

## A REPORT ON THE SECOND BOTANICAL NOMENCLATURE COURSE ORGANIZED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF BOTANY, BANGALORE UNIVERSITY, BENGALURU, INDIA

T.G. Umesh<sup>1</sup>, A.S. Annapura<sup>1</sup>, Abhirami Dilkalal<sup>1</sup>, and Kanchi N. Gandhi<sup>2\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Botany, Bangalore University, Bengaluru, Karnataka, INDIA

<sup>2</sup>Harvard University Herbaria, 22 Divinity Avenue, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02138, U.S.A.

\*Corresponding author: gandhi@oeb.harvard.edu

On 26th March 2026, the Department of Botany, Bangalore University organized its second botanical nomenclature course at Jnanabharathi Campus, Bengaluru, India. The course was attended by nearly 100 people from Bangalore University, its affiliated colleges and different Universities of Karnataka. Prof. T.G. Umesh was the organizer of the course; he was assisted by Dr. A.S. Annapura and Dr. Abhirami Dilkalal; Gandhi served as the mentor of the course.

Prior to the commencement of the course, an inaugural program, anchored by Dr. Deepthi was held; Umesh gave the welcome speech; Dr. S.M. Jayakara, the Vice Chancellor (= Head) of Bangalore University gave the inaugural address followed by remarks from Dr. M. Sanjappa, Director (Retd.), Botanical Survey of India and from Dr. B.H.M. Nijalingappa, Professor (Retd., Department of Botany), and Gandhi was the Guest of Honor. As a token of appreciation of his teaching the course, Gandhi was presented with a memento.

Gandhi began the course with the title “What is in a Name?” and elaborated on the basics of plant nomenclature. He trained the course participants in coining generic and family names, and compound specific epithets. He explained the concept of the usage of correct names (aka accepted names) and on legitimacy/illegitimacy, homonymy/isonymy, and typification of names. Dr. Malini Shetty, an alumna of the university and a faculty member of Surana College, Bengaluru, Dr. Annapura, a guest faculty in Umesh’s laboratory, and Mr. A. Parthiban (BSI-Deccan Circle) served as monitors of the course.

At the end of the course, a valedictory function was held. A few participants asked questions and gave comments on the course. Umesh and Sanjappa gave the concluding remarks. Gandhi thanked Umesh for organizing the course; Dr. Kamal Bawa (Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and the Environment (ATREE)), Bangalore, Dr. Hitesh M. Hathi (The Lakshmi Mittal and Family South Asia Institute at Harvard University); Dr. Jeannine Cavender Bares, Ms. Rebecca Chetham, Ms. Jeannette M. Everitt, and Ms. Wendy Heywood (Department of Organismic and Evolutionary Biology, Harvard University) for sponsoring Gandhi’s travel to India; Dr. R. Ganesan (ATREE), Dr. B.R. Kailash (ATREE), and former National College students Dr. Anupama Jayasimha, Ms. Sudha Jayaram, and Ms. Sabitha Sriprasad for the local hospitality; and his spouse Mrs. Kasthuri Gandhi and Dr. Jayashree Gandhi (MGH, Boston) for moral support.



FIG. 2. Dignitaries of the inauguration function: (Left-Right): Mr. A. Parthiban, Dr. L. Rajanna, Dr. Y. Thulajappa, Dr. D.H. Tejavathi, Dr. T.G. Umesh, Dr. Anupama Jayasimha, Kanchi Gandhi, Dr. B.R. Kailash, Dr. S.M. Jayakara (Vice-Chancellor), Dr. M. Sanjappa, Dr. B.H.M. Nijalingappa, Dr. Keshavamurthy, Dr. K.P. Sreenath, Dr. B.C. Nagaraja, and Dr. H.R. Raveesha.