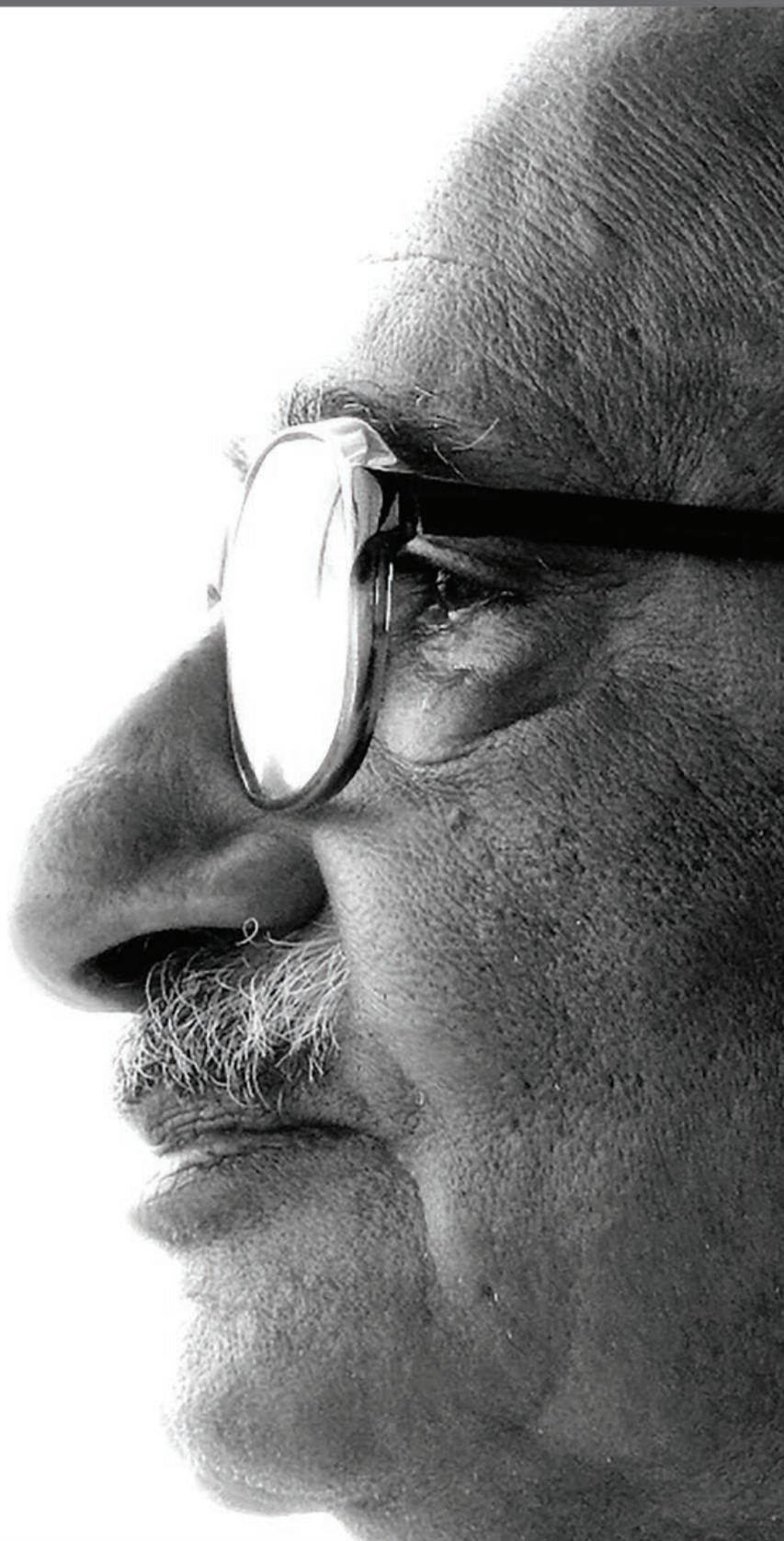
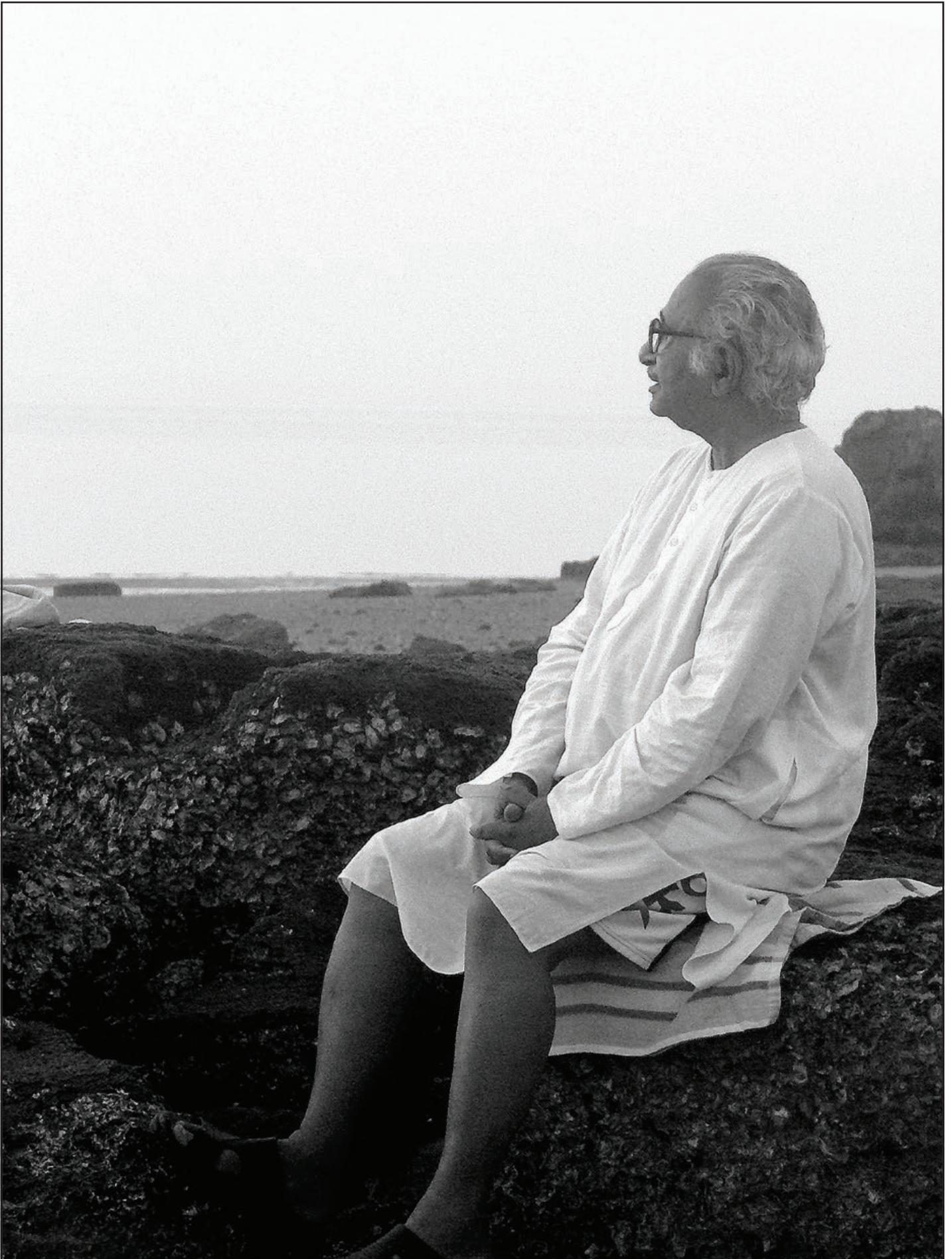


# Flamingo

Newsletter of the Bird Conservation Society, Gujarat

"How immensely reassuring  
as I walk under the trees  
listening to the birds  
and letting my eyes rise  
to the now glowing  
snowpeaks  
high  
in a  
cerulean  
blue sky  
that all  
this  
loveliness  
and  
my ability  
to comprehend  
it is because of  
the presence of God!"





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Bird Conservation Society, Gujarat (BCSG) was founded in 2000 with the objective of conservation of birds of the State through field research, documentation, training, awareness activities, networking with like-minded NGOs; and lobbying for protection of birds and their habitats. It is the only statewide network of bird-watchers, ornithologists and conservationists of Gujarat striving to achieve the above goal.

BCSG brings out a quarterly newsletter – 'Flamingo'. Articles, notes on bird-life of Gujarat, interesting bird sightings, knowledge about important bird areas, information / appeal regarding conservation issues, reports on society's events and activities are published in 'Flamingo'. For publication of articles/notes in the Flamingo, both the common English and scientific names must be given when a bird species is mentioned for the first time and later references, common English name only. Common English and scientific names should follow Richard Grimmett, Carol Inskipp and Tim Inskipp (2011), Birds of Indian Subcontinent, Second edition. Oxford University Press, New Delhi. If the nomenclature is adopted from other source, full reference should be given.

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## Editorial....

Dear Readers,

It is a privilege to place before you our newsletter 'Flamingo' in its new avatar. It is probably apt that it arrives in your hands at a juncture when the 'nature lover' within all of us has been deprived of the fatherly presence and warmth of Shri Lavkumar Khachar - a man of great vision, ideas, words and action concerning nature conservation.

A born naturalist, he evolved to be even stronger as one does with time, due to his intimate interaction with nature's elements which surrounded him and his invaluable touch through nature education to everyone who happened to traverse through his aura.

On behalf of all the members of the BCSG, I pay tribute to the stalwart whose loss can only be compensated by our unceasing care and concern for nature and myriads of her manifestations. I also dedicate this revival-issue of our newsletter to this legendary figure and wish that we continue his legacy while we work together to strengthen bird conservation in Gujarat.

I am happy that Pranav Trivedi, who is very fortunate to have spent many years under his influence, as he himself grew into a fine nature educator has through his article for this issue aptly portrayed 'Lavkumar Sir' and his invaluable contribution.

I also acknowledge Shri Kishor Kadiwar, who happened to be his student at Rajkumar College, Rajkot for allowing me to use pictures of some of the exhibits and archival artifacts, he had fondly photographed earlier.

And last but not the least my heartiest gratitude for Shri Samir Shukla and Shri Manoj Dholakia of Pugmark Qmulus Consortium, who have assured to help me, fulfill my dream of a well-conceived newsletter of our Society, for as long as possible.

Following the sequence of volumes previous issues of flamingo were labeled as (1st Vol. in 2003), this issue will be considered as Vol. XIII and a combined 1-2 for the first two quarters of the year. The unpublished missing issues will be incorporated into a single integrated issue which will be published later in the year.

**Bakul Trivedi, M.S.**