



H*LP

CONSERVING LIVELIHOODS & THE CHAMBA SACRED LANGUR

Join us in our amazing journey of exploration, fun, and learning as we introduce you to the Endangered Chamba Sacred Langur and walk you through its only home in the world, the Chamba District of Himachal Pradesh! Let us also talk about the critical issues that our langur friends face and how we can together H*LP find solutions to them!



GAULA, CHAMBA'S PRIDE!

The folklores of Himachal Pradesh celebrate the beauty of Chamba, a jewel nestling in the bosom of the Himalaya, nourished by the sparkling waters of the river Ravi and its tributary Sal. The lush celestial valley owes its incredible natural history to its remote peaks and rugged terrain, which also kept its unique culture intact.

At Chamba, the charming, gentle Chamba Sacred Langur is fondly called 'Gaula' by both children and adults, endearingly shortened from 'Gaula Bandhar' meaning 'plump monkey' in Chambyali, the local language of the Himalayan town. Indeed, the long, bushy, brownish-grey coat that keeps both males and females of the primate species warm in the unnerving cold does give them a puffy, fluffy appearance.

One of the most interesting and distinguishing features of the Chamba Sacred Langur is the adult male's shoulder mane. This extra layer of brownish-grey silky coat flows loosely down their flanks, almost touching the ground, as this handsome lot leaps across the mountains in their home.



Images by V. Ahuja & T.A. Shah
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