

**A NEW SPECIES OF PARNASSIUS LATREILLE FROM THE HIMALAYAS
(LEPIDOPTERA: PAPILIONIDAE, PARNASSINAE)**

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In this paper is described *Parnassius* (*Koramius*) *nandadevinensis* sp. n. The single specimen belongs morphologically to the *Parnassius delphius* Evers. group and is allied to *P. patricius* Niep., *P. agdestis* Gr. Gr., *P. staudingeri* A. Bang-Haas and *P. hide* Koiw. The new species is, however, clearly distinguished from them by many external features and genital structures.

A time ago I received for determination some butterflies from North India. All the above mentioned specimens were collected by the mountain climbing expedition on one of the flowery meadows of Mt. Nanda Devi. This material also contains a large number of *Parnassius epaphus boschmai* Eis. in which I found one very interesting male of *Parnassius* which was superficially quite different from those of *P. epaphus* (fig. 1).

***Parnassius* (*Koramius*) *nandadevinensis* sp. n.**

Shape of the wings similar to that of *Parnassius stoliczkanus* C. et Felder. Length of forewings 25 mm. The ground colour and pattern of the forewings somewhat suggest *Parnassius patricius*. The distal and discoidal spots, however, are almost identical in size and they are partially conjugate in form *halteres*. This feature often appears in specimens of *Parnassius acdestis marki* Epst. The median band as well as the tornal gray spot in the cell Cu_2 (between Cu_2 and Ax_1) are absent. The submarginal band is rather similar to *P. patricius* but is brighter and less sharp than in *P. patricius* and also the marginal band is narrower. Median, submedian, basal and tornal areas are all sparsely powdered in gray.

The pattern of the hindwings is quite similar to *P. acdestis rupshuanus* Avin. or ssp. *peschkei* Eis. but the red central and subcostal ocelli are absent and are substituted by small black spots only. The submarginal band is scarcely perceptible. In the submarginal area there is only one vague small gray spot in the field between veins M_1 and M_2 , further-mor there is one larger black spot without an eye in the cell Cu_1 and one more very small black spot in the cell Cu_2 . The marginal band of the hindwings is narrow but more complete, more distinct and more sharply defined than in *P. rupshuanus*. The basal area and

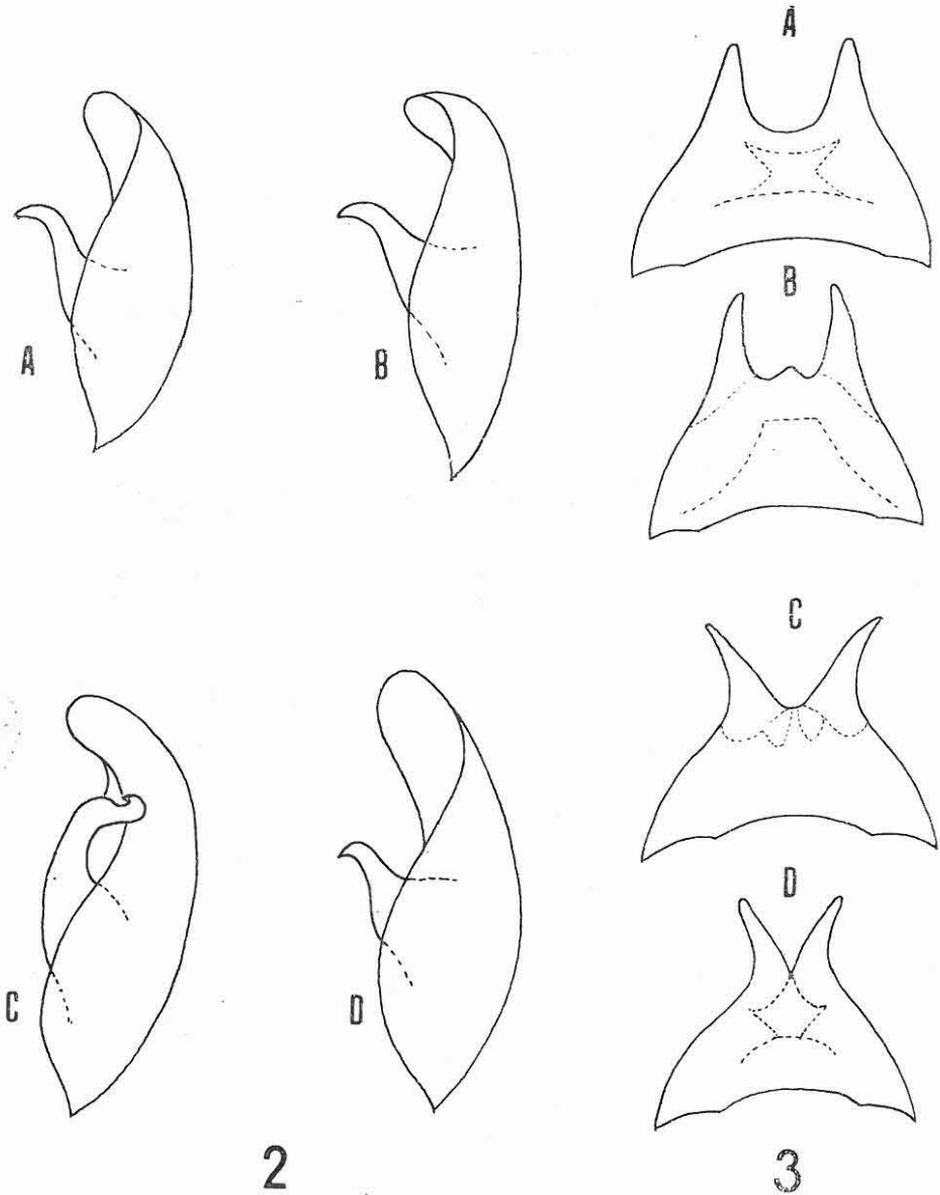


Fig. 2: Dorsal view of left-hand valva with detail of process of the valva, A: *Parnassius nandadevinensis* sp. n., B: *Parnassius staudingeri jacobsoni* Avin., C: *Parnassius acedestis rupshuanus* Avin., D: *Parnassius patricius uzyngyrus* D. Weiss, fig. 3: Dorsal view of uncus, A: *Parnassius nandadevinensis* sp. n., B: *Parnassius acedestis rupshuanus* Avin., C: *Parnassius staudingeri jacobsoni* Avin., D: *Parnassius hide* Koitw.

hide, *P. staudingeri* and *P. acdestis*. It differs from the mentioned related species as follows:

1. By the characteristic pattern of both wings; 2. The uncus is quite different from the uncus of *P. patricius*, *hide* and *staudingeri*; 3. The process of the valva is quite different from the process of *P. acdestis*; 4. The copulatory organ is smaller than in the mentioned related species of the group *P. delphius*.

Although I received only one specimen for the purpose of description, I have decided that the above-described specimen represents a good species because of its above-mentioned well differentiated morphological features which stand beyond variability scope of all species of the subgenus *Koramius*.

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