



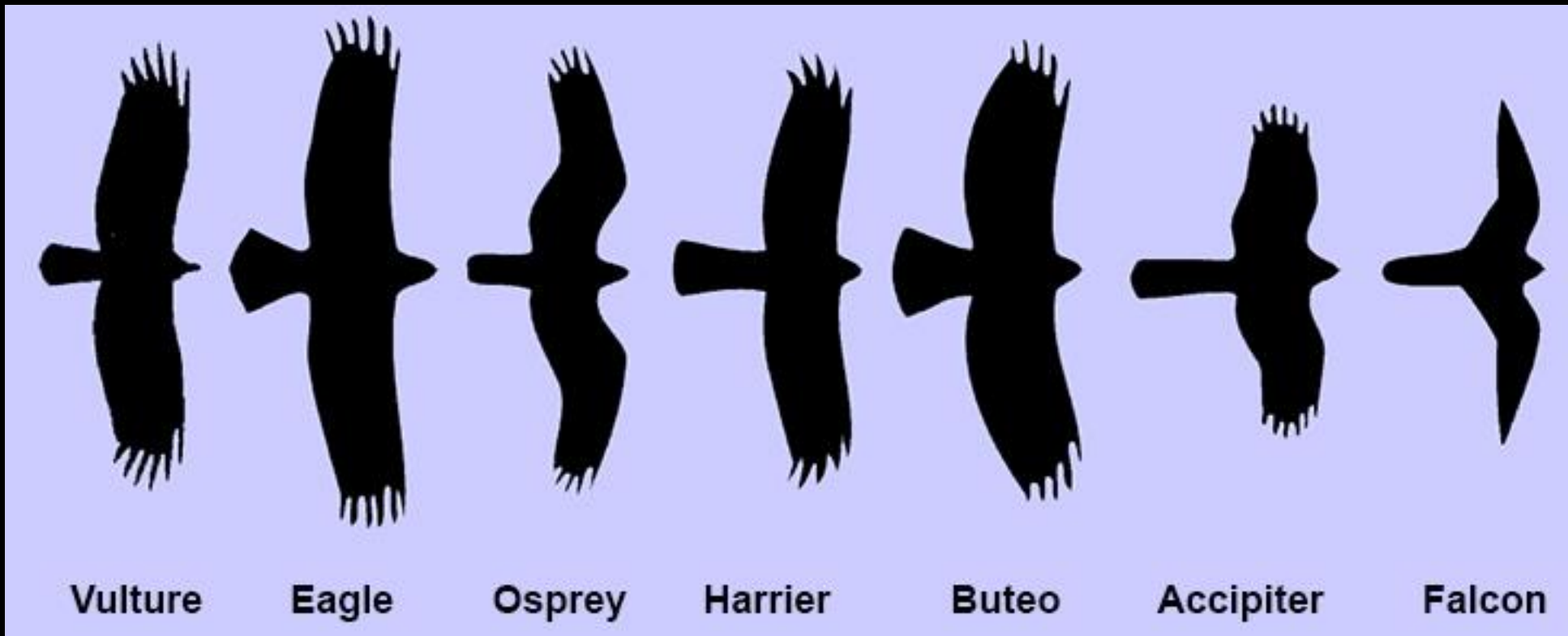
- The following pages have some identification markers for each of Harriers found in India
- To know more on these birds you can visit <http://ogaclicks.com/harriers/>
- If you are interested in coming on any of my tours or workshops please share your email id. I will keep you updated
- Mail me at ogaclicks@gmail.com
- Follow me on Instagram : **ogajanak**
- You can also call me on (91) 9840119078 ,
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Raptors at a glance

Raptors : Any of numerous carnivorous birds that hunt and kill other animals

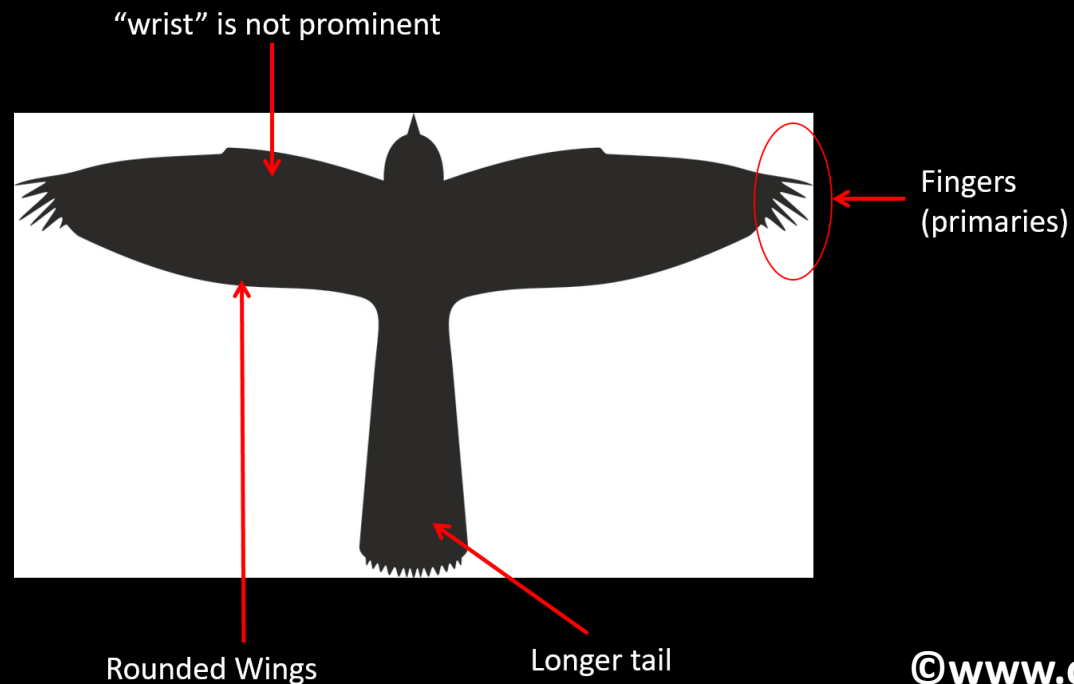
Derived from Latin word *rapere* : To ravish

Characterised by Hooked Beak, Talons and Flying abilities required to hunt & kill prey



Harriers

- *Harriers have long wings, a long narrow tail, the slow and low flight*
- *Harriers hunt by flying low over open ground, feeding on small mammals, reptiles, or birds*
- *Harriers often Circle the grasslands in search of prey, hence the genus is called "Circus"*
- *Harriers have a white band on top of their tails making it easy to Identify them against other Raptors*
- *Harriers exhibit sexual dimorphism . The Male & female of a species look different from each other.*

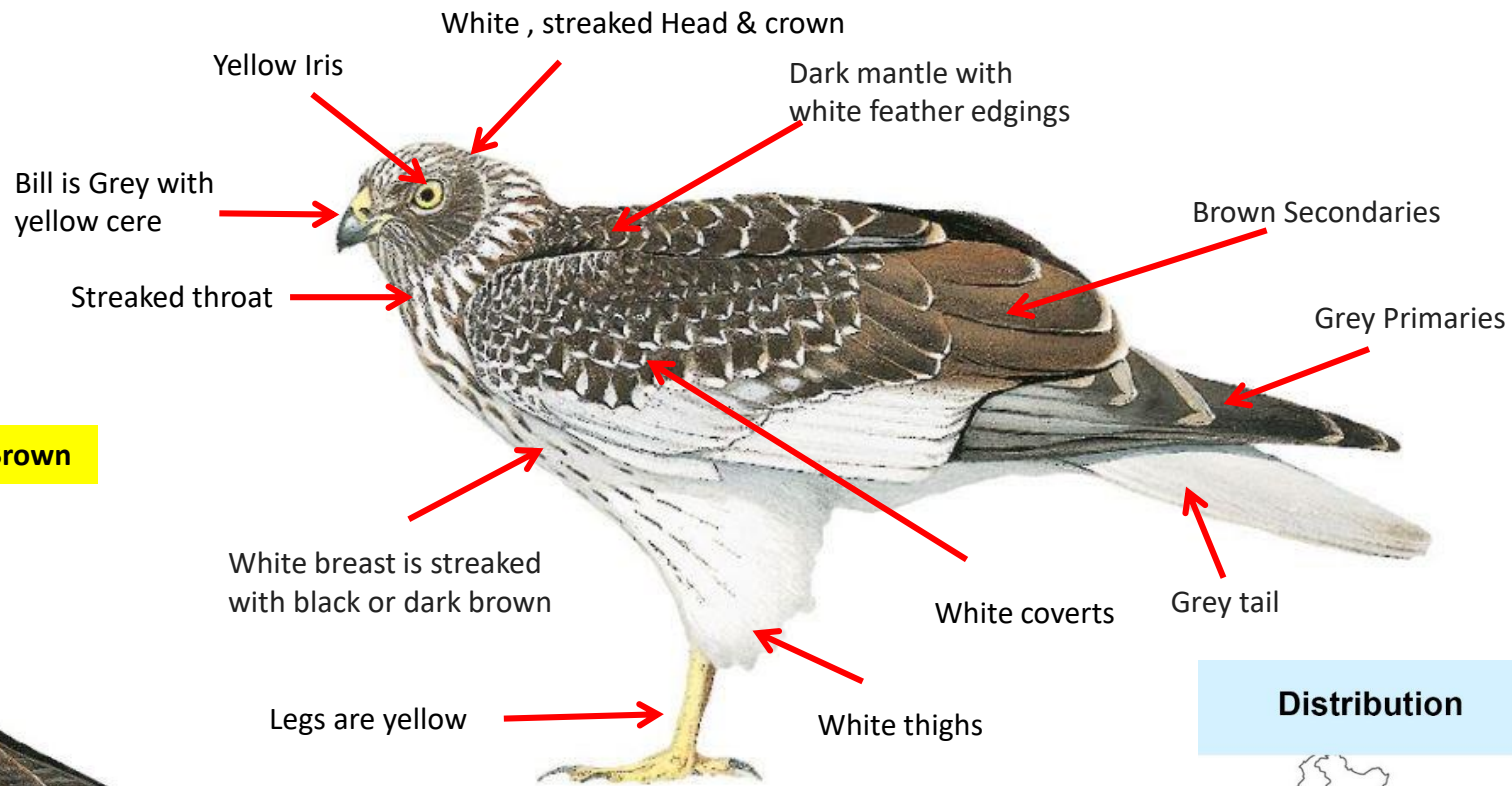
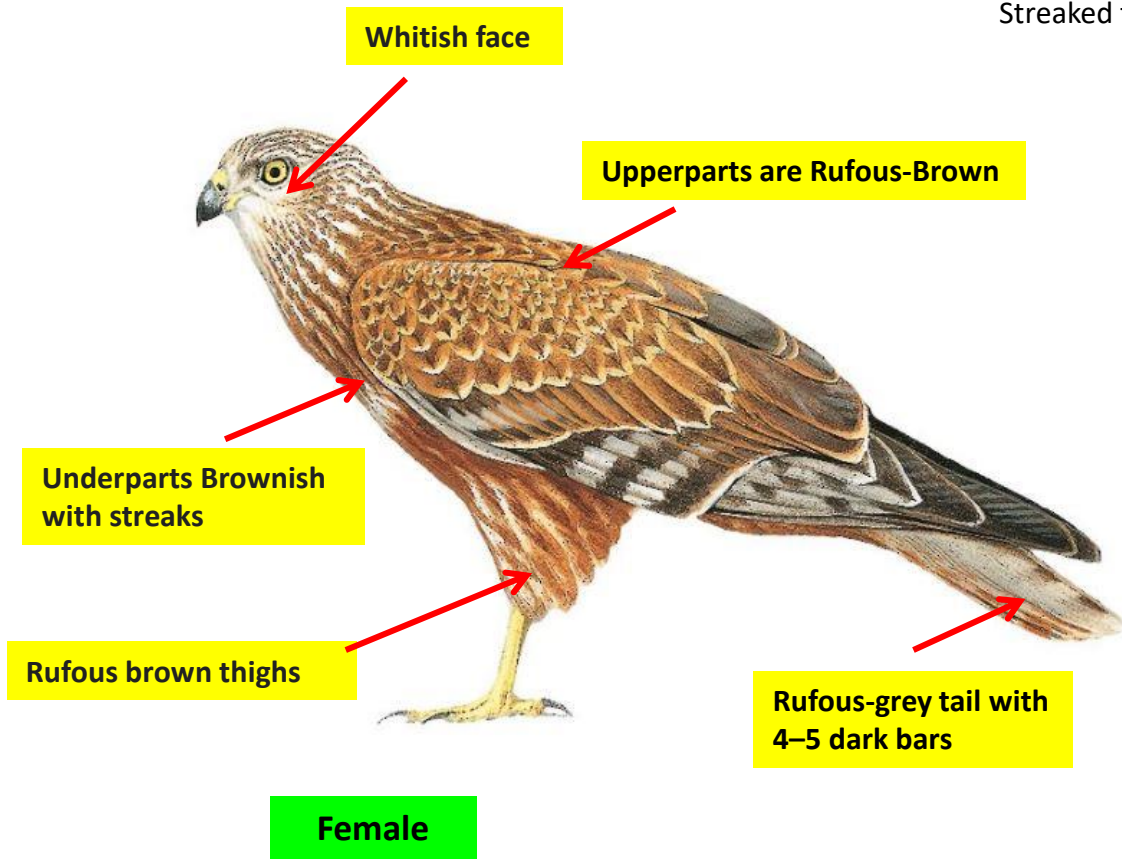


List of Harriers found in India

Sno.	Name	<i>Binomial Name</i>
1	Eastern Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus spilonotus</i>
2	Eurasian Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>
3	Hen Harrier	<i>Circus cyaneus</i>
4	Montagu's Harrier	<i>Circus pygargus</i>
5	Pallid Harrier	<i>Circus macrourus</i>
6	Pied Harrier	<i>Circus melanoleucos</i>

Eastern Marsh Harrier identification Tips

Eastern Marsh Harrier: *Circus spilonotus*: Winter visitor to North East India



Male



Important id point

Difference from Male

Reference : Birds of Indian Subcontinent
Inskipp and Grimmett
www.HBW.com

Eurasian Marsh Harrier identification Tips

Eurasian Marsh Harrier: *Circus aeruginosus*: Widespread Winer visitor in India (Except parts of North East)

Yellow Iris White, streaked Head & crown

Bill is Grey with yellow cere

Dark Brown upperparts

Streaked throat

Grey Coverts

Brown breast is streaked

Unstreaked Brown Underparts

Grey Wing patch

Brown thighs

Black Primaries

Legs are yellow

Grey tail

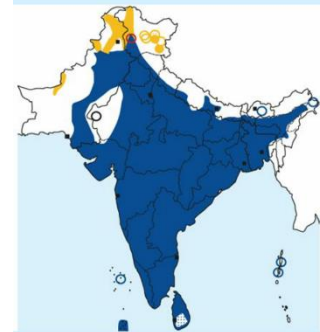
Male

Important id point

Difference from Male

Reference : Birds of Indian Subcontinent
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Distribution



Top of head is Lighter yellowish

Darker Eye area

Yellowish cream forewing

Yellowish cream throat

Underparts Brownish

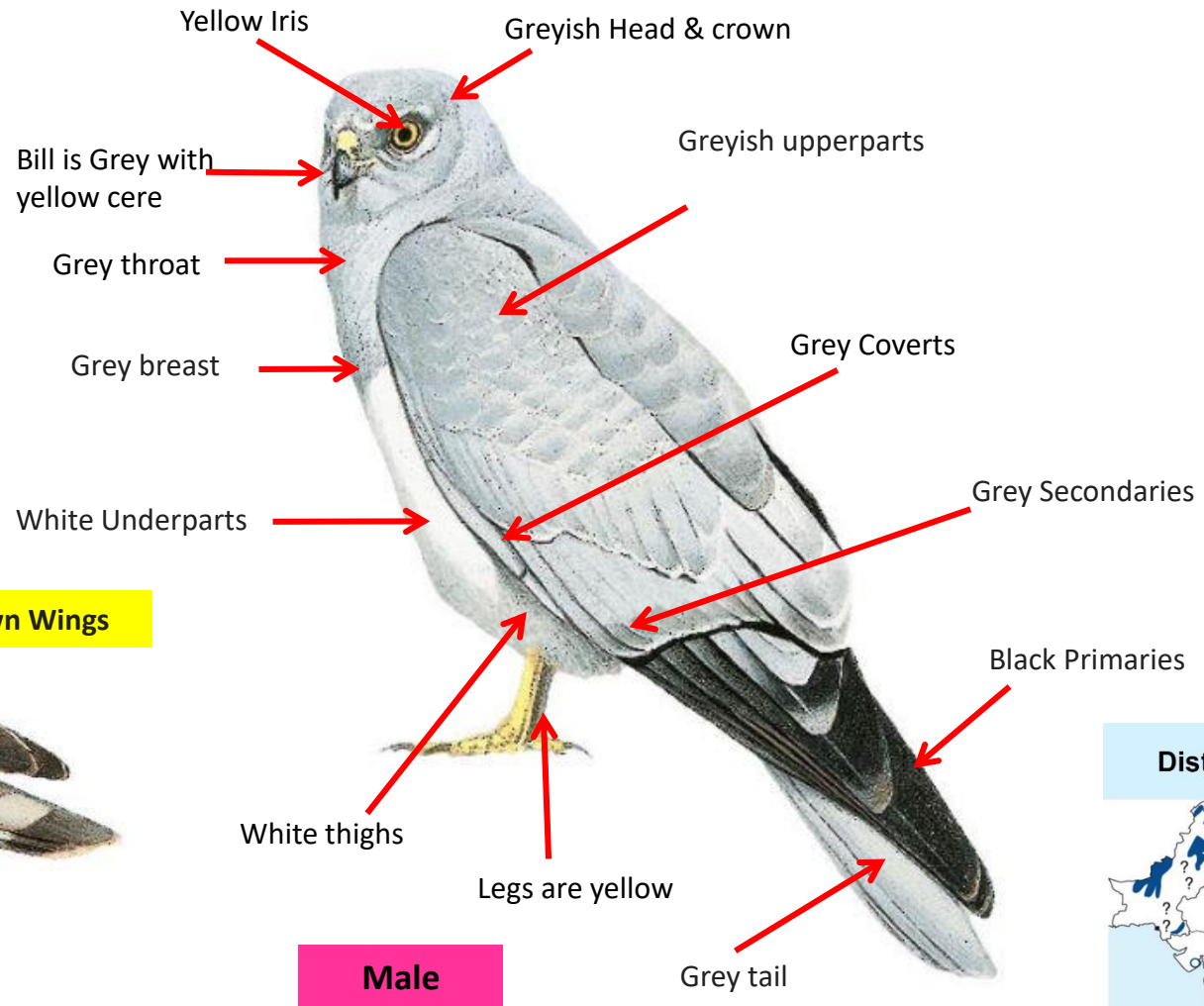
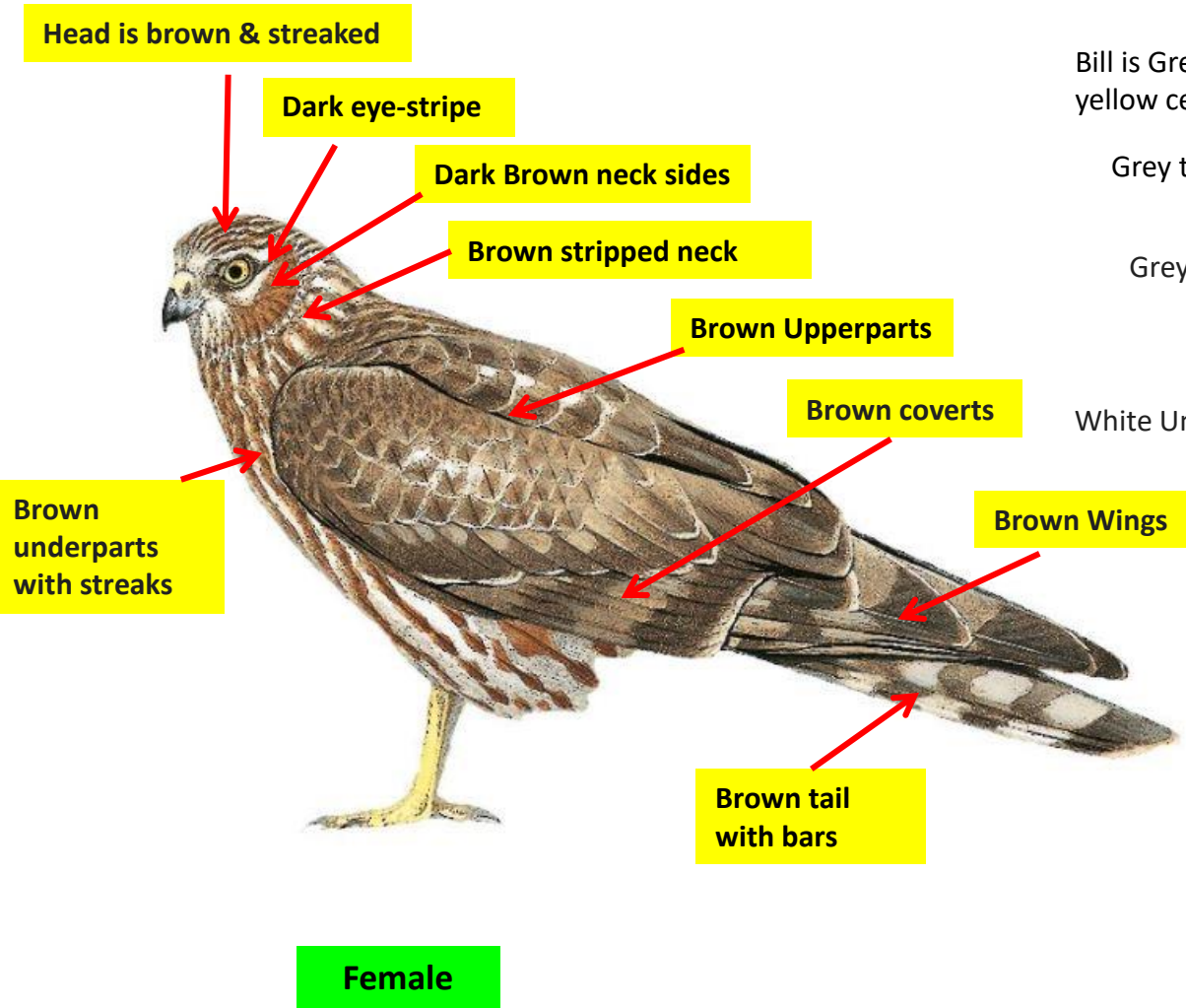
Rufous-grey

Female

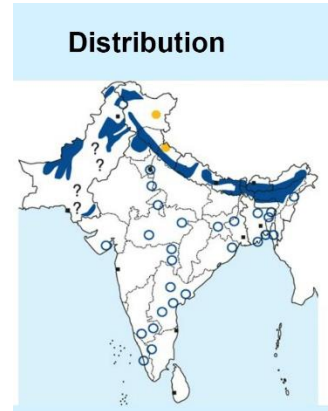
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Hen Harrier identification Tips

Hen Harrier: *Circus cyaneus* : Winter visitor to Himalayas & North India



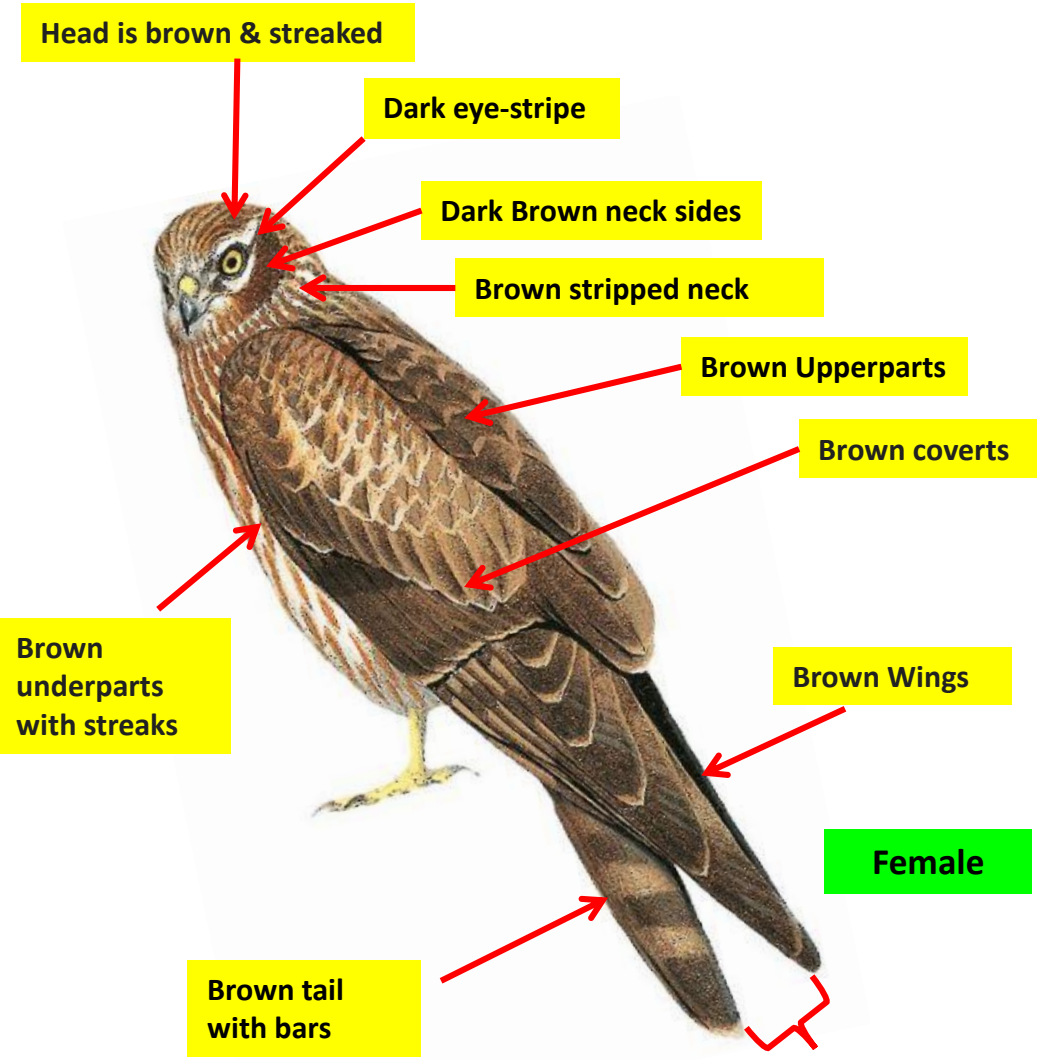
Important id point
Difference from Male



Reference : Birds of Indian Subcontinent
Inskipp and Grimmett
www.HBW.com

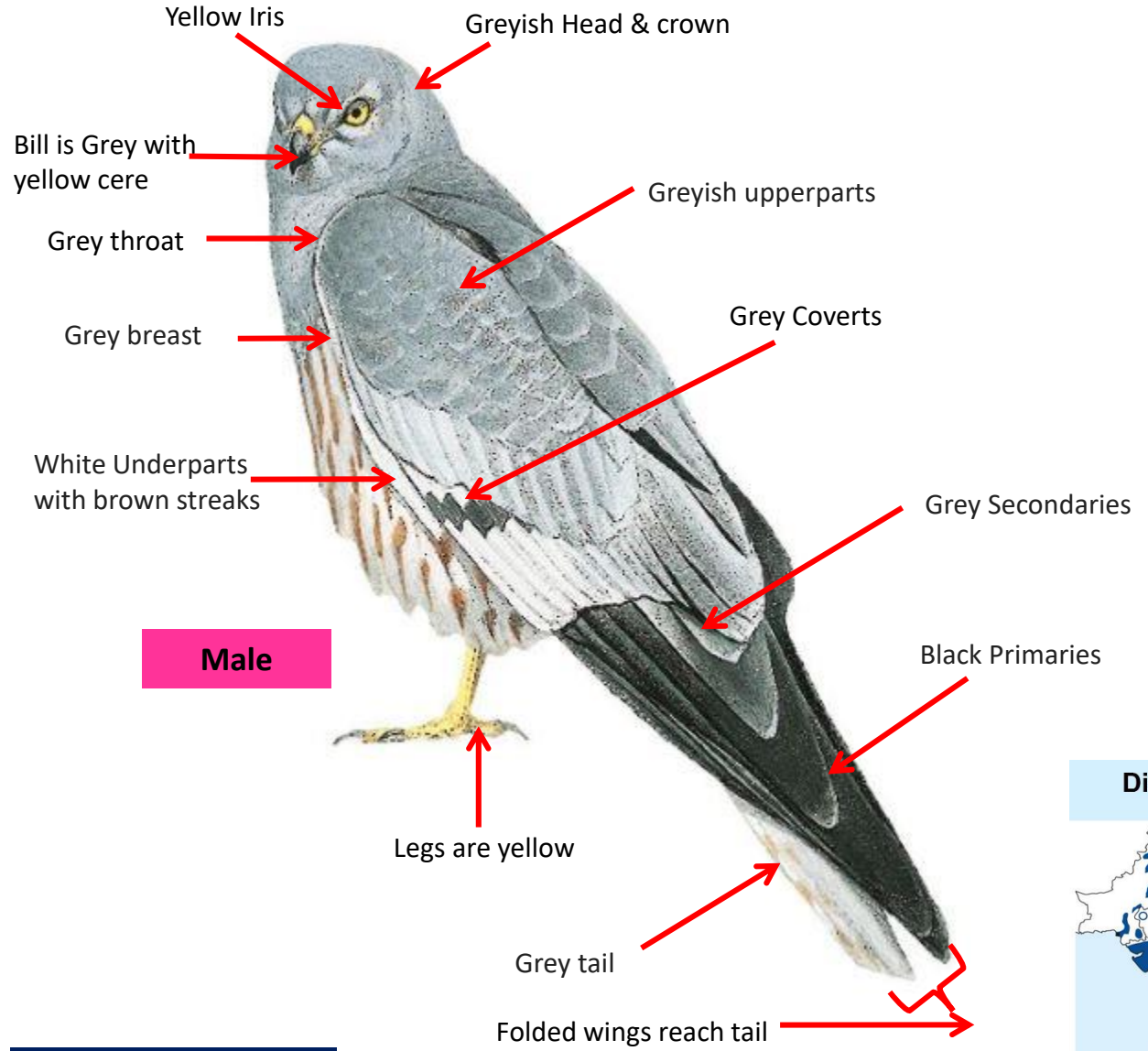
Montagu's Harrier identification Tips

Montagu's Harrier : *Circus pygargus* : Widespread Winter visitor in India

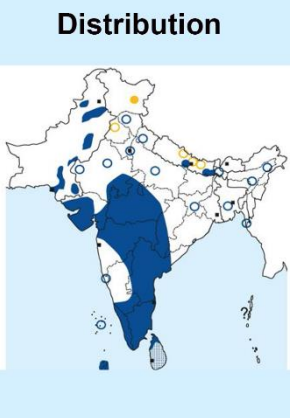


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Important id point
Difference from Male

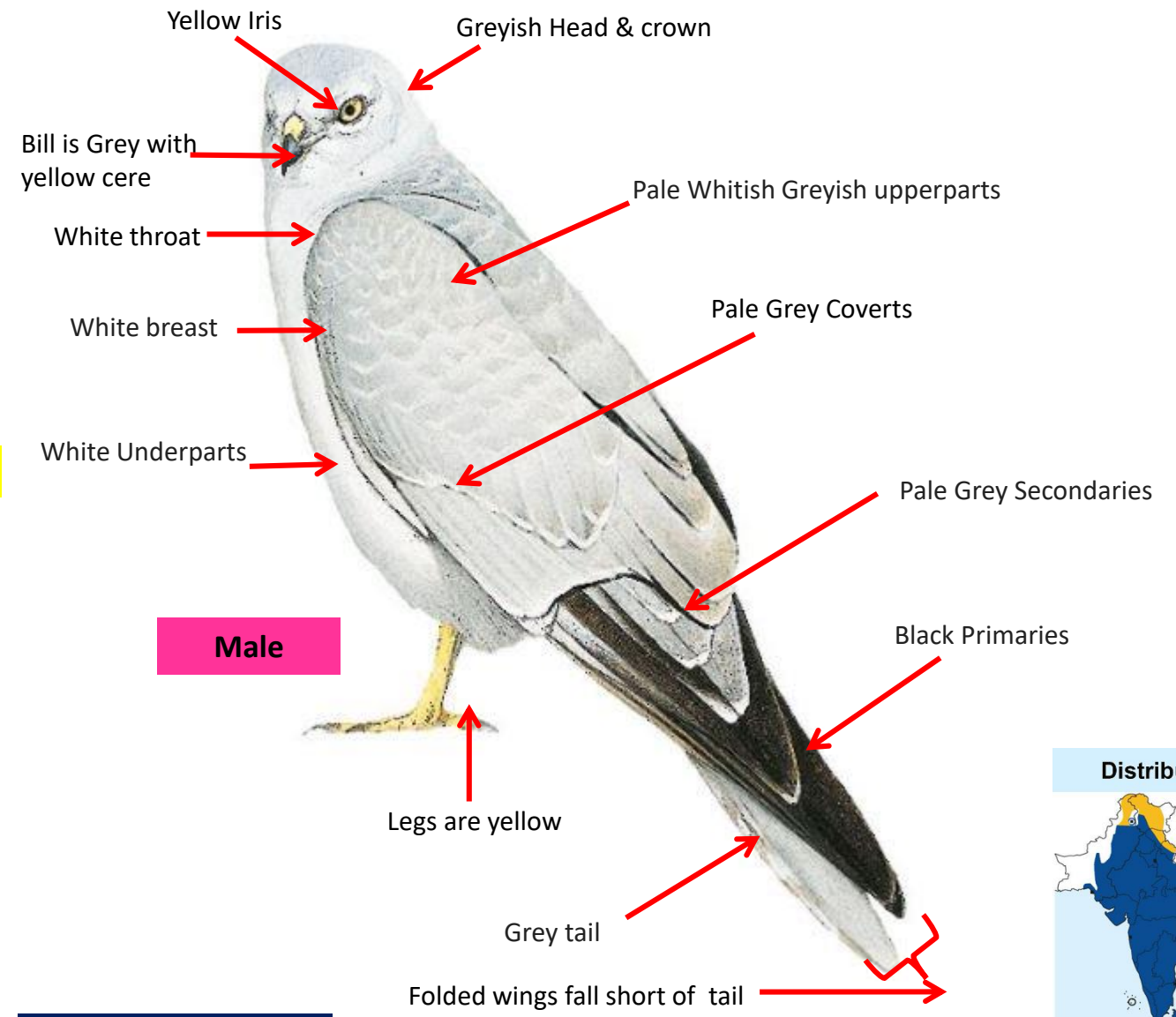
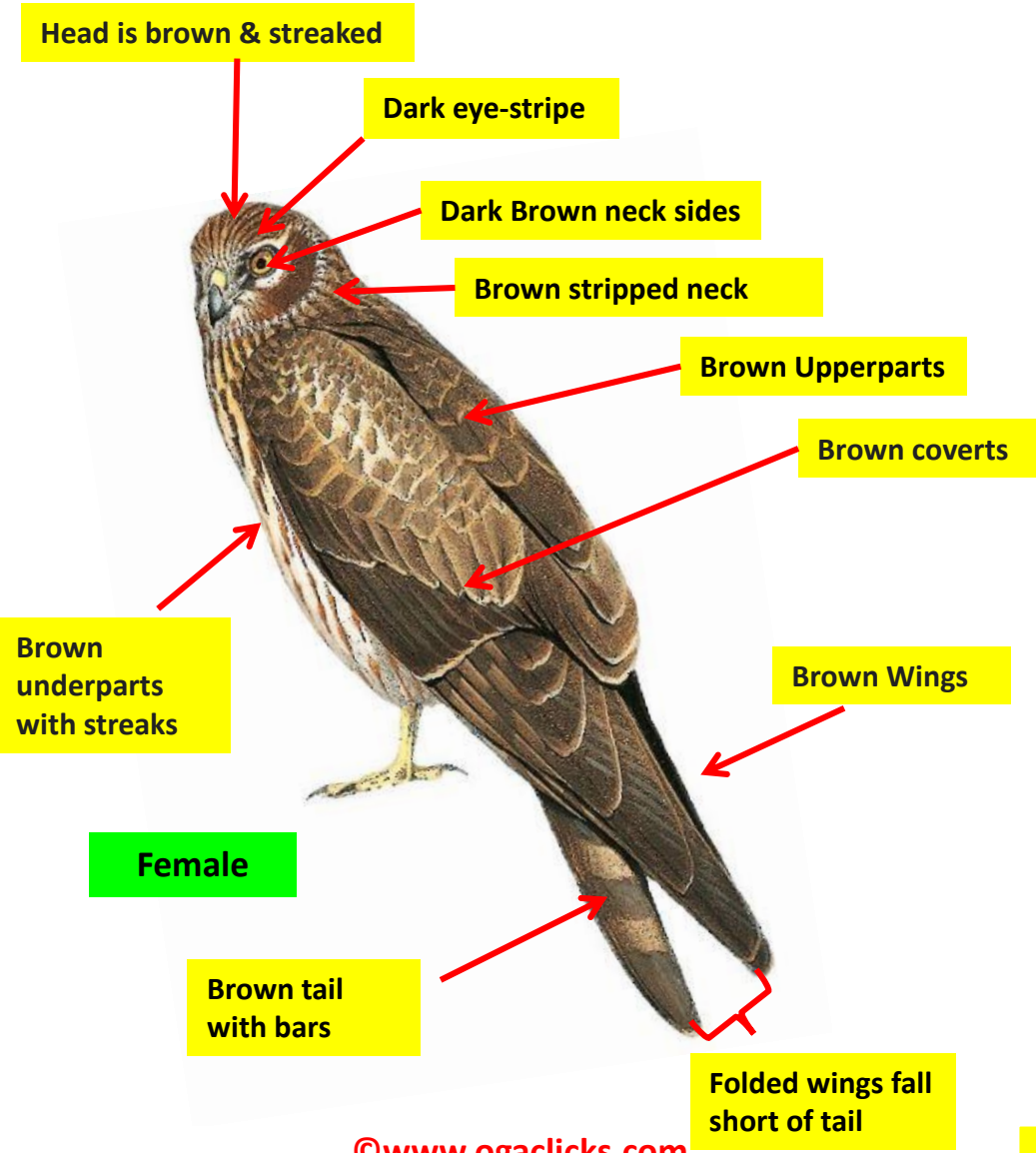


Reference : Birds of Indian Subcontinent
Inskipp and Grimmett
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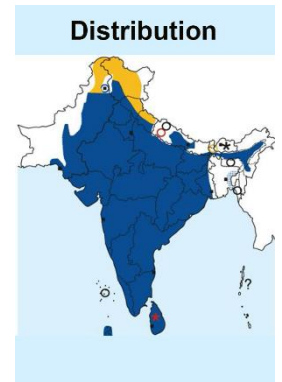


Pallid Harrier identification Tips

Pallid Harrier : *Circus macrourus*: Widespread Winer visitor in India (Except parts of North East)



Important id point
Difference from Male



Reference : Birds of Indian Subcontinent
Inskipp and Grimmett
www.HBW.com

Pied Harrier identification Tips

Pied Harrier : *Circus melanoleucos*: Breeds in Assam; Winter Visitor to North East & Western Ghats in India

Female

- Head is brown & streaked
- Dark eye-stripe
- Dark Brown neck sides
- Brown stripped neck
- Brown Upperparts
- Grey-Brown coverts
- Brown Wings
- Brown underparts with streaks
- Brown tail with bars

Male

- Black Head & crown
- Yellow Iris
- Bill is Grey with yellow cere
- Black throat
- Black breast
- White Underparts
- Black upperparts
- White wing patch on forewings
- White coverts
- Grey Secondaries
- Black Primaries
- Grey tail
- Legs are yellow

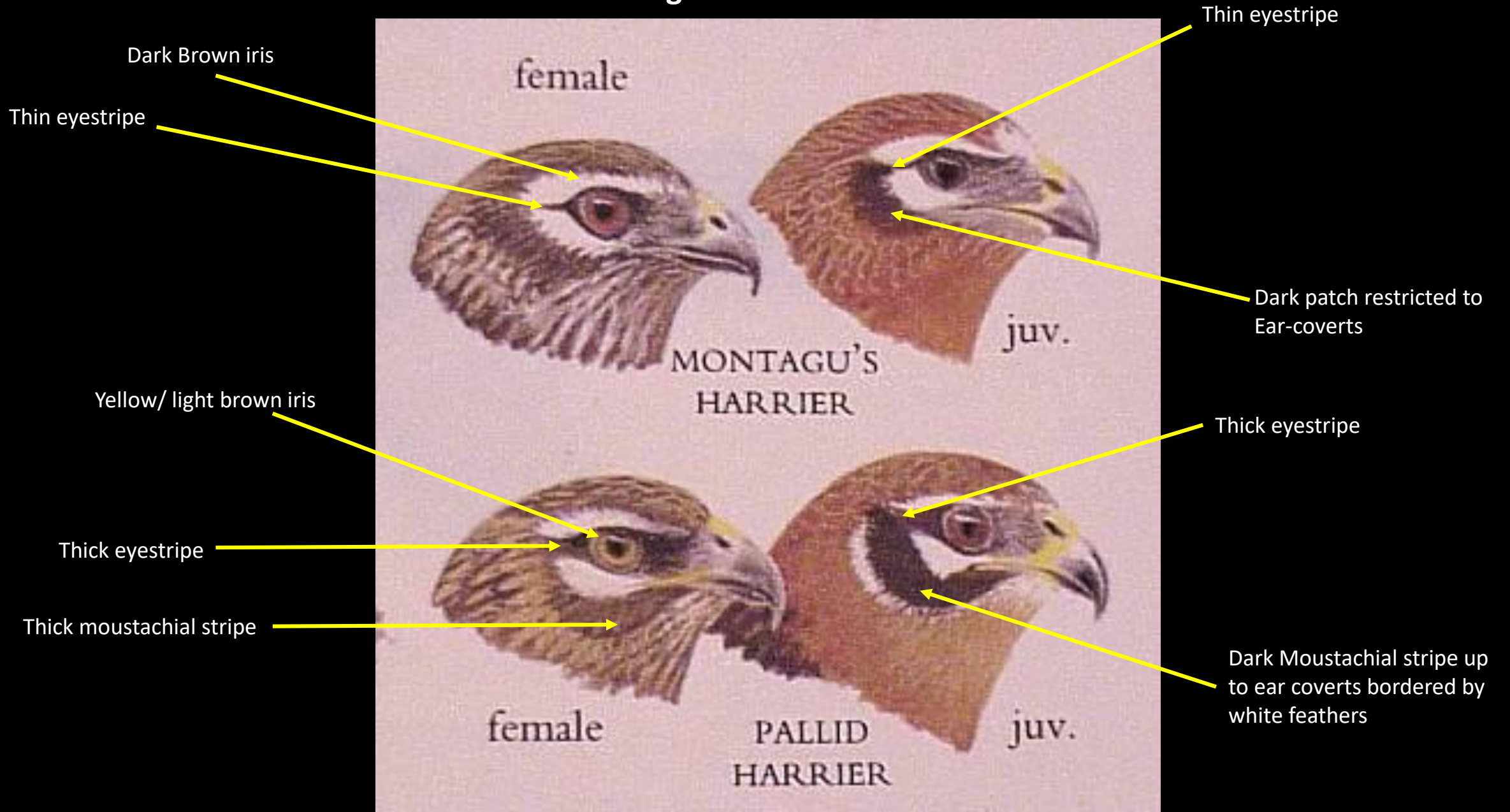
Important id point
Difference from Male

Distribution

Reference : Birds of Indian Subcontinent
Inskipp and Grimmett
www.HBW.com

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Montagu's Harrier Vs Pallid Harrier



Harriers Tail to Folded Wing ratio

Sno.	Name	<i>Tail to Folded wing</i>
1	Eastern Marsh Harrier	<i>Folded wings falls short of tail</i>
2	Eurasian Marsh Harrier	<i>Folded wings reaches up to tail</i>
3	Hen Harrier	<i>Folded wings falls short of tail</i>
4	Montagu's Harrier	<i>Folded wings reaches up to tail</i>
5	Pallid Harrier	<i>Folded wings falls short of tail</i>
6	Pied Harrier	<i>Folded wings falls short of tail</i>