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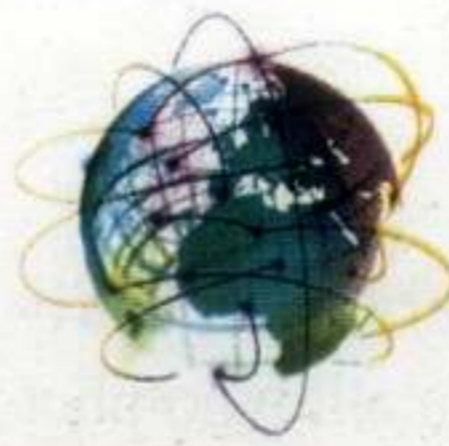
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www.flowersofindia.net

Flowers of India

Flowers of India is one year old!

Flowers of India site was started in May 2005. We have come a long way. Number of flowers has increased and we have learnt photography in the process.

Thanks to everybody who has contributed in terms of suggestions, photographs, etc.

- [Understanding botanical names](#)
- [Flower shapes](#)
- [Leaf shapes](#)

All of us like to look at those pretty flowers blooming all around, especially in winters. Remember that tree laden with yellow flowers, which hang like bunches of grapes? How often have you wondered: What's that flower? Nobody around you seems to know the answer. There was a time, when a lot of people knew about a lot of flowers. But for the city bred individual, flowers are only like pretty pictures. The pace of city life tends to alienate the individual from mother nature, which brought him into existence in the first place.

Flowers of India is aimed at having information about all the flowers found in India, with their common names, especially in Indian languages, pictures and habitat, easily available in one place. This is meant to be a place you can look at if you saw a flower and wanted to know more about it. Knowing more about flowers, and then going out and having a look at them, will be more like communing with nature.

The team will be away to the Valley of Flowers from 12-20 August. The site will not be updated during this time.

Flower of the Month
Snow Lotus (*Saussurea tridactyla*)
Photo: Navendu Page

Contribute Flower Pictures

Are you fond of photographing flowers? Have you taken pictures of some flowers which are not on this site yet? Do you want your pictures to be part of Flowers of India and yet

Search for a flower:
(You can try Indian languages names too!)

Alphabetical

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19

Australian Bottle Plant

Common name: Australian bottle plant, Physic nut, Buddha bell, plant
Botanical name: *Jatropha gossypifolia* Family: Euphorbiaceae

As its various common names suggest, Australian bottle plant has a bottle or belly shaped trunk with clusters of tiny, coral-like flowers on long stems and large, lobed leaves, all of which makes for a rare and unusual looking plant. It flowers throughout most of the year and is sun and drought tolerant. A native of tropical America, it is a very attractive plant. The leaves are large, lobed, petiole and somewhat succulent. The flowers grow on long stems and are a brilliant red color, and stand out from the foliage, despite being relatively small. The trunk forms a nice bell shaped caudex, and has strange thorny looking knobs. It is called Buddha

www.flowersofindia.net

is a wonderful site showcasing the flowers of India, maintained by amateur flower enthusiasts, Thingam Girija and Tabish Qureshi from Jamia Millia Islamia. They are the creators of this site and the site lists Girija as a "flower hunter" and Tabish as a "web designer".

The web site is full of stunning photographs of flowers, trees and cactii, most of which have been photographed by Girija and Tabish. The site is designed beautifully and lets you search for your favorite flowers by name and by color from a collection of over five hundred photographs! Moreover, each photograph lists the complete botanical name of the flower with a short informative description. What is most appealing to the lay flower enthusiast is the number of popular and "common names" of

flowers in vernacular Indian languages listed in this site. The creators of the site have gone out of their way find out as many Indian names – in Hindi, Tamil, Manipuri, Malayalam, Bengali, and Telugu, for instance - for many of the flowers. So, this is one site where you can find "Harsingar", "Nargis", "Mogra", "Malli", "Champa", "Kachnar", "Amaltas", "Cherei", "Rangan", "Rajnigandha" and many more.

The site also includes a section on "unidentified flowers" where the hosts invite you to share your knowledge and identify these unknown flowers. In fact, many of the flowers listed on the site have been identified by visitors to the site and friends of Tabish and Girija whom they acknowledge on the site. Interesting recent additions to this site are sections on "Understanding

Botanical Names", "Flower Shapes", and "Leaf Shapes" which are extremely illuminating for a lay flower enthusiast.

For physicist Tabish Qureshi, and student of psychology, Thingam Girija, the creation of this site is truly a labor of love. It is sure to delight the professional botanist with its quality and authenticity and turn the uninitiated visitor into a die hard flower enthusiast.

