

UNUSUAL KORI BUSTARD FOOD ITEM

On 20 June 1991 in Hwange National Park we saw an adult female Kori Bustard *Ardeotis kori* with a dead Three-streaked Tchagra *Tchagra australis* dangling from its bill. The bustard was identified as a female on size and was walking along the road near Makwa Pan. The tchagra appeared to be freshly dead and was fully feathered. We do not know whether the bustard actually killed the bird, or whether it was picked up from the side of the road. We feel the latter explanation the more likely, as throughout our stay in Hwange we noticed many tchagras flitting across the road and so road kills probably occur.

We note that Urban *et al.* (1986, *The birds of Africa*, Vol. 2) do not mention birds in the diet of the Kori Bustard. In past observations we have identified them eating snakes, termites, blister beetles, dung beetles, grasshoppers, donkey berries, acacia gum and grasses. Our observation of the bustard with the tchagra is further testimony to the highly omnivorous diet of these birds.

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