

# PHOTO ESSAY: MIMICRY IN ACTION

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Fig. 1. Model (*Danaus chrysippus* ♂), left, and mimic (*Hypolimnas misippus* ♀), right, on the same flower, in New Delhi, India. © T. B. Larsen.

The Common Tiger, *Danaus chrysippus* (Linnaeus) (Nymphalidae: Danainae), is the model in many mimicry complexes, with the Diadem, *Hypolimnas misippus* (Linnaeus) (Nymphalidae), being the most widespread mimic. Both species are found throughout tropical Africa and Australasia. This is considered a classical case of Batesian mimicry, but there are some indications that the Danaine model is sometimes not unpalatable, while some populations of the Nymphaline mimic are themselves unpalatable. In some cases, then, the two approach Müllerian mimicry. This serves to underline that concepts of Batesian and Müllerian mimicry are not absolutes, but may be considered extremes of a palatability spectrum.