

**THE SECOND BOTANICAL NOMENCLATURE
COURSE
ORGANISED BY
THE BOTANICAL SURVEY OF INDIA AT PUNE**

From 9 February 2017 to 12 February 2017



Dr. Kanchi N. Gandhi

Course Director & Senior Nomenclature Registrar

Harvard University Herbaria, U.S.A



REPORT ON THE SECOND BOTANICAL NOMENCLATURE COURSE ORGANISED BY THE BOTANICAL SURVEY OF INDIA AT PUNE

The long awaited Second Botanical Nomenclature Course was organized by the Botanical Survey of India in the Multipurpose Hall of the Indian Institute of Science Education Research, Pune from 9 February 2017 to 12 February 2017. Prior to this course, the first Botanical Nomenclature Course was organized by the Botanical Survey of India and the ENVIS Centre on Floral Diversity of BSI at Kolkata from 11th to 13 January 2013. Dr. Kanchi N. Gandhi, Senior Nomenclatural Registrar, Harvard University Herbaria, U.S.A. served as the Course Director on both occasions. Electronic copies of the second course materials were provided by Dr. P. Lakshminarasimhan, Head of Office & Course Coordinator, BSI, WRC, to all registered candidates well in advance by email, and the electronic copies included the following: 1) A History of Botanical Nomenclature, 2) An essay on Lectotypification, 3) Gender of Generic names, particularly those ending in -ma, in the 'Names in Current use' List', 4) One hundred years of Plant Taxonomy, 5) Orthography of Names and Epithets: Latinization of Personal Names, 6) Orthography of Names and Epithets Stems and Compound words, 7) Orthography of Names and Epithets the i j and u v problem, 8) Some considerations on Latin Geographical epithets in Binomials, 9) Species epithets and Gender information, 10) Melbourne Code 2012, and 11) All proposals submitted to the 2017 International Botanical Congress to amend the Code.

There were 118 candidates present for the course, including one from abroad, Prof. Deepthi Yakandawala, University of Peradeniya, Peradeniya, Sri Lanka. A total of 83 candidates were from outside BSI, 10 scholars of BSI and 25 scientists, Botanical and Preservation Assistants from various offices of BSI.

The first day of the course started on 09th February 2017 at 9.00 a.m. with the registration of the candidates. An inaugural ceremony was observed from 10.00 a.m. to 11.00 a.m. with an invocation song taken from the hymns of Rigveda. Dr. A. Benniamin, Scientist 'D', BSI, WRC, Pune, did the anchoring. In his address to the gathering, Dr. Lakshminarasimhan welcomed the guests and honoured them with floral bouquets and shawls, and also as a token of honour, gave mementoes to the guests. His address was followed by short talks by Dr. Gandhi, and the Guests of Honour, Mr. M. K. Vasudeva Rao, Ex-Joint Director, BSI and Dr. S. Karthikeyan, Ex-Deputy Director, BSI. Dr. J. Jayanthi, Scientist 'D', BSI, WRC, Pune, gave the vote of thanks.

The lectures on plant nomenclature commenced with the topic "Genesis and Basics of Plant Nomenclature" by Mr. Vasudeva Rao, and this was followed by Dr. Gandhi's lectures on the 2011 Melbourne Code. His lectures reviewed the physical structure of the Melbourne Code and discussed the entire Code article by article, with special emphasis on validity of publication and solving nomenclatural

problems of the participants. Dr. Gandhi also discussed a few proposals submitted for the next International Botanical Congress scheduled to be held in Shenzhen, China from 23 to 29 July 2017. Dr. Gandhi covered the following topics at different sessions:

Review of the physical structure of the Melbourne Code, Preamble, Ranks and Names of Taxa, and Effective Publication (appropriate Articles 1 – 31 of the Melbourne Code), Validity of Names Part I (Articles 32 – 45 of the Melbourne Code), Validity of Names Part II, Authorship Citation (Articles 46-50 of the Melbourne Code), Rejection of Names (Articles 51-60 of the Melbourne Code), Anamorphic fungal and hybrid names and Proposals to be submitted to the 2017 Congress. At the end of each day, a one-hour session was scheduled strictly for discussion and interactive talks between the candidates and the Course Director.

On 12 February 2017 at 3.30 p.m. a valedictory function was held. Dr. Rashmi Dubey, Scientist 'D', BSI, WRC, Pune did the anchoring for the valedictory function. The Course Director Dr. Gandhi was felicitated. He was presented with a memento in appreciation by Dr. Lakshminarasimhan. Both gave their views about the course. Dr. V.S. Rao, Visiting Faculty, Indian Institute of Science Education and Research, Pune and former Director, Agharkar Research Institute, Pune, was the Chief Guest at the Valedictory Session, while Dr. Karthikeyan, Mr. Vasudeva Rao, and Prof. B.B. Chaugule (ex-Head of Department of Botany, Pune University; a participant in the course) were Guests of Honour. They all addressed the gathering and gave their feedback about the course. The course participants were given certificates. Each participant was provided with a feedback form to fill in as part of the course to evaluate the accomplishment of the course as well as to get thoughts to evaluate the course and suggest improvements for the future courses. Feedback from the randomly selected participants was allowed during the closing ceremony. In this connection, Dr. Khuraijam Jibankumar Singh, CSIR, NBRI, Lucknow; Dr. Suchandra Dutta, R.D. & S.H. National College, Bandra, Dr. G. Rajkumar, JNTBGRI, Kerala, Dr. Arti Garg, BSI, CRC, Allahabad, Dr. Pushpi Singh, BSI, CRC, Allahabad, Dr. C.S. Purohit, BSI, AZRC, Jodhpur, Dr. Deepthi Yakandawala, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka and Prof. H. K. Chourasia, T. M. Bhagalpur University, Bhagalpur, Bihar gave their opinion about the second Botanical Nomenclature Course.

A vote of thanks was proposed by Dr. J.S. Jalal, Scientist 'D', BSI, WRC, Pune. The closing ceremony was concluded with a song 'Pasayadan' which literally means 'offerings' composed by Sri Sant Dnyaneswar, a well-known 13th Century saint in Maharashtra and the National Anthem.



Inaugural function



**Dr. K.N. Gandhi welcomed by
Dr. Lakshminarasimhan during
Inaugural function**



Dr. K. N. Gandhi interacting with participants



Participants listening to Lecture



Valedictory function



Welcome address during Valedictory function by Dr. Lakshminarasimhan



Prof. B.B. Chaugule receiving Certificate during Valedictory function



Dr. Lakshminarasimhan presenting memento to Dr. K. N. Gandhi during Valedictory function



Group photo: participants of Botanical Nomenclature Course