

tattooing practices of the local Iban people of Kalimantan Timur, Indonesia

Betta cracens **Tan & Ng 2005**
slender or graceful, referring to slender body compared to other members of the *B. pugnax* group

Betta dennisyongi **Tan 2013**
in honor of Dennis Yong Ghong Chong, a "distinguished and knowledgeable naturalist well experienced in many facets of tropical Southeast Asian fauna and flora with an avid interest in labyrinth fishes. He has accompanied the author on many trips and shared many interesting stories, tips and gastronomic delights"; he also collected and donated specimens and assisted in field logistics

Betta dimidiata **Roberts 1989**
halved or diminished, referring to small size, described at up to 35 mm SL

Betta edithae **Vierke 1984**
in honor of German aquarist Edith Korthaus (1923-1987), editor of *Das Aquarium*, who, with Walter Foersch (see *B. foerschi*), discovered this species and collected many other rare or new fishes in Borneo

Betta enisae **Kottelat 1995**
in honor of Enis Widjanarti, for her efficient and enthusiastic help during field work in the Kapuas lakes

Betta falx **Tan & Kottelat 1998**
scythe, referring to "continuous curved shape" of broad distal margins of anal and caudal fins of breeding males

Betta ferox **Schindler & Schmidt 2006**
wild, bold, courageous, or fierce, referring to the behavior of the "fighting fish"

Betta foerschi **Vierke 1979**
in honor of German physician and aquarist Walter Foersch (1932-1993), who, with Edith Korthaus (see *B. edithae*), collected type

Betta fusca **Regan 1910**
dusky, a "dark longitudinal band through eye; scales with dark edges; fins dusky"

Betta gladiator **Tan & Ng 2005**
warrior or fighter, referring to its aggressive and territorial behavior; captive specimens fought continuously and had to be kept separately or they would have killed each other

Betta hendra **Schindler & Linke 2013**
in honor of Hendra Tommy, owner of Kurnia Aquarium (Palangkaraya, Kalimantan Tengah, Borneo), who discovered and exported this species [a noun in apposition, without the genitive "*i*"]

Betta hipposideros **Ng & Kottelat 1994**
hippos, horse; *sideros*, iron, i.e., horseshoe, referring to horseshoe-shaped marking on throat

Betta iaspis **Ding, Lei, Haryono, Shi & Zhang 2025**
iaspis (Gr. ἴασπις), the gemstone jasper, which is usually red or green/blue in color, referring to the distinct combination of this fish's iridescent bluish/greenish body and reddish fins

Betta ibanorum **Tan & Ng 2004**
-orum, commemorative suffix, plural: Iban, indigenous people of northwestern Borneo, where this species is endemic

Betta ideii **Tan & Ng 2006**
in honor of Takashige Ide, "intrepid fish collector and friend," who collected type

Betta imbellis **Ladiges 1975**
peaceful, referring to how males rarely fight each other, unlike *B. splendens*

Betta krataios **Tan & Ng 2006**
from the Greek *kratys*, strong or sturdy, referring to its "body build" (i.e., "thick-set" body)

Betta kuehnei **Schindler & Schmidt 2008**
in honor of German aquarist Jens Kühne, for his contribution to the knowledge of fighting fishes; he was one of the first who recognized this species as undescribed and made "hard efforts to collect enough specimens to compose the type series"

Betta lehi **Tan & Ng 2005**
in honor of fisheries biologist Charles Leh, Curator of Zoology, Sarawak Museum (Malaysia), for his "kind help"

Betta livida **Ng & Kottelat 1992**
jealous, i.e., green with envy, referring to its iridescent green eyes

Betta macrostoma **Regan 1910**
macro-, long or large; *stoma*, mouth, referring to maxillary extending just beyond middle of eye

***Betta mahachaiensis* Kowasupat, Panijpan, Ruenwongsa & Sriwattanarothai 2012**
-ensis, suffix denoting place: Maha Chai, subdistrict of Samut Sakhon Province, Thailand, type locality

***Betta mandor* Tan & Ng 2006**
named for Mandor area, Kalimantan Barat, Borneo, type locality

***Betta midas* Tan 2009**
Midas, a mythical king whose touch turned everything to gold, referring to iridescent gold opercle and body scales

***Betta miniopinna* Tan & Tan 1994**
minius, red; *pinna*, fin, referring to its red pelvic fins

***Betta mulyadii* Ding, Lei, Haryono, Shi & Zhang 2025**
in honor of Indonesian Betta breeder and naturalist Mulyadi Tjoa Hong Tjai, who discovered this species and contributed much first-hand field information on the genus Betta during the last 30 years

***Betta nuluhon* Kamal, Tan & Ng 2020**
Kadazandusun (language spoken by Dusan peoples of Sabah, Malaysia, type locality) word meaning hill, referring to its hillstream habitat

***Betta obscura* Tan & Ng 2005**
indistinct or inconspicuous, "referring to the fish in general"

***Betta ocellata* de Beaufort 1933**
having little eyes, referring to an "indistinct" ocellus or eyespot below median line at base of caudal fin

***Betta omega* Tan & Ahmad 2018**
last letter of Greek alphabet, referring to Ω-like shape on throat, and to the "last members of this species in the quickly disappearing black water habitat type in Malaysia and Southeast Asia" (near extinction or already extinct)

***Betta pallida* Schindler & Schmidt 2004**
pallid, i.e., pale or colorless compared to some of its more-colorful congeners

***Betta pallifina* Tan & Ng 2005**
pallidus, pale; *finus*, boundary, referring to hyaline subdistal band anal and caudal fins of females

***Betta pardalotos* Tan 2009**
pardalis, leopard; *otos*, ear, referring to spotted pattern on opercle



Betta omega. From: Tan, H. H. and A. B. Ahmad. 2018. *Betta omega*, a new species of black water fighting fish (Teleostei: Osphronemidae) from Malaysia. *Raffles Bulletin of Zoology* v. 66: 402-407.

***Betta patoti* Weber & de Beaufort 1922**
in honor of W. J. Tissot van Patot, who collected fishes in Borneo for the Zoölogisch Museum (Amsterdam), including type of this one

***Betta persephone* Schaller 1986**
named for the Greek goddess Persephone, who was kidnapped by Hades to live in the underworld but was allowed to visit her mother in the upper world, referring to how this species lives both above and within the leaf litter of peat swamp forests and associated streams (not named for its largely blackish color pattern as some aquarium websites attest)

***Betta pi* Tan 1998**
16th letter of Greek alphabet, referring to π-like mark on throat

***Betta picta* (Valenciennes 1846)**
painted, described as having a shiny, yellowish color on the back with two large brown spots, a rose-colored belly, orange cheeks, a black stripe from eye to caudal fin, and pink fins, the dorsal dotted with black and the caudal and anal fins edged in black

***Betta pinguis* Tan & Kottelat 1998**
stout, referring to its "thick-set" body

***Betta prima* Kottelat 1994**
first, allusion not explained, but Kottelat said he first became aware of this species during his first day of field work in Asia in 1981

***Betta pugnax* (Cantor 1849)**
combative, described as a "variety" of the "Pla Kat" (fighting fish) of Thailand, the "exhibition of whose combats is a popular amusement with the Siamese"

***Betta pulchra* Tan & Tan 1996**
handsome, referring to the "beauty of this fish," particularly its green iridescent scales in life

***Betta raja* Tan & Ng 2005**
Raja, Malay and Indonesian vernacular for this species, meaning king or prince

***Betta renata* Tan 1998**
kidney-like, referring to kidney-shaped marking on throat

***Betta rubra* Perugia 1893**
red, primary color of body and fins

***Betta rutilans* Witte & Kottelat 1991**
being red, referring to it usually deep-red color

***Betta schalleri* Kottelat & Ng 1994**
in honor of German tropical-fish importer Dietrich Schaller, for "his interest in *Betta* and sometime non-conventional approach of biology. Unconventional thoughts certainly contribute more to the evolution of knowledge than do mainstream ideas."

***Betta siamorientalis* Kowasupat, Panijpan, Ruenwongsa & Jeenthong 2012**
-is, genitive singular of: Siam, former name of Thailand, and *orientalis*, Latin for east, referring to its occurrence in eastern Thailand

***Betta simorum* Tan & Ng 1996**
-orum, commemorative suffix, plural: in honor of Thomas G. K. Sim and his wife Farah, proprietors of Sindo Aquarium, for being "such excellent hosts" during the authors' stays in Jambi Province, Sumatra, Indonesia (type locality)

***Betta simplex* Kottelat 1994**
plain, presumably referring to less-vibrant coloration compared to other members of the *B. picta* group (e.g., very faint dark stripes in live males)

***Betta smaragdina* Ladiges 1972**
emerald-green, referring to shining emerald-green (sometimes green and blue) scales of both sexes

***Betta spilotogena* Ng & Kottelat 1994**
spilos, spot; *genys*, cheek, referring to distinctive spotted pattern on operculum of adults

***Betta splendens* Regan 1910**
bright, shining or splendid, referring to its natural coloration: dark greenish-olive above, red below, with red caudal-, anal- and pelvic-fin rays

***Betta stigmosa* Tan & Ng 2005**
full of marks, referring to patterned opercle and barred pattern on dorsal, caudal and anal fins of both sexes

***Betta stiktos* Tan & Ng 2005**
dappled or spotted, referring to rows of round spots on dorsal fin of males

***Betta strohi* Schaller & Kottelat 1989**
in honor of H. Stroh, a missionary priest and amateur naturalist who discovered this species in Borneo, which he took back to Germany in 1978 [possibly a junior synonym of *B. foerschi*]

***Betta taeniata* Regan 1910**
striped or banded, referring to 2-3 blackish longitudinal bands on sides

***Betta tomi* Ng & Kottelat 1994**
in honor of Lam Toong Jin (b. 1940), known as "Tom," head of the Department of Zoology, National University of Singapore, who has "generously" supported the authors' research over the years

***Betta tussyae* Schaller 1985**
in honor of Tussy Nagy, who, with her husband, Austrian aquarist Peter Nagy (see *Parosphromenus nagyi*), were the first to bring this species to Europe (1979)

***Betta uberis* Tan & Ng 2006**
abundant, referring to high number of dorsal-fin rays compared to other members of the *B. coccina* group

***Betta unimaculata* (Popta 1905)**
uni-, one; *maculata*, spotted, presumably referring to round spot at caudal-fin base

***Betta waseri* Krummenacher 1986**
in honor of German aquarist Alfred Waser, who led expedition to Malaysia during which type was collected

***Macropodus* Lacepède 1801**
macro-, long; *podus*, foot, referring to long, filamentous, first soft ray of pelvic fins

***Macropodus baviensis* Nguyen & Nguyen 2005**
-ensis, Ba Vi district, Ha Tay province, Viêt Nam, type locality (possibly a junior synonym of *M. opercularis*)

***Macropodus erythropterus* Freyhof & Herder 2002**
erythro-, red; *pterus*, fin, referring to red spot or bars on dorsal and caudal fins of living specimens

***Macropodus hongkongensis* Freyhof & Herder 2002**
-ensis, suffix denoting place: Hong Kong, China, type locality (also occurs in Fujian and Guangdong provinces)

***Macropodus lineatus* Nguyen, Ngo & Nguyen 2006**
lined, presumably referring to 5-6 translucent black stripes on body, each one between the scales

***Macropodus minnanensis* Chen & Chiu 2024**
-ensis, Latin suffix denoting place: Min-nan, Mandarin for the southern part of Fujian Province, China, where this species occurs

***Macropodus ocellatus* Cantor 1842**
having little eyes, referring to black ocellated spot on operculum

***Macropodus oligolepis* Nguyen, Ngo & Nguyen 2006**
oligo-, few; *lepis*, scales, referring to fewer scales along lateral line (11) compared to *M. baviensis* (30-33)

***Macropodus opercularis* (Linnaeus 1758)**
opercular, referring to conspicuous brown ocellated spot on operculum

***Macropodus phongnhaensis* Ngô, Nguyen & Nguyen 2006**
-ensis, suffix denoting place: Phong Nha-Ke Bang National Park, Quang Binh Province, Viêt Nam, type locality

***Macropodus spechti* Schreitmüller 1936**
in honor of P. Specht, a German aquarist based in the French port town of Le Havre who donated specimens to Schreitmüller

***Malpulutta* Deraniyagala 1937**
local name for *M. kretseri* in Sri Lanka, combination of the Sinhalese words *mal*, flower and *pulatta*, local name for *Belontia signata*

***Malpulutta kretseri* Deraniyagala 1937**
in honor of Oswald Leslie De Kretser II (1910-?), Sri Lankan lawyer (later judge of the Supreme Court of Ceylon), who presented living specimens to Deraniyagala, which were "examined live in a small, flat sided glass specimen jar"

***Parosphromenus* Bleeker 1877**
para-, near, similar to *Osphronemus* (which Bleeker spelled *Osphromenus*) but distinguished by absence of lateral line and undivided rays of dorsal and anal fins

***Parosphromenus alfredi* Kottelat & Ng 2005**
in honor of ichthyologist Eric R. Alfred (1931–2019), former director of the National Museum of Singapore, whose work on Malayan fishes has been "most useful for recent studies"

***Parosphromenus allani* Brown 1987**
in honor of Brown's husband, horticulturist Allan Brown (1911-2009), who collected type with his wife (see *P. barbarae*)

***Parosphromenus anjunganensis* Kottelat 1991**
-*ensis*, suffix denoting place: Anjungan (a village near type locality), Kalimantan Barat, Borneo

***Parosphromenus bintan* Kottelat & Ng 1998**
named for Bintan Resort Corporation (Indonesia and Singapore), who supported the work that led to the discovery of this species, and for Bintan Island, Riau Archipelago, Indonesia, where it appears to be endemic

***Parosphromenus barbarae* Tan & Grinang 2020**
in honor of Barbara Brown, wife of Allan Brown (see *P. allani*); together, they were the first to collect this species (in 1987)

***Parosphromenus deissneri* (Bleeker 1859)**
in honor of military health officer F. H. Deissner, who sent a collection of fishes from Bangka Island, Indonesia, including type of this one

***Parosphromenus filamentosus* Vierke 1981**
filamentous, referring to thread-like extensions of dorsal and caudal fins

***Parosphromenus gunawani* Schindler & Linke 2012**
in honor of Indonesian aquarium fish collector and exporter Gunawan "Thomas" Kasim, who, with the junior author and others, collected type

***Parosphromenus harveyi* Brown 1987**
eponym not identified but in honor of Willi Harvey (1916-2013), a German-born aquarist who settled in Scotland after World War II and bred *Parosphromenus* species (among many other fishes); in an obituary, Brown described him as a "significant contributor to the wealth of tropical-fish-breeding knowledge that continues to be enjoyed by hobbyists"

***Parosphromenus juelinae* Shi, Guo, Haryono, Hong & Zhang 2021**
in honor of Juelin Wang, who help collect paratypes, and whose "inspiration and assistance" made the authors' study a success

***Parosphromenus kishii* Shi, Guo, Haryono, Hong & Zhang 2021**
in honor of Hiroyuki Kishi, who discovered this species and *P. quindecim* and who contributed much first-hand field information on this genus over the last decade

***Parosphromenus linkei* Kottelat 1991**
in honor of German aquarist, photographer and author Horst Linke, who discovered this species and other related species in Borneo

***Parosphromenus nagyi* Schaller 1985**
in honor of Austrian aquarist Peter Nagy, who first brought this fish to Europe in 1979

***Parosphromenus opallios* Kottelat & Ng 2005**
opal, a gemstone that can be almost any color, allusion not explained, possibly referring to multiple colors (depending on locality) of breeding males

***Parosphromenus ornaticauda* Kottelat 1991**
ornatus, ornate; *cauda*, tail, referring to conspicuous color pattern of caudal fin

***Parosphromenus pahuensis* Kottelat & Ng 2005**
-*ensis*, suffix denoting place: Muara Pahu, Kalimantan Timur, Indonesia, just upriver of type locality (swift blackwater stream entering Mahakam River)

***Parosphromenus paludicola* Tweedie 1952**
paludis, marsh or swamp; *cola*, to inhabit, referring to swamp-forest habitat

***Parosphromenus parvulus* Vierke 1979**
diminutive of *parvus*, small, i.e., very small, described at 27 mm TL, the smallest labyrinth fish known at the time

***Parosphromenus phoenicurus* Schindler & Linke 2012**
phoenix, crimson; *oura*, tail, referring to color pattern of caudal fin

***Parosphromenus quindecim* Kottelat & Ng 2005**
fifteen, referring to 15 dorsal-fin spines, unique in the genus

***Parosphromenus rubrimontis* Kottelat & Ng 2005**
ruber, red; *montis*, hill or mountain, named for Bukit Merah ("Red Hill"), a town near type locality, a peat swamp stream in Malaysia

***Parosphromenus sumatranus* Klausewitz 1955**
Sumatran, referring to Sumatra, Indonesia, where it is endemic

***Parosphromenus tweediei* Kottelat & Ng 2005**
in honor of naturalist-archaeologist Michael W. F. Tweedie (1907-1993), former director of the Raffles Museum in Singapore, "whose series of ichthyological papers in the 1950s has been most helpful in furthering our knowledge of Malayan freshwater fishes"

***Pseudosphromenus* Bleeker 1879**
pseudo-, false, i.e., similar to *Osphronemus* (which Bleeker spelled *Osphromenus*) but distinguished by absence of lateral line and 18-20 anal-fin rays

***Pseudosphromenus cupanus* (Cuvier 1831)**
-anus, belonging to: Cupan, apparent latinization of Coupang, referring to Arian-Coupang (now Sankaraparani) River, Puducherry (or Pondicherry), India, type locality (also occurs in Sri Lanka)

***Pseudosphromenus dayi* (Engmann 1909)**
named coined by Köhler (1908), in honor of Francis Day (1830-1889), Inspector-General of Fisheries in India and author of *Fishes of India* (1889), an important monograph on Indian fishes; proposed as a "variety" of *P. cupanus*, which Köhler incorrectly stated was "first described" (translation) by Day

***Trichopsis* Canestrini 1860**
etymology not explained, probably *opsis*, appearance, referring to its similarity to *Trichopus* (=*Trichopodus*), and/or previous placement of type species, *T. striatus* (=*vittatus*), in that genus

***Trichopsis pumila* (Arnold 1936)**
dwarf, referring to small adult size, 35-40 mm SL (described as reaching 45 mm, possibly TL)

***Trichopsis schalleri* Ladiges 1962**
in honor of German tropical-fish importer Dietrich Schaller, who first collected this species and brought it to Europe

***Trichopsis vittata* (Cuvier 1831)**
banded, referring to 1-2 (actually 2-4) black longitudinal bands across body

Subfamily Luciocephalinae Spiral Egg Gouramies

***Ctenops* McClelland 1845**
etymology not explained, perhaps *ctenos*, comb and *ops*, appearance, referring to denticulations (i.e., having small teeth, like a comb) on lower margin of preopercle

***Ctenops nobilis* McClelland 1845**
well-known, majestic or excellent, allusion not explained nor evident; an attractive species in life, with a red-margined caudal fin, but McClelland noted only that it was "mottled grey, with some bright silvery spots"

***Luciocephalus* Bleeker 1850**
lucius, pike; *cephalus*, head, referring to pike-like head of *L. pulcher*

***Luciocephalus aura* Tan & Ng 2005**
glow, referring to "glowing iridescence" of green spots on body

***Luciocephalus pulcher* (Gray 1830)**
beautiful; name dates to an illustration, given the vernacular name "Beautiful Diplopterus" (referring to its original genus, preoccupied in birds and fossil fishes) without a description

***Parasphaerichthys* Prashad & Mukerji 1929**
para-, near, referring to how *P. ocellatus* "appears to be very closely allied" to *Sphaerichthys* in "general appearance"

***Parasphaerichthys lineatus* Britz & Kottelat 2002**
lined, referring to conspicuous and diagnostic mid-lateral stripe

***Parasphaerichthys ocellatus* Prashad & Mukerji 1929**
having little eyes, referring to "very conspicuous deep black large ocellus bordered by white" in middle of the body

***Sphaerichthys* Canestrini 1860**
sphaero, spherical, allusion not explained, perhaps referring to "disc-shaped" (translation) profile of *S. osphromenoides*; *ichthys*, fish

***Sphaerichthys acrostoma* Vierke 1979**
acros, at the end, or tip; *stoma*, mouth, referring to its long, tapered snout

***Sphaerichthys osphromenoides* Canestrini 1860**
-oides, having the form of: presumed to be intermediate between *Osphronemus* (which Canestrini spelled as *Osphromenus*) and *Trichopodus*

***Sphaerichthys selatanensis* Vierke 1979**
-ensis, suffix denoting place: Kalimantan Selatan (South Kalimantan), Indonesia, where type locality (near Banjarmasin) is situated

***Sphaerichthys vaillanti* Pellegrin 1930**
in honor of Pellegrin's mentor and boss, Léon Vaillant (1834-1914), zoologist, Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle (Paris), who provisionally reported this species as a juvenile *Ctenops nobilis* in 1893

Subfamily Trichogastrinae Threadfishes

***Nanosphronemus* Britz, Tan & Rüber 2026**
nānos (νᾶνος), dwarf, referring to *N. gemma*, one of the smallest anabantoids known to date; *Osphronemus*, type genus of family

***Nanosphronemus gemma* Britz, Tan & Rüber 2026**
gemma (L.), gem or jewel, referring to the "stunning" coloration of sexually mature malesa

***Trichogaster* (Bloch & Schneider 1801)**
trichos, hair or ray; *gaster*, belly, referring to their pelvic fins, each one a single, long, thread-like ray (which are used as "feelers")

***Trichogaster bejeus* (Hamilton 1822)**
presumably a local Gangetic name (possibly a Latinization of *beje*), as it was Hamilton's practice to derive trivial names "from some of those used by the natives of India" (Hamilton referred to this species as "*Trichopudus beje*" on an illustration and "*Beje kohlisha*" in his notes)

***Trichogaster chuna* (Hamilton 1822)**
presumably derived from *Chuna-khalisa*, Bengali vernacular for this species in India (also occurs in Bangladesh)

***Trichogaster fasciata* Bloch & Schneider 1801**
banded, referring to 14 or more orange bands on body

***Trichogaster labiosa* Day 1877**
large-lipped, referring to "very thick" lips "covered with papillae (as in [the cyprinid genus] *Labeo*)"

***Trichopodus* Lacepède 1801**
trichos, hair or ray; *podus*, foot, referring to pelvic fins, each one a single, thread-like ray "much longer than the body" (translation)

***Trichopodus leerii* (Bleeker 1852)**
in honor of Bleeker's Dutch medical colleague Lieut.-Col. J. M. van Leer, who provided type

***Trichopodus microlepis* (Günther 1861)**
micro-, small; *lepis*, scale, allusion not explained, perhaps referring to more numerous (presumably smaller) scales along lateral line compared to most presumed congeners at the time (13-16) except for *T. trichopterus* (20-25)

***Trichopodus pectoralis* Regan 1910**
etymology not explained, presumably referring to longer pectoral fins compared to *T. leerii* and *T. trichopterus* (but not *T. microlepis*)

***Trichopodus poptae* Low, Tan & Britz 2014**
in honor of Canna Maria Louise Popta (1860-1929), Curator of Reptiles, Amphibians and Fishes at the Rijksmuseum van Natuurlijke Historie (Leiden, Netherlands), for her "pioneer taxonomic work" on the freshwater fishes of Borneo, based on the trans-Borneo expeditions conducted between 1893-1900

***Trichopodus trichopterus* (Pallas 1770)**
trichos, hair or ray; *pterus*, fin, referring to pelvic fins, each one a long, single, thread-like ray

Suborder CHANNOIDEI

Family AENIGMACHANNIDAE Gollum Snakehead Fish

***Aenigmachanna* Britz, Anoop, Dahanukar & Raghavan 2019**
aenigma, enigma, allusion not explained, perhaps referring to how morphological modifications usually associated with a subterranean life, such as reduction of eyes and enhancement of non-visual senses (taste, smell, mechanosensory systems) are absent; *Channa*, genus name of Asian snakeheads

***Aenigmachanna gollum* Britz, Anoop, Dahanukar & Raghavan 2019**
named for Gollum from *The Hobbit* and "The Lord of the Rings" trilogy, the "creature that went underground

and during its subterranean life changed its morphological features," presumably like how this snakehead may be adapted for life underground

Family CHANNIDAE Snakeheads

2 genera · 60 species

***Channa* Scopoli 1777**
name dates to Gronow (1763), made available by Scopoli, etymology unknown, perhaps derived from *channe* or *channos*, a Greek name for a wide-mouthed fish of the sea; Sudasinghe et al. (2020) suggest that *Channa* is a Dutch transliteration of *kanaya*, local name for *C. orientalis* and other small snakeheads in Sri Lanka (type locality and under Dutch rule at the time; also Gronow was Dutch), but the Dutch pronunciation of *Channa* is "*ganna*," not "*kanna*" (Richard van der Laan, pers. comm.)

***Channa amphibeus* (McClelland 1845)**
amphi-, double; *bios*, life, i.e., living a double life (like an amphibian), referring to its often being found on land, "as much as two miles from the bank of the river, where it penetrates into holes in the ground. From these it probably emerges when the ground is inundated during heavy rain, … as if they had fallen from the clouds"

***Channa andrao* Britz 2013**
in honor of ornamental-fish collector Andrew Arunava Rao (Andr + Rao), Malabar Tropicals, Calcutta, for his support of the ichthyological exploration of the freshwater fishes of India [a noun in apposition, without the genitive "*i*"]

***Channa ara* (Deraniyagala 1945)**
from *Gan ara*, Sinhalese name for this snakehead in Sri Lanka (*gan*, river, referring to its occurrence in deeper streams and rivers; *ara*, local name for snakeheads)

***Channa argus* (Cantor 1842)**
etymology not explained, perhaps named for Argus, mythical hundred-eyed guardian of Io, whose eyes after death where transformed into the feathers of a peacock, referring to numerous black ocellated spots edged with white above lateral line

***Channa aristonei* Praveenraj, Thackeray, Singh, Uma, Moulitharan & Mukhim 2020**
in honor of aquarium hobbyist Aristone M. Ryndongsngi (Meghalaya, India), who discovered this species and helped the authors in the field

***Channa asiatica* (Linnaeus 1758)**
Asian, referring to its native distribution in China (introduced elsewhere)

***Channa aurantimaculata* Musikasinthorn 2000**
aurantium, orange; *maculata*, spotted, referring to orange blotches on sides

***Channa aurantipectoralis* Lalhlimpuia, Lalronunga & Lalramliana 2016**
aurantium, orange; *pectoralis*, pectoral, referring to its "conspicuous" orange-colored pectoral fins

***Channa auroflammea* Adamson, Britz & Lieng 2019**
aurum, gold; *flammeus*, flaming, referring to "flame like extensions" of golden-orange belly color on lower body on some specimens

***Channa aurolineata* (Day 1870)**
aurum, gold; *lineata*, lined, referring to orange stripe running from snout, through eye, and along side above lateral line to upper half of tail

***Channa bankanensis* (Bleeker 1853)**
-ensis, suffix denoting place: Banka (or Bangka) Island, Sumatra, Indonesia, type locality (also occurs in Malaysia)

***Channa baramensis* (Steindachner 1901)**
-ensis, suffix denoting place: Baram River, northern Sarawak, Malaysia, type locality

***Channa barca* (Hamilton 1822)**
etymology not explained; according to Valenciennes (1831), possibly derived from *porco*, a local name in India for a "large-scaled Ganges fish that can live two days out of the water" (translation; also occurs in Nepal, Bhutan and Bangladesh)

***Channa bhoi* Praveenraj, Moulitharan, Ryndongsngi, Thackeray, Naveen & Pavan-Kumar 2025**
named for the Bhois people, an indigenous sub-group of the main Khasi Tribe of the Ri-Bhoi district of Meghalaya, India, type locality

***Channa bipuli* Praveenraj, Uma, Moulitharan & Bleher 2018**
in honor of Bipul Das (Assam, India), owner of Wild Caught Ornamental Fish, who discovered this species, and for his "immense support in the collection and donating of the live specimens"

***Channa bleheri* Vierke 1991**
in honor of explorer and ornamental-fish wholesaler and supplier Heiko Bleher (1944–2025), who helped collect holotype and supplied it to the author

***Channa brunnea* Praveenraj, Uma, Moulitharan & Kannan 2019**
brown, referring to overall brownish color of body ["*Channa amari*," published online in April 2019, is an unavailable name for what appears to be this species]

***Channa burmanica* Chaudhuri 1919**
-*ica*, belonging to Burma (now Myanmar), where it is endemic

***Channa coccinea* Britz, Tan & Rüber 2024**
Latin for red like a berry, referring to reddish markings on head and sides of body

***Channa cyanospilos* (Bleeker 1853)**
cyano-, blue; *spilos*, mark or spot, referring to pale-blue spots on sides

***Channa diplogramma* (Day 1865)**
diplo-, twofold; *gramma*, line, referring to broad black band passing through eye to the upper half of caudal fin, and second band from angle of mouth to lower half of caudal fin

***Channa gachua* (Hamilton 1822)**
presumably a local Bengali name, as it was Hamilton's practice to derive trivial names "from some of those used by the natives of India" (also occurs in Afghanistan, Iran, Pakistan, Nepal, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and Myanmar)

***Channa harcourtbutleri* (Annandale 1918)**
in honor of Spencer Harcourt Butler (1869-1938), Lieutenant-Governor of Burma during the time of Annandale's visit to Yawnghwe, a former Shan state in what is now Myanmar, where type locality (Inle Lake) was located (also occurs in Yunnan, China)

***Channa hoaluensis* Nguyen 2011**
-*ensis*, suffix denoting place: Hoa Lu district, Ninh Binh province, Viêt Nam, type locality [placed in *Bostrychoides* by some workers, treated here as a synonym of *Channa*]

***Channa kachina* Endruweit 2024**
latinization of Kachin, the people (referred to as Jinghpaw Wunpawng or Jingpo in China) who live near type locality (Tongbiguan town, Dehong Prefecture, Yunnan Province, China)

***Channa kelaartii* (Günther 1861)**
eponym not identified but probably in honor of Ceylonese-born physician and naturalist Edward Frederick Kelaart (1819-1860), who provided fish specimens to the British Museum (but apparently not this one)

***Channa limbata* (Cuvier 1831)**
edged or bordered, referring to white border on dorsal, anal and caudal fins [specific name dates from plate; referred to as *Ophicephalus marginatus*, presumably its intended name, in text]

***Channa lipor* Praveenraj, Uma, Moulitharan & Singh 2019**
local name for this species in Khasi, a dialect spoken by the Khasi tribes of Meghalaya, India, where it occurs

***Channa longistomata* Nguyen, Nguyen & Nguyen 2012**
longus, long; *stomata*, mouthed, referring to its large gape

***Channa lucius* (Cuvier 1831)**
pike, manuscript name coined by Kuhl & van Hasselt, allusion not explained but probably referring to "somewhat concave flattening of its forehead" (translation), similar to that of the Northern Pike, *Esox lucius*

***Channa maculata* (Lacepède 1801)**
spotted, referring to "very small green spots" (translation) over entire body (no types known, possibly described from a drawing; in reality, the "very small green spots" are actually large dark blotches) [possibly based an eleotrid, in which case *C. aspilotus* Sauvage 1874 would be the next available name]

***Channa marulioides* (Bleeker 1851)**
-*oides*, having the form of: described as "akin" (translation) to *C. marulius*, both having an ocellus or eyespot on upper caudal fin

***Channa marulius* (Hamilton 1822)**
presumably a latinization of *marul*, from *Phool-mural*, local name for this snakehead in Andhra Pradesh, India (also occurs in Pakistan and Myanmar; introduced elsewhere, including Florida, USA)

***Channa melanoptera* (Bleeker 1855)**
melanos, black; *ptera*, finned, referring to blackish dorsal, anal, pectoral and caudal fins

***Channa melanostigma* Geetakumari & Vishwanath 2011**
melanos, black; *stigma*, marked, referring to melanophores on each scale of the sides



Channa striata. From: Bloch, M. E. 1793. Naturgeschichte der ausländischen Fische. Berlin. v. 7: i-xiv + 1-144, Pls. 325-360.

***Channa melasoma* (Bleeker 1851)**
mela-, black; *soma*, body, referring to black body (and fin) coloration

***Channa micropeltes* (Cuvier 1831)**
micro-, small; *peltes*, shield, referring to "smallness of the plates [scales] that cover the top of the head" (translation)

***Channa nachi* Praveenraj & Moulitharan 2025**
local vernacular name for the species in Garo language spoken by the Garo tribes of Meghalaya, India

***Channa nox* Zhang, Musikasinthorn & Watanabe 2002**
night, referring to dark body color

***Channa orientalis* Bloch & Schneider 1801**
eastern, described from the East Indies ("India orientali"), i.e., southern and southeastern Asia

***Channa ornatipinnis* Britz 2008**
ornatus, ornate; *pinnis*, fin, referring to "striking" coloration of pectoral fins, which resembles that of the pectoral fins of the Ornate Bichir, *Polypterus ornatipinnis* (Polypteriformes)

***Channa panaw* Musikasinthorn 1998**
from *nga panaw*, Burmese vernacular name for this snakehead

***Channa pardalis* Knight 2016**
like a leopard, referring to large black spots on body, opercle, and post-orbital region of head

***Channa pleurophthalma* (Bleeker 1851)**
pleuro-, side; *ophthalma*, eyed, referring to 2-3 eyespots or ocelli on sides, and one each on opercle and caudal fin

***Channa pomanensis* Gurumayum & Tamang 2016**
-ensis, suffix denoting place: Poma River, Papum Pare district, Arunachal Pradesh, India, type locality

***Channa pseudomarulius* (Günther 1861)**
pseudo-, false, described as "allied" to *C. marulius*, "readily distinguished by six longitudinal series of scales between the lateral line and the anterior portion of the dorsal fin"

***Channa pulchra* Britz 2007**
pretty or beautiful, allusion not explained, presumably referring to color pattern: four (usually) semicircular white bands on pectoral fins and a series of reddish-orange blotches and numerous black spots on body

***Channa punctata* (Bloch 1793)**
spotted, referring to black spots on body and dorsal, anal, and caudal fins of some specimens

***Channa pyrophthalmus* Britz, Tan & Rüber 2024**
pyr, fire; *ophthalmus*, eye, referring bright orange area under the eye, "reminiscent of that of glowing embers"

***Channa quinquefasciata* Praveenraj, Uma, Knight, Moulitharan, Balasubramanian, Bineesh & Bleher 2018**
quinque, five; *fasciata*, banded, referring to five prominent blackish bands on body

***Channa rakhinica* Britz, Tan & Rüber 2024**
-ica, belonging to: the Rakhine Yoma (Arakan Mountains) in western Myanmar, where it occurs

***Channa rara* Britz, Dahanukar, Anoop & Ali 2019**
in honor of Indian ichthyologist Rajeev Raghavan (b. 1979), Kerala University, for contributions to the "elucidation of taxonomically difficult Indian freshwater fishes and their conservation" (name formed from the first two letters of his first and last names) [a noun in apposition, without the genitive "*i*"]

***Channa rubora* Britz, Tan & Rüber 2024**
combination of the Latin nouns *rubor*, redness, and *ora*, rim, referring to orange-red rim of dorsal and caudal fins

***Channa shingon* Endruweit 2017**
Shingon, one of 37 officially recognized spirits (nats) in Myanmar spiritualism, also known as Lady Humpback,

referring to this snakehead's humpbacked appearance

***Channa stewartii* (Playfair 1867)**
in honor of Major Robert Stewart, Superintendent of Cachar (Assam, India), type locality, who provided Playfair a collection of fishes from that region, including this one

***Channa stiktos* Lalramliana, Knight, Lalhlimpuia & Singh 2018**
Greek for spot, referring to numerous conspicuous spots present on body

***Channa striata* (Bloch 1793)**
striped, referring to brown stripes on body (which merge and become indistinct on older specimens) and dorsal and anal fins

***Parachanna* Teugels & Daget 1984**
para-, near, referring to close relationship with the Asian snakehead genus *Channa*

***Parachanna africana* (Steindachner 1879)**
-anus, belonging to: Africa, the second species of otherwise Asian fishes described from that continent

***Parachanna insignis* (Sauvage 1884)**
marked, presumably referring to 4-5 large round black spots or blotches along lateral line

***Parachanna obscura* (Günther 1861)**
dark, described as blackish with a series of large round black blotches along the sides

Suborder NANDOIDEI

Family NANDIDAE Asian Leaffishes
1 genus · 8 species

***Nandus* Valenciennes 1831**
tautonymous with *Coius nandus* (which Valenciennes unnecessarily renamed as *N. marmoratus*), local Bengali name for this species in India

***Nandus andrewi* Ng & Jaafar 2008**
in honor of ornamental-fish collector Andrew Arunava Rao, Malabar Tropicals, Calcutta, for discovering this species and his assistance to the authors during their field work in India

***Nandus banshlaii* Kapuri, Sinha, De, Roy & Bhakat 2021**
of the Banshlai River, Rampurhat Subdivision, Birbhum district, West Bengal, India, type locality

***Nandus meni* Hossain & Sarker 2013**
Meni, a word in the local dialect of Noakhali, Bangladesh (type locality), meaning "unsuspecting silence [silent?] character," allusion not explained, perhaps referring to cryptic coloration of leaffishes, "useful for camouflage in ambushing prey and avoiding predators"

***Nandus mercatus* Ng 2008**
a trading place or market, referring to fact that type was purchased from a market, while also honoring fish markets, "a valuable tool to ichthyologists for sampling fish diversity"

***Nandus nandus* (Hamilton 1822)**
local Bengali name for this species in India (also occurs in Pakistan, Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh, Myanmar, Thailand and Malaysia)

***Nandus nebulosus* (Gray 1835)**
cloudy, presumably referring to body mottled with light and dark shades of brown; name dates to an illustration, given the vernacular "Clouded Bedula" (possibly derived from *Bheda*, Bengali name for *N. nandus*, although this species does not occur in India)

***Nandus oxyrhynchus* Ng, Vidthayanon & Ng 1996**
oxy, sharp; *rhynchus*, snout, referring to its sharp snout (compared to blunt snout of *N. nebulosus*)

***Nandus prolixus* Chakrabarty, Oldfield & Ng 2006**
stretched out, referring to relatively elongate head of this species when compared to *N. nebulosus*

Family BADIDAE Chameleon Fishes
2 genera · 36 species

***Badis* Bleeker 1853**
tautonymous with *Labrus badis* (which Bleeker unnecessarily renamed as *B. buchanani*), presumably a local Bengali name (possibly derived from *bhedo* or *bheda*) for this species in India

***Badis andrewraoi* Valdesalici & van der Voort 2015**
in honor of ornamental-fish collector Andrew Arunava Rao, Malabar Tropicals, Calcutta, who discovered, collected



Badis juergenschmidti, male. From: Schindler, I. and H. Linke. 2010. *Badis juergenschmidti* — a new species of the Indo-Burmese fish family Badidae (Teleostei: Perciformes) from Myanmar. *Vertebrate Zoology* v. 60 (no. 3): 209-216.

and donated the material for this species and for *B. autumnum*, *B. kyanos* and *B. soraya*, for "substantial" contributions to ichthyology

***Badis assamensis* Ahl 1937**
-ensis, suffix denoting place: Assam, India, where it appears to be endemic to the Brahmaputra River drainage, India

***Badis autumnum* Valdesalici & van der Voort 2015**
autumn, referring to numerous colors of autumn (combinations of brown, black, yellow and orange) it can display during various moods

***Badis badis* (Hamilton 1822)**
presumably a local Bengali name (possibly derived from *bhedo* or *bheda*), as it was Hamilton's practice to derive trivial names "from some of those used by the natives of India" (also occurs in Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nepal and Bhutan)

***Badis blosyrus* Kullander & Britz 2002**
Greek for a grim facial expression, "suitable for the mouth shape of this species in comparison with other Badid species"

***Badis britzi* Dahanukar, Kumkar, Katwate & Raghavan 2015**
in honor of Ralf Britz, Natural History Museum (London), for contributions to the understanding of the systematics and evolution of badid fishes

***Badis chittagongis* Kullander & Britz 2002**
-is, genitive singular of: Chittagong Division (Chittagong Hill Tracts), Bangladesh, type locality

***Badis corycaeus* Kullander & Britz 2002**
spy, referring to "highly conspicuous ocellus-like marking (the spying eye)" on caudal fin and its syntopy with two other badid species

***Badis dibruensis* Geetakumari & Vishwanath 2010**
-ensis, suffix denoting place: Dibru River, Brahmaputra River drainage, Assam, India, type locality

***Badis ferrarisi* Kullander & Britz 2002**
in honor of ichthyologist Carl Ferraris, Jr. (b. 1950), who collected type and "generously" provided material to the authors

***Badis juergenschmidti* Schindler & Linke 2010**
in honor of aquarist and biologist Jürgen Schmidt (Ruhmannsfelden, Germany), for his "valuable" contributions to the ethology and taxonomy of Southeast Asian freshwater fishes

***Badis kaladanensis* Lalramliana, Lalronunga & Singh 2021**
-ensis, suffix denoting place: Kaladan River drainage, Mizoram, India, where type locality (Palak River) is situated

***Badis kanabos* Kullander & Britz 2002**
Greek for a very lean or slim person, referring to notably slender shape of males compared with the otherwise similar *B. badis*

***Badis khwae* Kullander & Britz 2002**
named for the Mae Nam Khwae Noi drainage, Kanchanaburi Province, Thailand, type locality (better known as the River Kwai)

***Badis kyanos* Valdesalici & van der Voort 2015**
kyanós, from which kyanite (a type of granite consisting of blue-gray crystals) is derived, referring to its color pattern

***Badis kyar* Kullander & Britz 2002**
Burmese for tiger, referring to its "bold" striped color pattern, similar to that of the Indochinese tiger, *Panthera corbetti*

***Badis laspiophilus* Valdesalici & van der Voort 2015**
laspi, mud; *philos*, loving, referring to substrate of type locality and its benthic ecology

***Badis limaakumi* Praveenraj 2023**
in honor of Limaakum (a mononym), Assistant Professor at Fazl Ali College (Nagaland, India), who discovered this species

***Badis pallidus* Kullander, Nóren, Rahman & Mollah 2019**
pallid or pale, referring to light-gray body color of males

***Badis pyema* Kullander & Britz 2002**
from *Nga-pye-ma*, its local name at Putao, Kachin State, Myanmar, only known area of occurrence

***Badis rhabdotus* Kullander, Nóren, Rahman & Mollah 2019**
striped, referring to prominent vertical bars on body

***Badis ruber* Schreitmüller 1923**
red, described as a red variety of the "old blue" (translation) *B. badis*, presumably referring to primary color of males in aquaria

***Badis siamensis* Klausewitz 1957**
-*ensis*, suffix denoting place: Siam, or Thailand, where it is endemic

***Badis singenensis* Geetakumari & Kadu 2011**
-*ensis*, suffix denoting place: Singen River, Brahmaputra drainage, Arunachal Pradesh, India, type locality

***Badis soraya* Valdesalici & van der Voort 2015**
ancient Persian word for The Pleiades, an open cluster of bright blue stars in the constellation Taurus, referring to cleithral blotch, part of the postorbital stripe, and blotches on dorsal-fin sheath, which are often bright blue

***Badis triocellus* Khynriam & Sen 2013**
tri-, three; *ocellus*, eyespot, referring to distinct black blotches on anterior and posterior ends of dorsal fin and one on anal fin

***Badis tuivaiei* Vishwanath & Shanta 2004**
of the Tuivai River, Churachandpur District, Manipur, India, type locality

***Dario* Kullander & Britz 2002**
tautonymous with *Labrus dario* (see species)

***Dario dario* (Hamilton 1822)**
presumably a latinization of *Darhi*, local Bengali name for this species

***Dario dayingensis* Kullander & Britz 2002**
-*ensis*, suffix denoting place: Da Ying Jiang River drainage, Ying Jiang County, Yunnan Province, China, only known area of occurrence

***Dario huli* Britz & Ali 2015**
Kannada word for tiger, referring to tiger-like vertical bars on body

***Dario hysginon* Kullander & Britz 2002**
a scarlet or crimson dye obtained from a shrub or herb (according to classical dictionaries), but more likely obtained from a scale insect (*Kermes ilicis*) that lives in the Kermes oak (*Quercus coccifera*), widespread in the Mediterranean region, referring to conspicuous red color of males

***Dario kajal* Britz & Kullander 2013**
Hindi word for black eyeliner, used by traditional Indian dancers, referring to its prominent orbital stripes

***Dario melanogrammus* Britz, Kullander & Rüber 2022**
melanos, black; *grammus*, line, referring to the "zigzagging" dark vertical bars on its sides

***Dario neela* Britz, Anoop & Dahanukar 2018**
Malayalam word for blue, referring to "striking" iridescent blue color of males

***Dario tigris* Britz, Kullander & Rüber 2022**
named for the tiger *Panthera tigris*, referring to its tiger-like vertical stripes

***Dario urops* Britz, Ali & Philip 2012**
oura, tail; *ops*, eye, referring to conspicuous eyespot on caudal peduncle

Family PRISTOLEPIDIDAE Malayan Leaffishes or Mudperches

1 genus · 6 species

Pristolepis **Jerdon 1849**

pristis, saw; *lepis*, scale, referring to large, rough scales of *P. marginata*, "very finely serrated exernally"

Pristolepis fasciata **(Bleeker 1851)**

banded, referring to ~10 irregular, transverse dark bands on sides

Pristolepis grootii **(Bleeker 1852)**

in honor of Cornelis de Groot van Embden (1817-1896), Dutch naturalist and ethnographer, "to whom science owes the first knowledge of the freshwater fauna" (translation) of Belitung (or Billiton), Indonesia, type locality

Pristolepis malabarica **(Günther 1864)**

-ica, belonging to: hill-ranges of Travancore, coast of Malabar (i.e., southern India), type locality, where it "does not appear to be very scarce"

Pristolepis marginata **Jerdon 1849**

edged or bordered, allusion not explained, perhaps referring to whitish margins (not noted by Jerdon) on caudal and soft dorsal and anal fins

Pristolepis pauciradiata **Plamoottil & Win 2017**

paucus, few; *radiatus*, rayed, referring to fewer dorsal-fin spines compared to congeners

Pristolepis rubripinnis **Britz, Kumar & Baby 2012**

rubra, red; *pinnis*, fin, referring to orange-red soft dorsal, soft anal and caudal fins, and yellow-to-orange pelvic fins



First published illustration of *Pristolepis grootii*. From Bleeker, P. 1876-77. *Atlas ichthyologique des Indes Orientales Néêrlandaises, publié sous les auspices du Gouvernement colonial néêrlandais. Tome VIII. Percoides II, (Spariformes), Bogodoides, Cirrhitéoides.* Fréderic Muller & Co, Amsterdam. v. 8: 1-156, Pls. 321-354, 361-362.