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Taxidermy: the art of preserving life beyond death

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Abstract

In order to keep the nature well, knowledge about taxidermy with diorama, a museum can focus the beauties of nature after death or damage of organisms. Significant museums of home and abroad (Figs. 1-2) represented these ideas for this composition. Scientific arrangements of many invertebrates and vertebrates with accessories provided sufficient information for the conservation of nature and natural resources (Fig. 3). Additionally, messages from renowned persons in museums influenced everybody to come forward for the conservation of species.

Keywords: Taxidermy, Beauties, Diorama, Museum, Conservation, Organism

INTRODUCTION

Chaplin performed in a home with some taxidermied animals in the movie 'One A. M'. It was obvious that animal taxidermy was a past passion of human being. Many people kept dead or taxidermied animals in their home. Such decoration provided a natural look in those places. A zoological museum is completely flourished to show huge taxidermied animals. This has a great impact to study materials on evolution, genetics, and nature. Since palaeontological museum (Fig. 2) is different but such skeletons are of course proofs for many ways to study. Natural habitat with such skeletons can focus the true habitat for respective animals. National museum is responsible to collect all dead animals to complete stuffing to display for the people. Veterinary hospital could focus taxidermied animals in their museum for their students. In shopping malls, ornamental birds especially peacock and spotted deer with antlers is commonly found. In world, there are many recognized animal-related museums but most significant one is Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History of the USA. Taxidermied animals always exhibited with their real habitat, so taxidermied animals which are living fossil like crocodile, gharial, tuatara, platypus, red panda, elephant-shrew, okapi, *Cycas*, fern, magnolia, etc. we could get huge ideas about their previous habitat. In this sense, taxidermied animals with diorama has a great impact to understand the evolutionary biology. Taxidermied specimens are vital resource for the researchers, environmental consultants, biological recorders, educators, as well as wider public (NatSCA, 2025). The geographer collaborates to artists (Foster and Lorimer, 2007; Hawkins and LoveJoy, 2009; Enigbokan and Patchett, 2012), and undertake photography and videography as a research method for a perfect museum (Garrett, 2010; Merchant, 2011). Animal geographies have grown to extend beyond consideration of charismatic species (Lorimer, 2007) to include cold- and warm-blooded animals (Haraway, 2008). Taxidermy practice that are aligned with hunting and trophies that resulted in many ways in a museum (Poliquin, 2008). From the live body to dead matter, arguing that the corporeal entanglement of the mount is an ethical issue (Straughan, 2015). Museum specimens are typically put forward by biologists and older, positivist intellectual histories of science, and for descriptive reading (Thorsen, 2006). Objects provide material evidence of the relationships which have enabled their existence and display in the museum (Alberti, 2005; Gosden and Marshall, 1999). The works on postmortem animal create knowledge or at least encouraging and imaginative thought for everybody (Baker, 2000). The aesthetic of livingness expresses the animal-human relations and disrupts any possibility in the gallery space (Burt, 2008). Taxidermy is an excellent rewarding hobby for animal lovers and can be transformed into a profession (Kabir and Hawkeswood, 2020). The objective of this study is to focus

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the taxidermied animals with their diorama in order to make attention to conserve animals.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Safari Park Museum of Dulahazra and Gazipur, Zoology Museum of Rajshahi University, Zoology Museum of Saidpur and Dinajpur Government College, Bangladesh National Museum Dhaka, Dhaka Mirpur Zoo Museum, Padma Museum of Bangladesh, Jamuna Bridge Regional Museum, Armed Forces Medical College of Dhaka, JK Scientific Store Dhaka, Jamuna Future Park (shopping mall), Zoological Museum of Beijing (Fig. 1), Palaeontological Museum of Beijing (Fig. 2) were the sites to observe the beauties of taxidermied animals with diorama. Significant invertebrates especially molluscan shells and entomological specimens were also available. Molluscan coiling patterns of shells with colours, and diversity of insects and other pests were remarkable research materials. Types of fish models, feathers, and eggs of birds could be another section in a museum for mentioning their actual habitat.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Zoological and Palaeontological Museums: Biology and Zoology Museum of colleges and universities are important to study animals. Knowledge on taxidermy of those animals, teachers could deliver their knowledge to their students. Zoological Museum of Beijing is a renowned animal museum in the world (Fig. 1). Taxonomic classification, diorama, biologists' quotes, eggs and nests all are always sufficient in a zoological museum. Stuffed animals ensure to make people closer to their natural shape (Hassan et al, 2022). Since this is not a taxidermied animal museum but its osteological and other model evidences serve proofs for the animal habitat (Fig. 2).

Fig. 1. Zoological Museum in Beijing

Fig. 2. Palaeontological museum in Beijing

National Museum: Many countries have a national museum with various sections to fucus everything. National museum is an icon of a country. Overall cultural aspects of a county and local dead animals can be taxidermied and displayed with natural habitat in a national museum. This museum carries a great significance on the cultural theme of a country and could provide a training session for the local or subject-related people as a profession. Bangladesh National Museum (BNM) displays a remarkable number of mounted birds with dioramas in their respective galleries (Afroz et al, 2024). There is a dearth of taxidermist perspective Bangladesh (Kabir et al, 2021). A perfect taxidermied animal can lasts at least 50 years or more in a museum (Das et al, 2024).

Taxidermied animals in zoo: Each zoo has a museum where dead animals are kept as taxidermied specimens.

Safari Park Museum: Like museum of zoos, dead animals of safari parks can be transformed in their museum for stuffing. Dry and wet preserved animals are completely informative for everybody as well as animal-related personnels.

Locally established museum: Hot spot mediated areas can be an ideal place to establish local animal museums. Water or riverside area where local wild animals are available, possible to collect such dead animals for making them as taxidermied samples. People could come to visit such museums to make them animal lover.

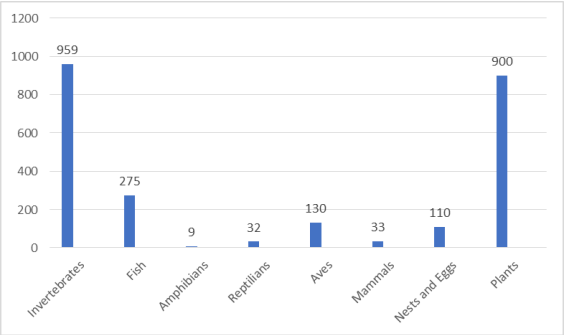

Fig. 3. Various specimens in Jamuna Bridge Regional Museum

Taxidermied animals in shopping malls: Shopping centres of a country could show ornamental taxidermied animals like peacock and spotted deer with antler. People like this and

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youngsters can get affection to protect animals. In addition, huge animal models are sold in these places. Dozens of taxidermy animals include turtles, snakes, lizards, frogs and fish are displayed at a pet show in Bangkok. There were also skeletons of rare reptiles and fish. Visitors had the chance to read about such creatures (Newsflare, 2018).

Animal specimens in scientific stores: Scientific stores always supply wet and dry preserved animals to educational institutes that carries a complete practical idea for the students at their initial stages.

Medical colleges: Since medical colleges are recognized to preserve human body parts but possible to appoint taxidermist there for displaying some endangered or rare animals to make awareness people for the conservation of animals.

CONCLUSIONS

All specimens in museum carry huge evidences of evolution. These proofs are important to know various animals and their actual habitat as well. These connecting links are associated with the researchers to overcome many hidden clues through evolutionary studies. Taxidermied animals with their actual habitat deals the behaviour of domestic and wild animals. A museum is the only real place to focus the beauty of particular type of nature with natural resources after the death of animals. In this sense, we should supply dead animals to the authority of the museums. Additionally, we could take part to do taxidermy as a profession and enhance the training from home and abroad.

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