



International Conference on Fungal Biology and Plant-Microbe Interactions 2024 **ICFBPMI-2024**



February 16-18, 2024 (*First Circular*)



Prof. RN Kharwar

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Joint Org. Secretary

Dr. LS Songachan & Dr. Abhishek K Dwivedy

Treasurers

Organized by

**Centre of Advanced Study in Botany
Institute of Science
Banaras Hindu University
Varanasi-221005, India**

ICFBPMI-2024

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Emeritus & Distinguished Prof.

Prof. JS Singh
Prof. PK Singh
Prof. LC Rai
Prof. AK Rai
Prof. SB Agarwal

JC Bose fellow
Prof. M Agarwal

CONFERENCE BACKGROUND

Fungi are of major significance as mutualistic symbionts and parasites of plants, so their study is an important part of plant sciences and plant pathology. Being an important component of microbial community, fungi are

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increasingly being considered for their roles in microbiology, molecular biology, ecology, biotechnology, biochemistry, genetics, nanobiotechnology and related sciences. The role of yeast, filamentous fungi including fungal endophytes is now well elucidated in brewing, food preparation and processing, biodeterioration, fermentation and biofuel production etc.

Degradation of soil, forests, air, water quality and other natural resources is posing serious threat for the functioning of ecosystem. Careful planning is needed to maintain the balance of microorganisms in ecosystems using novel strategies and technologies to increase the food productivity and to maintain the sustainability, without destroying the natural environment. The plant disease management technologies are greatly influenced by environmental pollution, deleterious effects of chemicals on non-target organisms, resurgence of pesticide resistance among pathogens, outbreak of secondary pathogens. There is urgent call for increased crop production to cater the need of growing/ hungry population. In order to reconcile with the need of intensive agriculture with maintenance of the ecosystem, pest control strategies employed in the future must be environmentally compatible and selective to target pests. Many exciting eco-friendly frontier areas exist for control of plant diseases. Search for natural antagonistic microbes or genetic manipulation of a target specific microbe, strategies for selection, collection, manipulation, handling, mechanism and commercial evaluation of such microorganisms is the need of time. Advances in biotechnology have provided alternative pest control strategies that are based on natural biological processes. Tissue culture and genetic engineering are important powerful tools in biotechnology that have been extensively used, either by taking advantage of naturally occurring defense mechanisms which confer disease resistance or avoidance or by modifying plant genome to develop pest resistance. Molecular techniques have opened exciting opportunities in plant protection with prolonged benefit in sustainable agriculture with high degree of safety. Such strategies will be a part of second green revolution. The conference, therefore, offers an opportunity to microbiologist, plant pathologists, entomologists, biochemists, molecular biologists, scientists of biotechnological companies and government officers to share their views at a common platform to deliberate on various issues which will be the focus of attention for future research.

CONFERENCE THEMES

- Mycosystematics and Evolution
- Fungal Ecology and Diversity
- Fungal Endophytes and Plant's Health
- Sustainable Agriculture and Microbial Solutions
- Plant-Microbes Interaction
- Plant Disease Management
- Fungal Genomics and Proteomics
- Fungal Biotechnology
- Microbial Bioprospecting
- Food and Medical Microbiology

VARANASI

Varanasi, the eternal city, is one of the most important pilgrimage sites in India and also a place for tourist attraction. Situated at the bank of sacred river Ganga, Varanasi has been a centre of learning for Indian culture, literature, music, science, as well as technology. Lord Buddha first preached his sermons of enlightenment at Sarnath situated only at a distance of 15 km from Varanasi.

The city is a symbol of Hindu renaissance and has a special role in the development of Hindi language as Tulsī Das, wrote the Hindi version of Ramayana known as Ramcharitmanas in this city. This city also witnesses the vibrant scholarships of two great saints, Kabir and Ravidas.

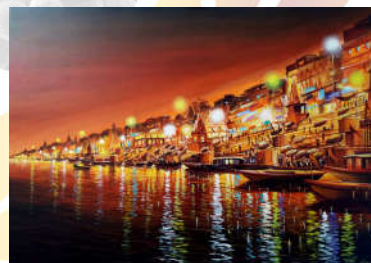
Varanasi is also known as Kashi and Banaras, but its present name is a restoration of an ancient name meaning the city between two rivers- Varuna and Assi. For the pious Hindus, the city has always been a special place.

BANARAS HINDU UNIVERSITY (BHU)



Mahamana Pandit Madan Mohan Malviya founded BHU in 1916 at the bank of the holy river Ganga. This national institute epitomizes a synthesis of ancient wisdom and modern scientific temper. Spread over 5000 acres (Main campus and south campus, Barkachha), BHU is among the world's largest universities, comprising 6 institutes, 14 faculties, 140 departments, 4 centres of advanced studies, 4 interdisciplinary schools with nearly 2000 faculty members. Subjects taught range from Vedanta to Computer Science on one hand and Botany to Cardiology on the other hand.

The university has more than 38,000 students on rolls, over 75 hostels, 927 bed hospital, trauma center, dairy farm, flying club, swimming pool, central and departmental libraries, a huge Shiva temple and an exclusive undergraduate college for girls. BHU is a central university with Institute of Eminence status and is fully supported by the Government of India.



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THE BOTANY DEPARTMENT

The department was established in 1916 and became the second oldest department in the country to start the post-graduate teaching in Botany since 1919. Among the noteworthy botanists who have been associated with the department are: Birbal Sahni (FRS), Y Bhardwaj (FNA), R Misra (FNA), RN Singh and RY Roy. The Department is internationally known for its contribution in several areas of Botany such as Ecology, Phycology, Mycology and Plant Pathology. The department has excellent teaching programs with modern laboratory facilities.

In recognition to its outstanding contribution, the department was chosen under Special Assistance Programme of UGC in 1972, Centre of Advanced Study (CAS) in 1980 and recognized as "Centre of Excellence" in 1984 under COSIST programme. At present the Department has 15 Professors, 02 Associate Professors, 15 Assistant Professors and, 06 Emeritus/Distinguished/JC Bose Professors. The total strength of students in undergraduate is about 800 and 140 at post-graduate level, besides more than 159 PhD students and 10 post-docs.

WEATHER AT VARANASI DURING CONFERENCE

Weather in February will be pleasant and temperature may vary during the day between 15 to 30 °C and 10-20 °C during the night. Light woolen cloths are suggested.

ACCESS TO VARANASI

Varanasi is well connected by air and train. The airport at Babatpur meant for domestic and international flight which is located approximately 35 Km from BHU. The main train destination is Varanasi Cantt (BSB) which is connected with almost all the major cities of India and its distance is only 8 Km from BHU.

CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION AND ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

Conference is open to all involved in R&D, teaching, consultancy, planning etc., in area of symposium themes. Interested participants are invited to contribute their papers for oral/or poster presentation. Abstracts should be prepared (about 250 words) using MS-Words and sent to the Organizing Secretary, icfbpmi2024@gmail.com as file attachment before **5th January, 2024**. The name of presenting author should be asterisked or underlined. Those who will be invited for delivering Keynotes, and special lectures should submit 1-2page comprehensive summary of their lecture.

AWARDS

Awards to be presented during the conference are:

- Young Scientist award for participants below the age of 35.
- Women Scientist award
- Best poster presentation award in each focal theme (Poster size = 0.75 m X 1.0 m).

The applicants for the award will be screened by a committee constituted by the organizing committee.

MEMORIAL LECTURE

A special lecture to honor the contribution of **Dr. RY Roy** will be organized.

LANGUAGE

English will be the official language of the conference

SOUVENIR

The abstracts of the conference will be published in form of souvenir.

ACCOMMODATION

Different types of accommodation from star hotels to student's hostel will be available. The prices for hotels/guest house/faculty house/student hostels are available in the accommodation form.

SOCIAL PROGRAMME

A cultural programme will be organized during conference.

IMPORTANT DATES

- January 5, 2024:** Deadline for registration and abstract submission.
- January 30, 2024:** Registration and abstract submission with late fee (For Indian ₹ 700/- and \$ 55 for international participant)



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REGISTRATION FORM

Name:.....
 Designation:.....
 Institution:.....
 Mailing Address:.....
 Mobile:..... Telephone:.....
 E-mail:.....
 Type of presentation: **Invited/Oral/Poster**
 Title of the presentation:.....
 Theme area/Session:.....

Participation in award (Tick (✓) the appropriate one)

Young Scientist award Women Scientist award Best poster presentation award

REGISTRATION FEE

- | | | | |
|----------------------------|----------|---------------------------------|------------|
| ■ Indian Participant: | ₹ 4000/- | ■ International Participant: | US \$ 300 |
| ■ Research Scholar: | ₹ 3000/- | ■ SAARC Countries Participants: | US \$ 250 |
| ■ PG Students without kit: | ₹ 1000/- | ■ Corporate | ₹10000/- |
| ■ Accompanying Person: | ₹ 1000/- | ■ Stall/exhibition | ₹100,000/- |

Payment Details:
 Cheque/Draft No:..... Date of issue:.....
 Amount:..... Issuing Bank & branch:.....

Demand Drafts/or multicity Cheques should be made in favour of **Treasurer, ICFBPMI-2024** payable at **SBI, BHU, Varanasi**. Participants can also pay registration fees and other charges by direct bank transfer as per following details. **Registration and accommodation form can be xeroxed.**

Bank	: State Bank of India	Branch	: BHU, Varanasi
Branch code	: 00211	MICR Code	: 221002003
A/c No	: 42403473412	IFSC Code	: SBIN0000211

Date:
Place:

Signature of Delegate

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The complete form may be mailed/ faxed to:

Prof. R. N. Kharwar
 Convener

Centre of Advanced Study in Botany
 Banaras Hindu University
 Varanasi-221005, India

Phone: 91-9415290001 Fax: 91-542-2368174

Email: icfbpmi2024@gmail.com
rnkharwarbot@bhu.ac.in



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ACCOMODATION FORM

Name:.....
 Designation:.....
 Mailing Address:.....
 Mobile:..... Telephone:.....
 E-mail:.....
 Number of person accompanying:.....
 Accommodation required: Yes No
 If Yes: Single Double
 Type of Accommodation: Student hostel Guest House
 Hotel 3 star Hotel 5 star

ACCOMODATION FEE†

Student hostel: ₹ 300/- Per day Bhatnagar Hall: ₹ 1000/- Per day
 Guest house: Faculty Exchange ₹ 1200/- Per day Hotel 3 star : ₹ 6000/- Per day
 Guest house: LD Guest House ₹ 2500/- Per day Hotel 5 star : ₹ 8000/- Per day
 University Guest House ₹ 1500/- Per day

† First come first basis. Make your booking confirmed at least seven days before the start of the conference.

TRAVEL PLAN

Mode of Travel	ARRIVAL			DEPARTURE		
	Flight/Train No	Time	Place	Flight/Train No	Time	Place
Air						
Train						
Bus						

Payment Details:

Cheque/Draft No:..... Date of issue:.....
 Amount:..... Issuing Bank & branch:.....

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Banaras Hindu University

Varanasi-221005, India

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