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DEGREES

- **2009: Ph.D. (Botany), University of Madras** (*Centre for Floristic Research*, Department of Botany, Madras Christian College).
- **2000: M.Phil. (Botany), University of Madras** (*Centre for Floristic Research*, Department of Botany, Madras Christian College). 1st Class (74.66%).
- **1997: M.Sc. (Botany), The American College, Madurai** (degree awarded by Madurai Kamaraj University, Madurai). 1st Class (68.00%).
- **1995: B.Sc. (Botany), Saraswathi Narayan College, Madurai** (degree awarded by Madurai Kamaraj University, Madurai). 1st Class (71.43%).

THESIS/DISSERTATION

- **Ph.D.**, thesis (2009): *Drug Plants of Tamil Siddha Medical System: A Critical Study of Materia Medica Texts and Traditions*. 422p.
- **M.Phil.**, dissertation (2000): *A Study of Medicinal Plants unique to Siddha System*. 151p.
- **M.Sc.**, dissertation (1997): *An Effort to Trace Value Addition Pattern in Medicinal Plant Dependent Industries of Madurai*. 60p.

POSITIONS (ACADEMIC/RESEARCH/GoI PROJECTS)

● PRESENT

- **08/2018-Till date: Project Manager, ASEAN-INDIA Cooperation Project** [implemented by ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity (ACB), Manila and National Biodiversity Authority (NBA), Chennai].

● PAST

- **10/2015-08/2018: Project Officer, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Biodiversity Finance Initiative (BIOFIN)** under the GoI-United Nations Development Programme (UNDP-India) Project '*Strengthening Natural Resource Management*', National Biodiversity Authority, Chennai.
- **10/2012-09/2015: Expert Consultant, NBA under BD Rules 12(6)** [Medicinal Plants, Threatened Species and Biological Resources Normally Traded as Commodities], National Biodiversity Authority, Chennai.
- **09/2009-09/2012: Lecturer in Botany** (*Main: Plant Diversity & Plant Systematics*), Post Graduate and Research Department of Botany, The American College, Madurai 625 002. Tamil Nadu, India.

● AD-HOC RESEARCH POSITIONS

- **10/2006-12/2006: Senior Research Fellow**, Department of Botany, Madras Christian College [Supported by *Foundation for Revitalization of Local Health Traditions* (FRLHT), Bangalore].
- **11/2005-01/2006: Senior Research Fellow**, *Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and Environment* (ATREE), Bangalore.
- **10/1999-01/2001: Junior Research Fellow**, *Forest Utilization Office (FUO)*, State Forest Department, Tamil Nadu, Chennai.

- [01/1999-08/1999: Junior Research Fellow](#), Department of Botany, Madras Christian College [Supported by *Foundation for Revitalization of Local Health Traditions* (FRLHT), Bangalore].

Brief of Activities:

- I am a capable botanist with Core competence in the area in Plant Taxonomy, Floristics, Medicinal Plants, Ethnobotany, Ethno-ecology and related fields. I am interested in a wide variety of questions, both theoretical and empirical in areas of biodiversity conservation. In pursuit of these questions, I have done extensive field work in the biodiversity rich Eastern and Western Ghat hill ranges. I am familiar with the Flora of Southern India in general and Tamil Nadu in particular that has an estimated 5674 species of Angiosperms.
- As an M.Sc., student (1995-97), I volunteered with the Western Ghats Biodiversity Network (WGBN) that carried out pioneering experiments with the People's Biodiversity Register (PBR) of Paliyan and Valayan tribes in Madurai District coordinated by CES, IISc. My M.Sc. dissertation was an effort to trace the value addition pattern in Medicinal Plant dependent industries of Madurai, Tamil Nadu.
- I have handled two funded projects for Foundation for Revitalization of Local Health Traditions, Bangalore in the area of Medicinal Plants trade with one of the project being supported by the National Medicinal Plants Board (NMPB), New Delhi.
- I have held Junior Research Fellow position (1999-2001) at the Forest Utilization Office (FUO) of Tamil Nadu Forest Department, where I worked on Non-Timber Forest Produce (NTFP) Markets in the state of Tamil Nadu with emphasis on Medicinal Plants, Tan and Dye yielding plants and trade of Bamboo and Rattan. I have also studied Medicinal Plants under large scale commercial cultivation in the State of Tamil Nadu (2000-2001). I was a Senior Research Fellow (2006) at ATREE, Bangalore, where I worked on the conservation and livelihood programme at Kalakkad- Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve (KMTR) for a brief period.
- I have expertise in the area of Medicinal Plants of Siddha System of Medicine. This is borne by the voluminous M.Phil (1997-2000) and Ph.D (2001-2009) dissertations (573 pages combined) I wrote on the topic, covering areas such as enumeration, botanical identification, folk classification and biodiversity analysis of Siddha Medicinal Plants.
- I am recognized as an Expert in the area of Medicinal Plants by the Department of Environment, Government of Tamil Nadu and by the Botanical Survey of India (BSI) as an Expert Outside BSI [http://bsienviis.nic.in/Content/BSI_3925.aspx#%20Medicinal%20Plants].
- Since 2012, I have been working at the National Biodiversity Authority (NBA), Chennai, a Statutory Body under the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, GoI, in various capacities [Expert Consultant under BD Rule 12(6), Project Officer, GoI-UNDP Biodiversity Finance Initiative and now Project Manager, ASEAN-India Cooperation Project], implementing various provisions of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002 and the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD).
- As a Project Officer (2015-18) in GoI-UNDP Project 'Biodiversity Finance Initiative'(BIOFIN) based at NBA, I have dealt with the subject of Biodiversity Financial Needs Assessment (FNA) that estimates the finances required to deliver National Biodiversity Targets and Plans, usually described in the NBSAPs [<https://www.biodiversityfinance.net/index.php/knowledge-product/india-financial-needs-assessment-fna-report>].
- Currently, I am managing the ASEAN-India Cooperation Project entitled "Capacity Building towards implementing the Nagoya Protocol on ABS, the City Biodiversity Index and Strategic Plan on Biodiversity" implemented by ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity, Manila and National Biodiversity Authority, Chennai.