



Accession Number: - Z00020

Scientific Name: -*Tor tor*

Family: Cyprinidae

Common Name: Tor mahseer/ Tor barb

Physical Characteristics:

Tor tor has a robust, elongated body typical of large cyprinids. It is streamlined, enabling it to navigate fast-flowing waters. It is typically golden or reddish-brown with a silvery sheen. The dorsal fin is situated midway along the body and contains a strong spine. The caudal fin is forked and provides strong propulsion. The mouth is terminal, equipped with thick lips adapted for grazing on algae and detritus. *Tor tor* has two pairs of barbels, which are sensory organs that help it locate food. It can grow to impressive lengths, commonly reaching 50-100 centimetres (20-39 inches). Some individuals can exceed 1 meter (3.3 feet) in length.

Geographical Distribution:

It is native to river systems in South Asia, including India, Nepal, Bhutan, Pakistan, and Bangladesh. It is found in the Himalayan foothills and other regions with suitable riverine habitats.

Economic Importance:

It is multifaceted, impacting fisheries, aquaculture, recreational activities, ecotourism, local livelihoods, scientific research, and cultural traditions. Sustainable management and conservation of this species are crucial to maintaining its economic benefits while ensuring its long-term survival.

