

Write short notes on Binomial Nomenclature.

It is the process of giving names to the plants and animal. All languages have a common name for the important plant. The vernacular name of a common plant differ in various languages. The Banyan tree is known by different names in various parts of India but scientifically such names are unsatisfactory. A plant should be known by a single name through out the world. Kato and Theophrastus used such name in Greece. After some time Pliny and other Roman workers name many important plants in Latin such as Rose as Rosa, Pear as Pyrus, Mulberry as Morus and Socr. These were used for a long time, but there was a difficulty as to how to express the different species of each plant. At last 1735 Linnaeus described a system of giving two names to the plants and this system is known as **Binomial Nomenclature**. This method proved to be so convenient that it was universally accepted by the botanists.

According to this system every plant is given a scientific name which has two parts -

1. The name of the genus or generic name.
2. The specific name or species.

For example the name of the Banyan tree is *Ficus bengalensis*. So a scientific name consist of two Latin word. The generic name always start with capital letter and specific name start with small letter. According to international

code of nomenclature, there can be only one species in a genus, But that species can be given to another genus.

The generic name is always singular noun and it may be often a certain definite character like colour of the wood, name of the scientist, Mythological or beautiful to look at.

The specific name may be after a certain distinguish character of the plant but should be an adjective of the same gender like — colour of the flower, locality (first discovered), name of the person, habitat of the species, relation with the old name or nature of flowers.

Advantages of Binomial Nomenclature

1. We can easily recognize with the help of Binomial nomenclature. The heredity character, year and place of the collection of the plant from the present situation.
2. They are more independent from other.
3. They are more easier to study than the long description of plant and animal.
4. These name are more definite than the ordinary names.
5. The names are generally in Latin word so they are universal acceptance by people of all languages.
6. They indicate the generic relationship of the different plants.
7. They are usually descriptive and easily recognized.