

DAILY



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Endangered species in Balochistan

By Naida Achakzai

Balochistan, the largest province of Pakistan, is a natural habitat for a variety of unique fauna. From its mighty mountains to the scenic beaches it offers a home to the idiosyncratic species of the world. Balochistan has a land patch which is highly suitable for the migratory birds. However, it is unfortunate that no proper measures are taken to safeguard the lives of these animals. Today, animals in Balochistan are a victim of hunting and illegal trade.

The Afghan tortoise is listed as protected species under the Balochistan Wildlife Protection Act while Sindh's rules enacted in 2014 ban poaching, catching, trapping and net-

ting of all types of turtles and tortoises

Two tortoise species are found in Pakistan; the Indian star tortoises and the Afghan tortoises. The latter is native to Baluchistan," he said, adding that he spotted the species in Ziarat, Khuzdar, Noshki, Quetta and Mastung during his surveys.

According to him, indiscriminate trapping and poaching of tortoises have greatly reduced their number. "The Indian star tortoise has become rare in Sindh, though the Afghan tortoise is still found in many areas of Baluchistan."

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International trade of all reptile species is legally prohibited in Pakistan under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora.

To conserve the main biodiversity we need to apply some tips or some ways for our future generation in sustainable way .Government legislation.Nature preserves.Reducing invasive species.Habitat restoration.Captive breeding and s e e d banks.Research.Reduce climate change.Purchase sustainable products.