

GEETHA ANNAVI**Ph.D. (University of Oxford)**

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**EXPERTISE**

Wildlife Ecology/ Genetics

Dr. Geetha Annavi is a molecular and behavioural ecologist at Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM). She received her PhD in Zoology from University of Oxford, United Kingdom in 2013. Her research interests lie in population genetics, molecular and behavioural ecology, and conservation biology, particularly of wild animals (i.e., mammals and amphibians) and terrestrial ecosystems. Currently, her research is focused on the endangered Malayan tapir (*Tapirus indicus*) both in captive and wild in Peninsular Malaysia in collaboration with Department of Wildlife and National Parks (DWNP) Peninsula Malaysia, local Zoos and Selangor State Forestry Department. She is also involved with Wildlife Conservation Unit (WildCRU) for European badger (*Meles meles*) genetic project. Major sponsors of Dr. Geetha Annavi's research include the Fundamental Research Grant Scheme (FRGS – Ministry of Education, Malaysia), Putra grant (Universiti Putra Malaysia), MNS Tapir Project Grant (Malaysia Nature Society) and University of Oxford.

CURRENT RESEARCH INTEREST :**Genetic, Bioinformatic, Behaviour and Ecology in Malayan tapir**

- Noninvasive alternatives for DNA collection
- Isolation and characterisation of novel and cross-amplified microsatellite markers
- Gut microbiota identification in faecal samples using metagenomics approaches
- Blood transcriptome using Next Generation Sequencing (NGS) platform
- Characterisation of MHC (Major Histocompatibility Complex) genes and its relationship to individual recognition through olfactory cues
- A comparative behavioural study in captive and semi-wild enclosures
- Habitat occupancy of the Malayan tapir (*Tapirus indicus*) in relation to vegetation and landscape structures in North Selangor Peat Swamp Forest (NSPSF)

Amphibian population and landscape genetic studies

A combined morphological and molecular approach in identifying Ranidae species (Amphibia: Anura) from the Ayer Hitam Forest Reserve, Selangor, Malaysia

Pedigree analysis for European badger

Multigenerational pedigree construction using genetic samples for the Wytham Woods European badger population at Oxfordshire, UK.

LINK TO POSTGRADUATE FIELD OF STUDY:

- Molecular Ecology
- Evolution and Behavioural Ecology
- Wildlife Conservation

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: