The Status of the Genus Saletara Distant (Lepidoptera, Rhopalocera) and its Species

By Major C. F. COWAN, R.A.

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Saletara and Appias

Saletara was separated out of the comprehensive genus Appias by Distant in 1885 (in his work Rhopalocera Malayana) primarily on the grounds that the 9 lacked vein 9 ('the fourth subcostal nervule') on the forewing. His type species was nathalia C. & R. Felder, from Luzon. He regarded nathalia as occurring in Nias, Sumatra, Java, Malaya, Borneo and Celebes, as well as the type locality, and as distinct from panda Godart (type from Java), which he recorded from Malaya, Sumatra and Java. He differentiated panda as lacking vein 9 in the 8 as well as the 9 and also by its 'more sulphureous colouration'.

In fact nathalia and panda are the respective races, from their type localities, of the same species. The latter is generally more sulphureous than all the other races from the areas named, but these vary considerably in their ground colour. Moreover, in both sexes of both races, vein 9 of the forewing may be present or absent, though always less in evidence in the 9. In specimens in the British Museum, 8 8 from the Philippines nearly always lack vein 9, which is present as often as not elsewhere; it is often only minute, but may be up to 2½ mm. long throughout its territory. In both sexes cases occur where it is present on one forewing and not on the other, reflecting the inconstancy of the character. Distant's figure of the 9 nathalia clearly shows vein 9 present-contrary to his definition of the genus.

Saletara & always carries three tufts distal on the abdomen-two ventral and one dorsal. These lie flat, parallel with the valvae. They are normally used as a further distinction from Appias, which is said tolack the third, dorsal, one,

In fact, Appias, in some species (e.g. lalassis) has no tufts at all, while in others (e.g. paulina, albina, and the blue A. mata caeca from Sipora) all three may be present. In general, Appias has shorter and denser tufts than Saletara, and the valvae are usually broad and blunt whereas Saletara valvae are long and sharp-ended.

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The late Dr. A. S. Corbet, in the manuscript of his 2nd edition of Butterflies of the Malay Peninsula, now in the press, states that tufts may be present in the $Appias \ \varphi$. I have found no examples of this. On the other hand, no reference can be found to the existence of tufts in the $Saletara \ \varphi$, except that Bingham says 'of course they are absent'.

In fact, every 9 I have examined in this genus carries a tuft in a longitudinal downy pouch distal under the abdomen. Normally, in set specimens, this pouch is closed and inconspicuous, but traceable with the naked eye at a glance once recognised. Occasionally, in set specimens (as in the type specimen of hostilia Fruh.) the pouch slit is ajar and the tuft protrudes, or (as in the type of martia Fruh.) the pouch may be agape and empty, but still evident. No specimens of any 9 Appias have been found with such a tuft, nor Saletara without, in an examination covering specimens from India to the Solomon Islands.

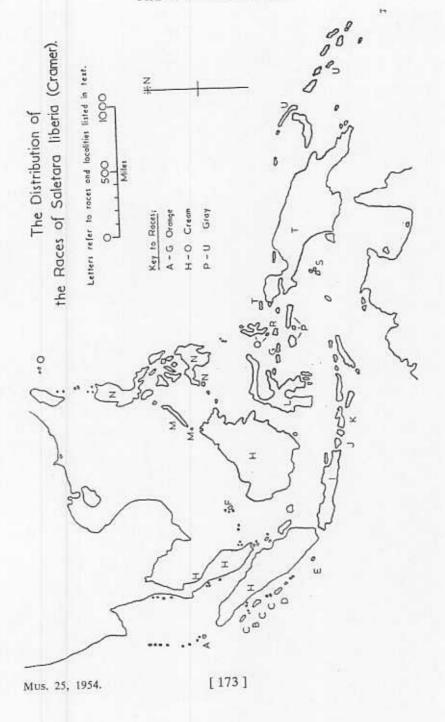
It is considered that, though a revision of the whole Appias complex may be required, Saletara must remain separate despite its anomalous foundation. Its key characteristics are the obsolescent state of vein 9 of the forewing in both sexes, the different 3 genitalia, and the enclosed abdominal tuft of the 9. Several authors have remarked on the difficulty of defining the genus, but simultaneously have agreed that it is a natural entity.

Saletara is confined to the Indo-Australian Region between the South Nicobars and Peninsular Siam in the north-west, the Philippines in the north-east, and New Guinea and the Solomons in the south.

Saletara species

Hitherto four species have been accepted; panda Godt., cream to orange, whose range to the Philippines and Celebes has already been outlined, and liberia Cr., cycinna Hew., and gisco Gr. Sm., which are blue-gray above and all entirely lack vein 9. Liberia inhabits the Moluccas and cycinna thence continues to the East giving way to gisco in the Solomons. It may be noticed at once that these nowhere overlap.

Corbet (loc. cit.) treats these as all races of the one species. It was in probing for the reason for this treatment that the material for this article was assembled. His genitalia slide preparations of a & liberia from Ceram and a & panda from Java have been found, and no significant difference can be detected. This by itself would in no way be conclusive, but viewing all the available material, it is considered that Saletara must be regarded as so far monospecific in liberia—an extremely interesting species, crossing Wallace's Line unperturbed but showing strong reactions on reaching Weber's Line.



Saletara liberia races

The nomenclature has been much complicated; partly because of the paucity of the original material, coupled with the variation of the panda races in colour and venation; and partly because of the sexual dimorphism, coupled with the fact that several authors mixed their

In amplification of the survey of forms given earlier, the races in sexes or localities. succession from West to East show, first, a gradual darkening of the ground colour till the Philippines are reached, and the gradual disappearance of forewing vein 9. The normal colour variation in each race is appreciable and intermediates occur; often the hindwing is yellower than the forewing. Additionally, to the West, from the Nicobars to Enggano through the Mentawei Islands, and also in the Natunas, the ground colour is bright creamy orange. This form recurs, most surprisingly, in the Sula Islands, the eastern extreme of panda territory and right in the middle of the transitional area.

Then "Wallacea" brings the transition from the panda races to the blue-gray ones, in which vein 9 is obsolete in both sexes. The small Molucca group of islands produces liberia forms with both 3 and 9 gray, though white varieties of the occur. The underside of liberia contrasts markedly as more than one author has noted-the forewing being greenish and the hindwing clear bright orange-while further north eliada is uniform mustard below.

The New Guinea area gives rise to the cycinna races, with gisco in the Solomons. In these the preverts to white or yellow above with broad black distal borders and is dimorphic with, apparently, no intermediates.

The chronological sequence of publication of the original 33, and Nomenclature 2 new, names for the species follows, with references to the specimens in the British Museum main and type collections in London and the Tring collection.

- 1779 liberia (Cramer)
- & Amboina, Pap. Exot. III p. 31 & Plate 210 figs. G. and H. The figure shows vein 9 present—an error?
- 1819 panda (Godart)
- 3 Java. Enc. Meth. IX p. 147 No. 102. Figured. That this rather exceptional race panda was described so early, and that the & closely resembles variants from elsewhere, caused some subsequent confusion. Java is noted for the

individualism of its races, and this one is noticeably different from its neighbour distanti which covers the whole of Neomalaya.

1861 cycinna (Hewitson)

- 8 "New Guinea", recte Aru Is. Exot. Butt. II Plate 4 figs. 23 and 26.
 - Comparison of the Type with series from both localities confirms that Aru is the correct locality of this and the next, as agreed by most authors but not followed by Fruhstorfer in Seitz (see below, 1910).
 - The race is spelt concinna in the text but corrected to cycinna in the Introduction.
- ocina (Hewitson)
- Q Loc. and ref. as for cycinna; figs. 24, 25. A white
- eliada (Hewitson)
- Batchian. Ref. as for cycinna; figs. 27, 28. Described as "probably the δ of Cramer's P. liberia 9", and so confirmed in the Introduction. No description by Cramer of a 9 liberia can be found.
- 1862 nathalia
- & Luzon, Wien, Ent. Mon. VI p. 285. (C. & R. Felder) As "P. nathalia Boisd. in litt."
- 1865 sulphurea (Vollenhoeven)
- 9 Mentioning also Malaya, and var. pandae (sic) Godt. "trois individus que je crois être des femelles" which had been taken on Prof. Reinwardt's voyage to the Moluccas. Description and figure do not agree with Molucca specimens and must be considered referable to the Javan race, as yellow q form of panda. Monogr. II (Pieridae) p. 32 and Plate 4 fig. 4.
 - 1867 panthea (Wallace)
- Philippines. Trans. Ent. Soc. Lond. (3) 1V p. 376.

The yellow 9 form of nathalia.

In this article, starting on p. 361, Wallace raised the genus Tachyris, based on the strong anal tufts of the &. He separates the species into groups on the basis of colour, so that panda and liberia are in separate groups mixed with Appias species. Without explaining why, he places panthea with the gray & & of the liberia group, far from panda and nathalia, but saying he expects the \$\display\$ will be like nathalia. Cor-

rectly.

He correctly brackets sulphurea with panda. He correctly gives Aru as the locality of cycinna and describes the cream to yellow variation of its underside, which reflects the parallel variation in the panda group upperside.

corinna (Wallace) 3,9 New Guinea (Waigeou). Same Reference, p. 377.
3 resembling liberia but hindwing below with a broader black border; φ near ocina (cycinna).

Wallace now describes the g of liberia and adds that this form is confined to Amboina whereas eliada covers Batchian, Obi and Ceram.

1886 flavescens (Ribbé) Aru Is. Iris I, p. 81.
The yellow 9 form of cycinna.

1891 nigerrima (Holland) & Celebes, Proc. Boston Soc. N. H. XXV p. 76 and figure.

The of the normal Celebes race, taken by Doherty in the southern peninsula.

1891 schönbergi Semper

9 "Nias and Südost Borneo". Reisen Philipp. II (5) p. 249.

Described from a single &. The Nias race. The reference to S.E. Borneo is puzzling. This is an orange form; Borneo holds only the cream form, and is so contrived that it can hardly be said to have any S.E. territory. It might be a navigational misnomer for Sula (see the following), or a m.s. error for Siberut or Simalur.

The spelling of the name must now be schoenbergi. This is the first description under the Genus Saletara, and the first of an orange form. Semper here remarks on the anomalous foundation of Distant's genus, but deliberately accepts it.

In Tring Museum is a series from Nias with one street very pale above, almost cream—like distanti from Sumatra, and a second intermediate between it and the normal Nias orange.

1894 aurantiaca Staudinger

Mangoli (Sula Is.). Iris VII p. 352.

A striking orange race.

- Of the 9 & & from 3 different collectors in the main B.M. collection, one has vein 9 long (21 mm.), and in the other 8 it diminishes to minute, being absent from one wing completely in two specimens.
- Q At Tring are 3 specimens of the hitherto undescribed 9. These are also arresting; darker even than the Celebes race. Above black, with only a small median pale area under 5 mm, wide on the forewing, from the base of vein 4 to the dorsum. Below dull orange, the whole outer half of each wing blackish brown.

(In 1894 Pryer and Cator published in the British North Borneo Herald their "Preliminary List of the Rhopalocera of North Borneo", They list both nathalia and paulina under Saletara, separately from Appias, in which genus the

latter should really be placed).

1895 gisco (Grose Smith)

- 9 New Georgia, Ann. Mag. N.H. (6) XV p. 229. As Appias gisco. " 8", recte 9.
 - This is the pale yellow 2 form of the blue-gray & from the Solomons. I can find no description of the latter. In the B.M. are the type specimen, a perfectly normal 9 of the genus, and two fresh & & . The & is clear blue-gray above, the veins being faintly creamy, giving an overall impression of being lighter than corinna. with very narrow bordering. Below the colour is bright, the forewing more orange than usual. and the black borders much narrower.

A & at Tring labelled New Ireland may herald a new race. This individual is intermediate between gisco and corinna. More specimens from these eastern outposts are needed.

Grose Smith's description of his cream 9 from the Solomons as a & has probably been a main contribution to the persistence of the treatment of Saletara as comprising more than one

species.

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Butler

1898 distanti 3,9 Malaya, Sumatra, Borneo. Ann. Mag. N.H. (7) II p. 400.

Separating the Neomalayan distanti and Javan panda. Butler is interesting if erratic on the genus as so far known. He is wrong on its erection, referring only to & venation which, as he finds, is even less reliable than that of the 9. Like Semper, he accepts the genus as a natural one, placing it between Catophaga and Tachyris. Though treating them as separate "species" in accordance with contemporary usage, he correctly brackets cycinna and ocina; nathalia and panthea; panda and sulphurea. He wants to link as seasonal forms nigerrima of Celebes, schombergi (sic) of Borneo (sic) and aurantiaca of Sula for a separate species, and he counts the cream " &" gisco as another.

Fruhstorfer

1900 erebina 3, 9 Palawan. Berl. Ent. Zeits. XLV p. 32.

As a race of S. panda, differing from nathalia (Luzon, Panaon, Mindanao, Bazilan), panda (Java), distanti Malaya, Sumatra, Borneo, nigerrima (Nias), Balabac), schönbergi (Tanetta, Samanga, Patunuang), and aurantiaca (Sula-Mangoli).

1903 engania Fruhstorfer

& Enggano Island. Soc. Ent. 18 p. 124; repeated Stett, Ent. Zeit. LXV p. 347.

Another orange race of panda, rather paler than all the others.

Br. Mus. has only the type specimen, The 2 is not known.

chrysea Fruhstorfer 3 Great Nicobar. Described with the last.

The north-westernmost race of the genus. Orange. B.M. has the type and 4 more & & from Great, and 3 from Little, Nicobar, and, in Coll Ferrar, 11 & & and 3 9 9 from the same places. The 3 9 9 are without vein 9, which is present or absent as usual in the & &.

1906 aurifolia (Fruhstorfer) 8 Siberut and Po. Tello. Ent. Zeitschr. Guben 20 p. 99.

As race of Tachyris panda.

The & is figured in Scitz IX (1910) plate 62 fig. a, 3. There is a o at Tring.

1908 balina Fruhstorfer &, & Bali. Int. Ent. Zeitschr. Guben II p. 238.

As race of "Salatura" panda.

B.M. has only the o type specimen, which isremarkably pale with rather pointed wings and quite narrow borders.

(1909 kawakamii) (3,9) Kotosho I. (i.e. 50 miles East of South end of Formosa and 120 miles North of Bataan). Ent.

(Matsumura)

Zeitschr. Stutt. XXIII p. 88.

Described as an Appias species, Mentioned in Seitz Addenda as possibly a Saletara. Since declared by Sonan to be Appias.

1910-

The following 10 new names were introduced by Fruhstorfer in 1910 in Seitz; Grosschmett. Erde, IX pp. 182-3, where he also gives a resumé of all the foregoing names except panthea. It may be noted that all Fruhstorfer's Type Specimens are held in the Br. Mus. except erebina &, aurifolia, balina &, nivaria 9, principalis and chrysoberylla.

5, 9 This name is given to the pale form of both sexes. of all the panda group of races, as opposed tonivaria sulphurea, the other extreme, yellow, form.

This is the first traceable reference to this name. though Fruhstorfer does not indicate here that it is new. The same remark applies to the forms. principalis and vada below.

8,9 Bazilan and Mindanao. martia

Differing from nathalia (Luzon) in having more extensive black markings.

I cannot support this distinction, finding Luzon and other Philippines specimens covering the same range in variation. The 2 type specimen is practically identical above and below with a of cotype of panthea.

hostilia

2? Balabac.

The description refers to the operacies, and the only representative in the B.M. is the 9 type

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specimen. This is so close to the \$\partial\$ type of erebina (both are yellow specimens), and to several others in the Palawan series, that I see no case for hostilia being a separate race as described, A synonym of erebina.

obina 3, 2 Obi Islands.

Both types are in the B.M. The & has slightly broader borders than eliada and liberia—approaching in this respect and also in the regular inner edges to them, to corinna.

The varies here between two extremes; form obina, gray, much suffused, and broken up by black vein stripes between the broad dark basal and marginal areas (figured Plate 62 b.); and the other extreme, form pseudocorinna, whitish,

pseudocorinna vada २ १ principalis the other extreme, form pseudocorinna, whitish, with narrower black borders like corinna. Intermediates run through ff. vada and principalis. (The former is close to the normal § 2 of eliada and liberia).

9 form obina may be noted as the only form of either sex in the genus which carries any pale spotting either above or below. It has an interneural submarginal series of gray spots on the broad black border.

So, in the Moluccas area, are *eliada* in the North and *liberia* in the South, the former more uniform mustard below while the latter is contrasted green and orange. (Hewitson's mention of purple suffusion above in *eliada* is due to the type specimen being worn). Then, in between, in Obi, is *obina*, a race showing leanings and variation towards *corinna*.

chrysoberylla

Buru I. (South Moluccas). ("common").

The description of this race, which can apply to either sex, gives the differences from liberia from the adjoining islands. They agree with those of eliada of North Moluccas and I regarded them as suspect until I saw the single a specimen from Buru at Tring. This agrees perfectly with liberia, of which I consider chrysoberylla a synonym.

chryselectra & Aru Is.

Fruhstorfer reverts to quoting Hewitson's description of cycinna as from New Guinea, whereas all others agree that the type locality was Aru, where the hindwing below varies from pale lemon to bright orange. The type specimen of chryselectra is rather small but otherwise no different from several other Aru & &, and the name must fall as a synonym of cycinna.

hastia

9 New Guinea.

A name for a normal specimen of the white 9 form from New Guinea (= ocina). The yellow form flavescens seems to be the rarer. Another synonym of cycinna.

1913 nargosa Fruhstorfer & Mindanao, Ent. Rundschau 30 p. 92.

As a race of S. panda, giving difference from martia (Basilan).

I cannot find this form sufficiently distinct to constitute a race apart from Philippines' nathalia.

1913 substriata van Eecke

Po. Babi, Simalur. (1) Notes Mus. Leiden XXXV p. 202.

Leiden Mus. (2) Notes XXXVI p. 217 (1914).

(3) Zool. Meded. IV p. 76 and figure (1918).

At (1) he describes this as a 9 var of panda. At (2) he refers also to a & from Sinabang which he allocates to the Nias race schönbergi.

At (3) he describes 2 & from Po. Lasia and Po. Babi, two islets off Simalur. On Simalur there is a race closely resembling schönbergi and chrysea, but substriata from the islets "may easily be recognized by the absence of the failing brownish black colour on the costal and outer margins of the forewings. In one & and the 9 from Po. Babi we observe a grayish brown dust on the basal part and along the costa of the forewings". His coloured figure certainly shows quite different coloration from that of the two races mentioned, and also of aurifolia, being much less orange.

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1932 iwasakii Sonan.

9 Ishigaki I. (South Ryukyus, East of Formosa and just outside the tropics). Zephyrus IV p. 238, figured. A surprising extension of the genus and species. Described as a var. of S. panda from a single o which, judging from the figures of upper and undersides, lacks vein 9 and resembles the Philippines race fairly well. Taken in 1927.

1954 natunensis

Great Natuna I.

nov.

- \$, \$ Two \$ \$ and a \$ at Tring labelled "Bunguran, Natuna Is./VII.X.94/(Hose)" represent a new orange race. 3 above uniform dull orange, no basal dark dusting nor marked pale subcostal and apical areas; forewing costal and marginal black borders comparatively narrow. Below normal.
 - 2 above normal; below with a broad arcuate black band from near the base, under the costa and apex, to the tornus.
 - a holotype and a allotype will be moved to the British Museum type collection; ¿ paratype at Tring.

1954 dohertyi nov.

& Sambawa.

No mention of any Saletara representatives in Sambawa has ever been made. The American collector Doherty touched on the subject in 1891 (J. Asiatic Soc. Bengal II p. 190) in a list of butterflies from Sumba and Sambawa. Dealing with Appias ("one of Hübner's silly genera, grounded on nothing whatever") paulina, he notices "two forms of this very puzzling group in both Sumba and Sambawa. One was all white, with only a slender dark marginal line, resembling A. albina I have dubiously recorded from Sumba a 9 which I supposed to be that of A. (Saletara) nathalia". I have found no ♀♀, but two ♂ & labelled "Sambawa/Doherty/Sep. 91" are undoubtedly the first mentioned above and genuine Saletara; comparatively pallid above as described, the forewing marginal border 1 mm., and the hindwing unmarked. Below plain dull cream. The 3 holotype in the Br. Mus. is a rather small specimen; paratype at Tring. The 9 should be interesting.

Summary

The large heterogeneous and cosmopolitan genus Appias, represented in Africa, Australia, and Asia to Japan, may require subdivision despite the reluctance of many authors to attempt this. Saletara is one outstanding such subdivision which all recent authors have accepted, several deliberately so while remarking on its indefinite foundation.

Though a naturally distinct genus, Saletara is only monospecific. Its one species, S. liberia, has two groups of races, the transition between them taking place in "Wallacea", between the Sunda and Sahul land Shelves.

The panda group of races, centred on Borneo, extends to the South Nicobars, the Mentawei Chain to Enggano, Natunas and Sula (insular, orange, races), and Peninsular Siam, Malaya, Sumatra to Sambawa, Celebes, Philippines and perhaps the Ryukyus (cream races).

The liberia race group centred on New Guinea is reached through the transitional area of the Moluccas and extends to the Solomons. These are the blue-gray races (there is a single cream & in Br. Mus. labelled "Loyalty Is.". I suspect the label. It resembles Palawan specimens).

All races vary in ground colour. The panda races from cream to yellow, linked by intermediates whose forewings may be cream while hindwings are yellow. Orange races appear not to reflect this variation, but occasionally show a tendency to revert to cream colour. The liberia races vary mainly in the colour below, the hindwing from lemon to orange. The 9 here is dimorphic, white or yellow without intermediates. In the transitional area the 9 has a modified variation range, from dusty gray with heavy black markings through intermediates to white with black borders.

My thanks are due to the Trustees and Staff of the British Museum (Natural History), both in London and at Tring, for full access to the collections and library, and for their ready assistance—without any of which this review could not have been attempted.

C. F. COWAN

Races and subsidiary names of Saletara liberia. The letters refer to the map on page 173.

	A PARTICULAR PROPERTY OF THE PARTY OF THE PA	TABLE
A B C D E F G H I J K L M	substriata Eecke schoenbergi Semper aurifolia (Fruh.) engania Fruh. natunensis ssp. nov. aurantiaca Stgr.	Siberut Orange Enggano Races Great Natuna Mangoli (Sula Is.) Penin. Siam; Malaya; Sumatra; Borneo Java Bali Sambawa Celebes Palawan; Balabac (syn. hostilia Frub
N	nathalia (C. & R. Feld.)	Balabac) Philippines (Luzon) (synn. panthea (Wall.) Philippines; nargosa Fruh. Mindanao; martia Fruh.
O	iwasakii Sonan liberia (Cr.)	Ishigaki (S. Ryukyus) Bazilan.)
Q	eliada (Hew.) obina Fruh.	Amboina; Ceram; Buru (syn. chrysoberylla Fruh., Buru.) Batchian; Halmahera Obi Is.
		001 15.

P	iwasakii Sonan	Ishigaki (S. Ryukyus) Bazilan.)
F	liberia (Cr.)	Amboina; Ceram; Buru (syn. chrysoheryllo
Q	eliada (Hew.)	Fruh., Buru.) Batchian; Halmahera
R S	obina Fruh.	Obi Is.
	cycinna (Hew.)	Aru Is. (synn. ocina (Hew.), chryselectra Fruh.)
T	corinna (Wall.)	Waigeou I.; New Guinea
U	gisco (Gr. Sm.)	Solomon Is.; Bismark Is.

(21 races, 7 synn.)

The names of forms may be applied as follows:-

Cream races, & & ♀; Light forms nivaria Fruh., yellow forms sulphurea (Voll.)

Moluccas races, 9; Light forms pseudocorinna Fruh., dark forms obina Fruh.1

Blue-gray races, 9; White forms ocina (Hew.) (syn. hastia Fruh.) yellow forms flavescens (Ribbé)

^{1.} Intermediates between pseudocorinna and obina are vada Fruh. & principalis Fruh.