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Photo above: Blackheaded Bunting *Emberiza melanocephala*, Bacha valley, Golan Heights, Israel, 4 May 2011. © *Lior Kislev*

Cover photo: Basra Reed Warbler Acrocephalus griseldis at nest, Central marshes (of the southern marshlands complex), Iraq, late April 2010. © Mudhafar Salim