

INH: THE Museum Context

- B. Venugopal,
 - Director, NMNH
 - (National Museum of Natural History, New Delhi)
 - Also [Executive Board Member, ICOM-NATHIST]
 - (International Council of Museum's
 - Committee for Museums and Collections of Natural History)
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- 23-03-2012



UNESCO programmes in IH

- Proclamation of Masterpieces of the Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity
- Living Human Treasures
- Endangered Languages
- Traditional Music of the World
- **Convention for the Safeguarding of the ICH (17th Sept., 2003)**

Intangible Heritage (IH)

- IH “comprises the living expressions and traditions that communities, groups and individuals in every part of the world receive from their ancestors and pass on to their descendants” (UNESCO)



What is ICH?

- **Intangible Cultural Heritage** (ICH) is defined as the practices, representations, expressions, knowledge, skills—as well as instruments, objects, artifacts and cultural spaces associated therewith—that communities, groups and in some cases individuals recognize as part of their cultural heritage.

This cultural heritage, transmitted from generation to generation, is constantly recreated by communities and groups in response to their environment, their interaction with nature and their history, and provides them with a sense of identity and continuity thus promoting respect for cultural diversity and human creativity

(Article 2.1, Definitions, “Convention on the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage”)

ICH Domains

- **1. Oral traditions and Expressions**
- **2. Performing arts**
-
- **3. Social practices, Rituals and Festive Events**
- **4. Knowledge and Practices concerning Nature and the Universe**
- **5. Traditional Craftsmanship**

Knowledge and practices concerning nature and the universe



These include

knowledge, know-how, skills, practices & representations developed & perpetuated by communities in interaction with their natural environment.

These are expressed through

language, oral traditions, attachment to a place, memories, spirituality, & worldview, and they are displayed in a broad complex of values & beliefs, ceremonies, healing practices, social practices or institutions, & social organization.

These may also be called

traditional ecological wisdom, indigenous knowledge, ethno biology, ethno-botany, ethno-zoology, traditional healing systems & pharmacopoeia, rituals, folklore, food ways, beliefs, esoteric sciences, initiatory rites, divinations, cosmologies, cosmogonies, shamanism, possession rites, social organizations, festivals, languages, as well as visual arts.

INH domains

- **1. Oral traditions and Expressions on nature and environment**
- **2. Performing Arts on themes related to nature and environment**
- **3. Social practices, Rituals and Festive events on themes related to nature and environment**
- **4. Knowledge and Practice concerning nature and environment**
- **5. Traditional Craftsmanship on themes related to nature and environment**

Definition of Museums:

Materialistic (**tangible**) to knowledge system (intangible)

- “A Museum is a non-profit making permanent institution in the service of society and its development, and open to the public, which acquires, conserves, researches, communicates and exhibits, for the purposes of study, education and enjoyment, material evidence of people and their environment.”
- [ICOM Statutes, adopted by the 16th General Assembly (The Hague, Netherlands, 5th Sept. **1989**)]
- “A Museum is a non-profit, permanent institution in the service of society and its development, open to the public, which acquires, conserves, researches, communicates and exhibits the tangible and intangible heritage of humanity and its environment for the purposes of education, study and enjoyment.”
- [ICOM Statutes, adopted by the 22nd General Assembly (Vienna 24 August **2007**)]



ICOM Efforts on IH

1. **Shanghai Charter 2002**
(7th Asia Pacific Regional Assembly of the ICOM, 24 October 2002)
2. **Seoul Declaration 2004**
(ICOM General Assembly, Seoul, 8th October 2004)
3. **Calicut Charter on IH and Museums 2007**
(Conference on INH and Museums, 20 April 2007 in Calicut; and reported to ICOM South Asia Workshop on TK, INH and Museums, Feb. 2008 in Hyderabad)

Shanghai Charter



- *We, the coalition of participants, at the 7th Asia Pacific Regional Assembly of the International Council of Museums convened between **20-24 October 2002** in Shanghai, affirming the significance of creativity, adaptability and the distinctiveness of peoples, places and communities as the framework in which the voices, values, traditions, languages, oral history, folk life and so on are recognised and promoted in all museological and heritage practices, recommend that museums as facilitators of constructive partnerships in the safeguarding of this heritage of humanity:*
- 1. Affirm the rich cultural diversity of the Asia Pacific, including the concerns of race, ethnicity, colour, gender, age, class, faith, language, sexual orientation and regional identities,
 2. .Establish interdisciplinary and cross sectorial approaches that bring together movable and immovable, tangible and intangible, natural and cultural heritage
 3. Address the challenges and threats posed by globalisation and develop approaches to maximise on the opportunities provided by cultural, technological and economic globalisation
 4. Develop documentation tools and standards in establishing holistic museum and heritage practices
 5. Initiate pilot projects that demonstrate methodologies for making inventories of intangible heritage resources through community participation
 6. Ensure efforts towards the conservation, presentation and interpretation of intangible heritage in an authentic manner that is consistent with the local character
 7. Develop public programs and visitor management strategies that comply with the laws, conventions and regulations dealing with the conservation of heritage resources of significance, and respect for the rules and protocols of the community groups as custodians of intangible heritage
 8. Encourage cross cultural understanding and meaningful exchanges for the promotion of peace and harmonious societies
 9. Make use of all media formats such as print, audio visuals, film and video, digital and telecommunication technologies
 10. Assess and address training needs and capacity building for integration of tangible and intangible heritage management
 11. Offer inclusive interpretation in appropriate languages where possible employing local custodians of intangible heritage resources
 12. Promote the active participation of public and private sectors to maximise the use of local expertise, resources and opportunities and diversify the resource base for the effective safeguarding of all heritage resources
 13. Establish criteria and methodologies for the integration of tangible and intangible heritage in museums and other heritage institutions
 14. Support UNESCO's efforts for the safeguarding and promotion of intangible heritage through its various programs and stress the importance of the inputs of professional bodies in the preparation of an international convention for safeguarding intangible cultural heritage.
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- Signed by Professor Zhang Wenbin, President, ICOM China , Dr. Jacques Perot, President ICOM, Professor Amareswar Galla, President ICOM Asia Pacific

Seoul Declaration

"Seoul Declaration of ICOM on the Intangible Heritage"

Resolution no. 1

Considering the undeniable importance of intangible heritage and its role in the preservation of cultural diversity, the 21st General Assembly of ICOM, held in Seoul on 8 October 2004

1. Endorses the 2003 UNESCO Convention on the Protection of Intangible Cultural Heritage;
2. Urges all governments to ratify this convention;
3. Encourages all countries, and especially developing countries where there is a strong oral tradition, to establish an Intangible Heritage Promotion Fund;
4. Invites all relevant museums involved in the collection, preservation and promotion of the intangible heritage to give particular attention to the conservation of all perishable records, notably electronic and documentary heritage resources;
5. Urges national and local authorities to adopt and effectively implement appropriate local laws and regulations for the protection of intangible heritage;
6. Recommends that museums give particular attention and resist any attempt to misuse intangible heritage resources and particularly their commercialisation without benefits to the primary custodians;
7. Urges regional Organisations, National Committees and other ICOM bodies to work closely with local agencies in the development and the implementation of such legal instruments and in the necessary training of staff responsible for effective implementation;
8. Recommends that all training programmes for museum professionals stress the importance of intangible heritage and include the understanding of intangible heritage as a requirement for qualification;
9. Recommends that the Executive Council, working with the International Committee for the Training of Personnel (ICTOP), introduce the necessary adjustments as soon as possible into the ICOM Curricula Guidelines for Museum Professional Development (1971, latest revision 1999);
10. Decides that this Resolution shall henceforth be known as the **"Seoul Declaration of ICOM on the Intangible Heritage"**.

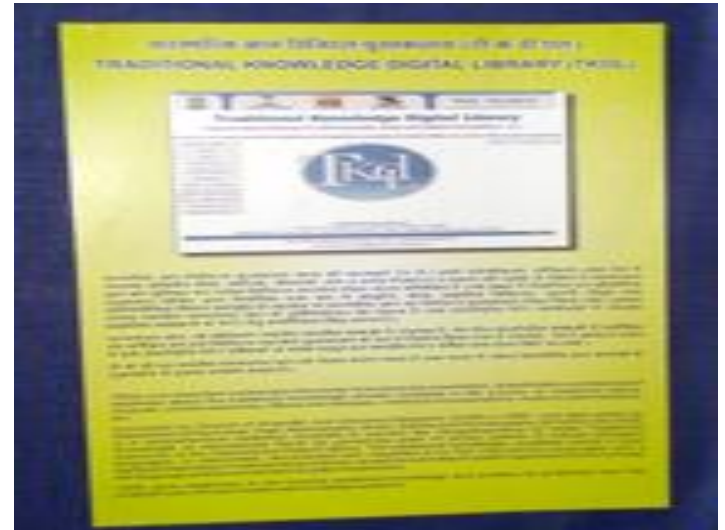
Calicut Charter on INH



- **CALCIUT CHARTER**
- The participants of the National Conference on Intangible Natural Heritage and Museums organized by the Regional Museum of Natural History Mysore (Ministry of Environment & Forests, Government of India) in collaboration with the Ecotourism Directorate (Government of Kerala) during **18-20 April 2007** in Calicut (India) recommend the following which may be called as the “**Calicut Charter on Intangible Heritage and Museums**”:
- Support the concerns of the ICOM (International Council of Museums) that Natural heritage and Cultural heritage are two equally important component parts of Intangible Heritage.
- Recommend adopting the **Indian Model on intangible Heritage**, which was originally recommended in the ICOM-ASPAC workshop on “Intangible Heritage, Museums and Globalization”, held in Shanghai, China in October 2002. This Indian model on Intangible Heritage involves benefit sharing to the original stakeholders, the Kani tribes in Kerala.
- **Recommend considering the Hortus Malabaricus (compiled by Van Rhee de the Dutch Governor of Malabar in Cochin and published from Netherlands during 1678-1693) as the earliest Asian example of systematic, scientific documentation of the plant medicinal heritage through the method of oral transmission of traditional knowledge prevalent at that time in Malabar, belonging to the present Kerala State.**
- Recommend that the People’s Biodiversity Registers be considered as examples of community involvement in the documentation of intangible natural heritage,
- Recommend to the professional organizations in Museology such as MAI (Museums Association of India), ICOM, INC-ICOM (Indian National Committee of ICOM) to give wide publicity to the Calicut Charter,
- Recommend to the various Ministries of the Government of India (such as the Ministry of Forests & Environment, and the Ministry of Culture) to consider the **Calicut Charter** in all discussions on Intangible Heritage.
- Signed on behalf of the participants of the Conference:
- Dr B. Venugopal, Coordinator & Scientist-in-Charge, Regional Museum of Natural History, Mysore

Indian initiatives in INH

- **MoEF: NBA: PBR**
- **CSIR: TKDL**
- **TBGRI: Kani**
- **NMNH:**



National Museum of Natural History



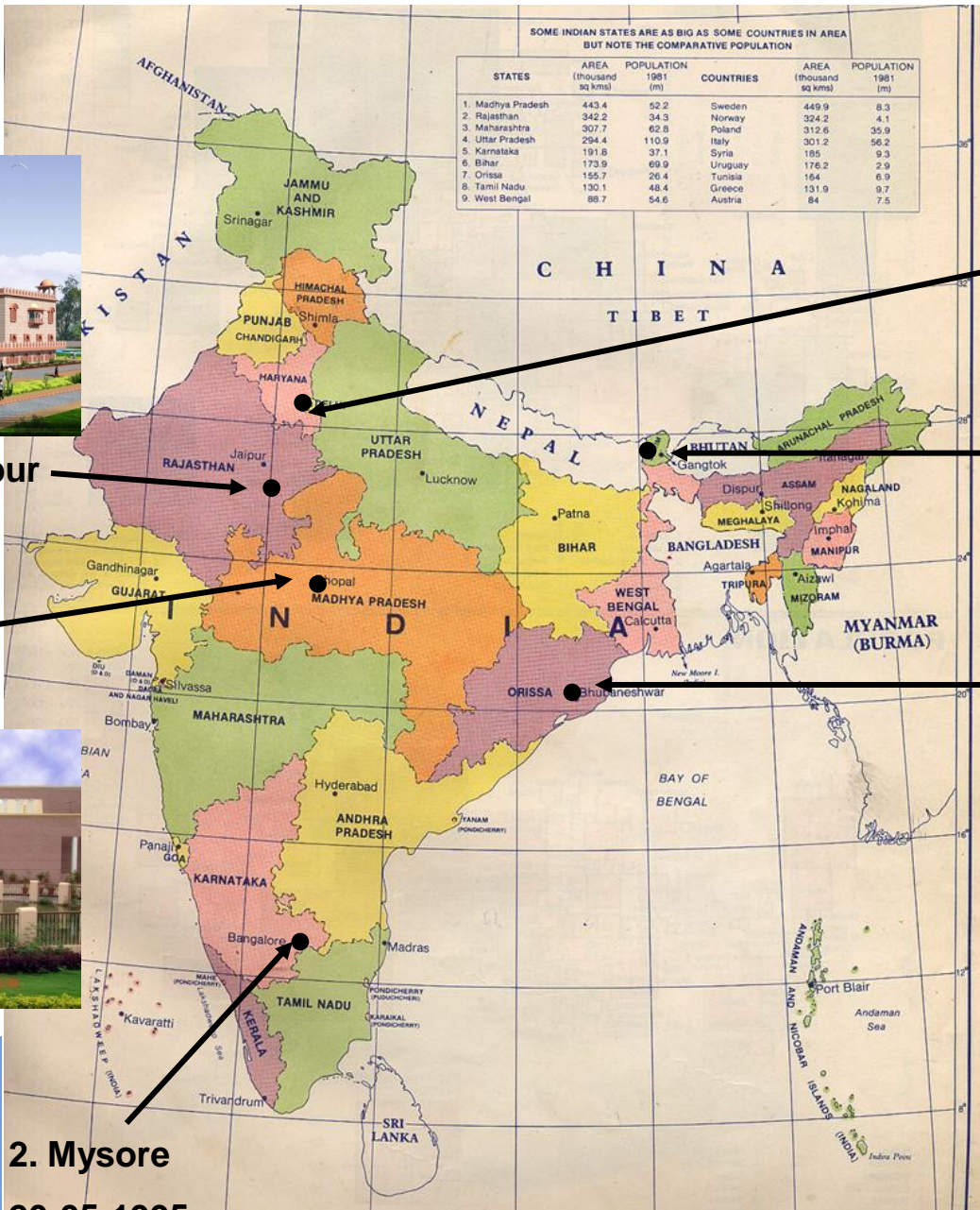
1. NMNH HQ
(New Delhi) 05-06-1978

5. Sawai Madhopur
23-12-2007

3. Bhopal
29-09-1997



2. Mysore
20-05-1995



6. Gangtok
(Forthcoming)

4. Bhubaneswar
10-08-2004



NMNH initiatives in INH

- **Hortus Malabaricus:** interpretation
- **Seminars, Workshops:** organisation
- **Participation in ICOM:** participation
- **Museum Gallery**
- **Exhibitions**
- **Charters**
- **Indian Model on IH**
- **Book chapter**



NMNH Initiatives in INH

1	2002	Workshop on ‘Hornbill and Tribal Empowerment’ for Niyashi tribes	Itanagar, Arunachal Pradesh
2	2002 October	7 th Regional Assembly of the Asia Pacific Organisation of the ICOM on “Museums, Intangible Heritage and Globalisation”.	Shanghai (China)
3	2002 October	Proposed an Indian model on IH based on the ABS (Access Benefit Sharing) example of Kani tribes.	Shanghai (China)
4	2007 18-20 Apr	National Conference on “Museums and Intangible Natural Heritage”	Calicut
5	2007	Released the “Calicut Charter on Intangible Heritage and Museums	
6	2008 Feb	Represented India in the ICOM South Asia Workshop on “TK, INH and Museums”	Hyderabad
7	2008 March	National Workshop on ‘INH and Hortus Malabaricus’	Kochi
8	2009 Jan	Museum Gallery, “Such Treasure and Rich Merchandize: Early Plant Heritage of India”	Mysore
9	2010 Nov	National Meeting on “DR. E.K. Janaki Ammal	Thalasseri
10	2011 June	“Festival of Museums and Intangible Natural Heritage”	Kalady
11	2011 Sept 28	National Seminar on ‘Intangible Natural Heritage and Traditional Knowledge on Biodiversity’	Jodhpur
12	2012	Chapter to the first book on INH, “Intangible Natural Heritage: New Perspectives on Natural Objects”	Routledge
13	2012 March	Workshop on INH	New Delhi
14	2012 March	Exhibition on INH	New Delhi
15	2012 Oct	International Conference on INH, 10-12 OCT 2012	Hyderabad

Interpretation of HM

Calicut Conference



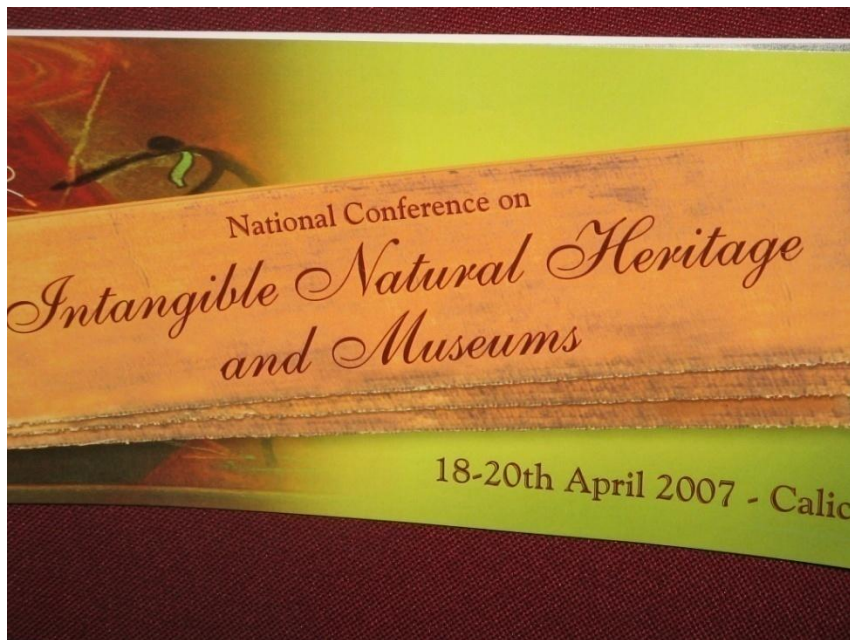
Kochi Workshop



Museum Gallery



Calicut Conference on INH and Museums: 2007



Inauguration of the Calicut Conference by Dr. Kannaiyan, Chairman, National Biodiversity Authority, Chennai, along with Dr B Venugopal (RMNH Mysore), Dr Ram Boojh (UNESCO) and Dr. P. Baas (Netherlands)

Kochi Workshop on Hortus Malabaricus: 2008



Museum Exhibition/ Gallery on Hortus Malabaricus: 2009



Dr. Annamma Spudich in front of the Exhibit at NCBS. This Exhibition was later re-structured at RMNH Mysore as a new Gallery on "Early Plant Heritage of India"



Hortus Malabaricus & Jardin de Lorixa



Hortus Malabaricus



Hortus Malabaricus

- Hortus Malabaricus is a unique publication, in 12 volumes, published from Netherlands during 1678-1693. It is considered to be the most comprehensive printed work on the natural wealth of Asia and of the tropics. The publication documents the traditional knowledge (TK) about the plants of Malabar (Kerala) with multiple uses as well as with medicinal properties. It is considered as the first systematic and scientific documentation of Intangible Natural Heritage (INH) in Asia, and which has contributed substantially to the development of the modern scientific study of plants (botany).
- The TK about the plant medicinal uses prevalent in the 17th century in Malabar are described in the book *Hortus Malabaricus* by employing various systematic and scientific methods of documentation including oral narration. No such records from Asia are available previous to this documentation.



Hortus Malabaricus

‘Odatha’
is considered as the
local
vernacular
version of
‘Hortus’



“David Hall”
House for Dutch
Governors



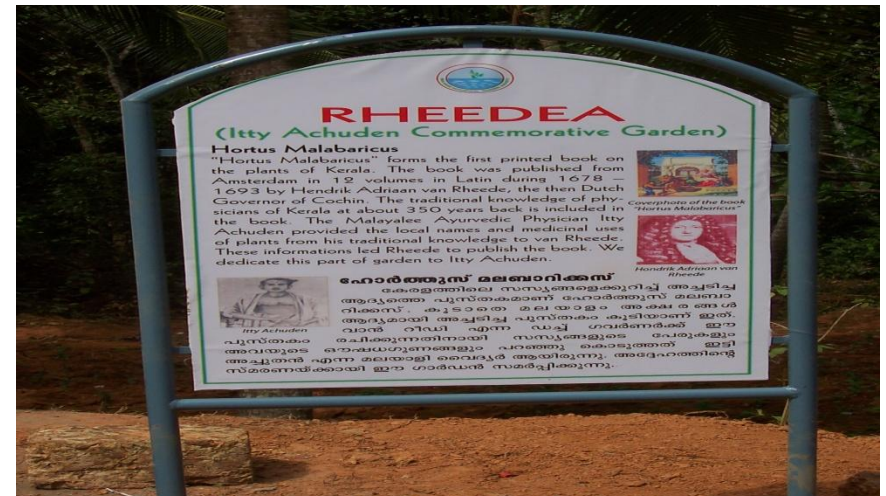
Hortus Malabaricus

Itty Achuthan's House in Cherthalai

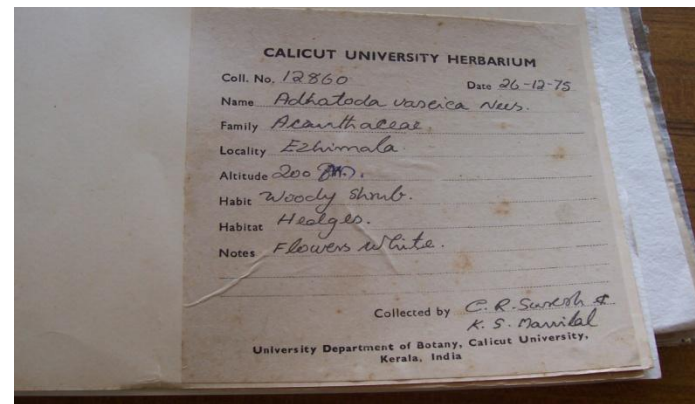
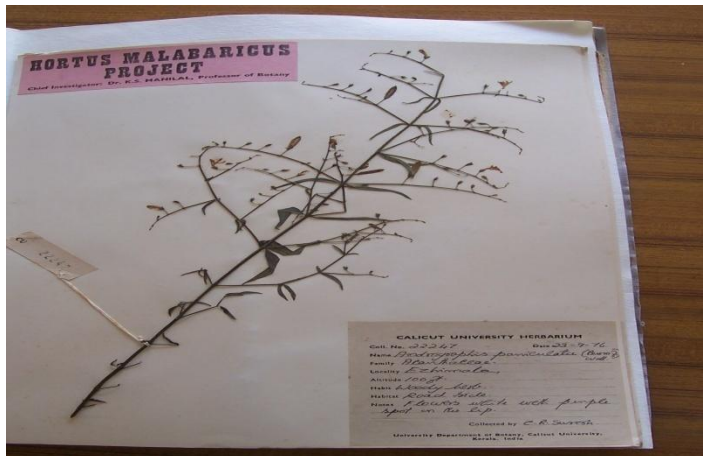
- 'Vilakku thara' at the house believed to be that of Itty Achuden
- (Cherthalai)



HM in Malabar Botanical Garden, Calicut



HM: Herbaria by Manilal & Suresh in Dept. of Botany, University of Calicut



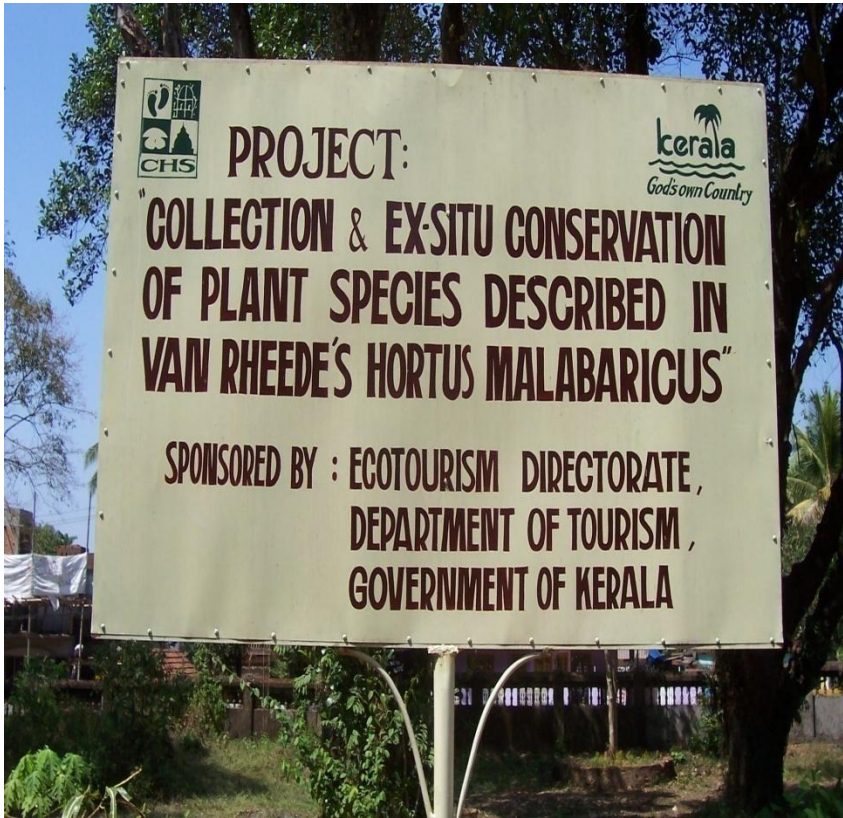
HM in Museum of Kerala History, Edappally, Kochi



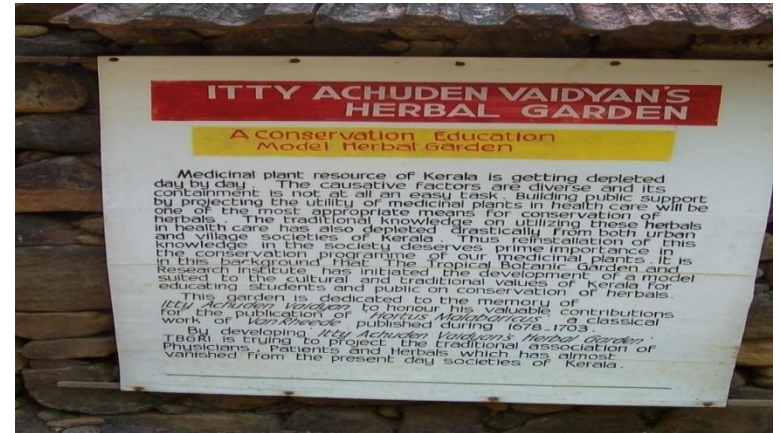
HM in Cochin Carnival



HM in CHS, Thripunithura, Kochi

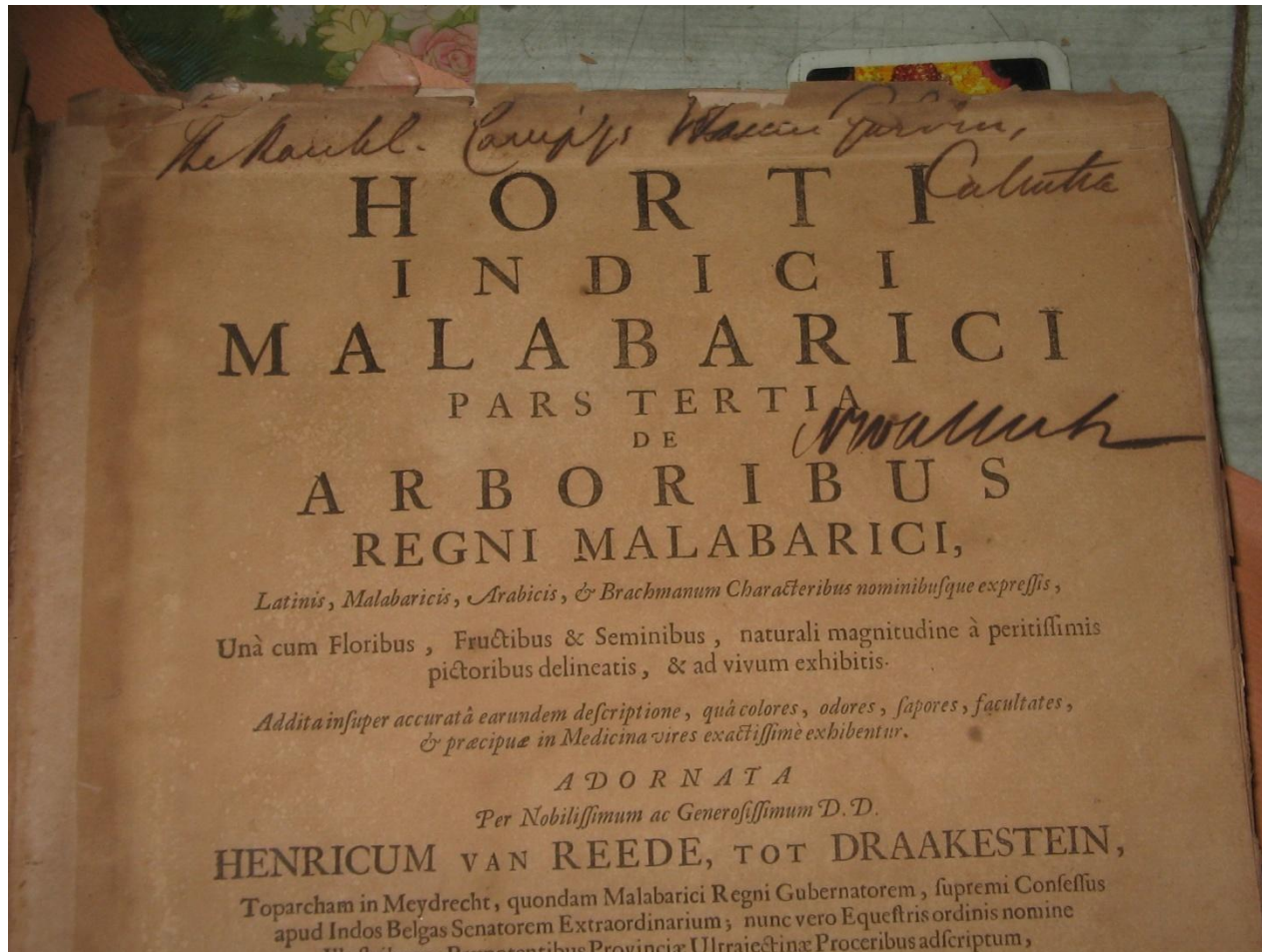


HM in TBGRI, Palode, Trivandrum



Herbal Garden, Recreated house of Itty Achuden and Murals

HM in Central National Herbarium, Kolkata





Material legacy of Van Reede tot Drakenstein:

- Stately homes in Holland of the Drakenstein family
- Plates of Hortus Malabaricus (BM London)
- Hortus Malabaricus
- Malabaarse Kruidhof
- NO plants!!
- No Herbarium

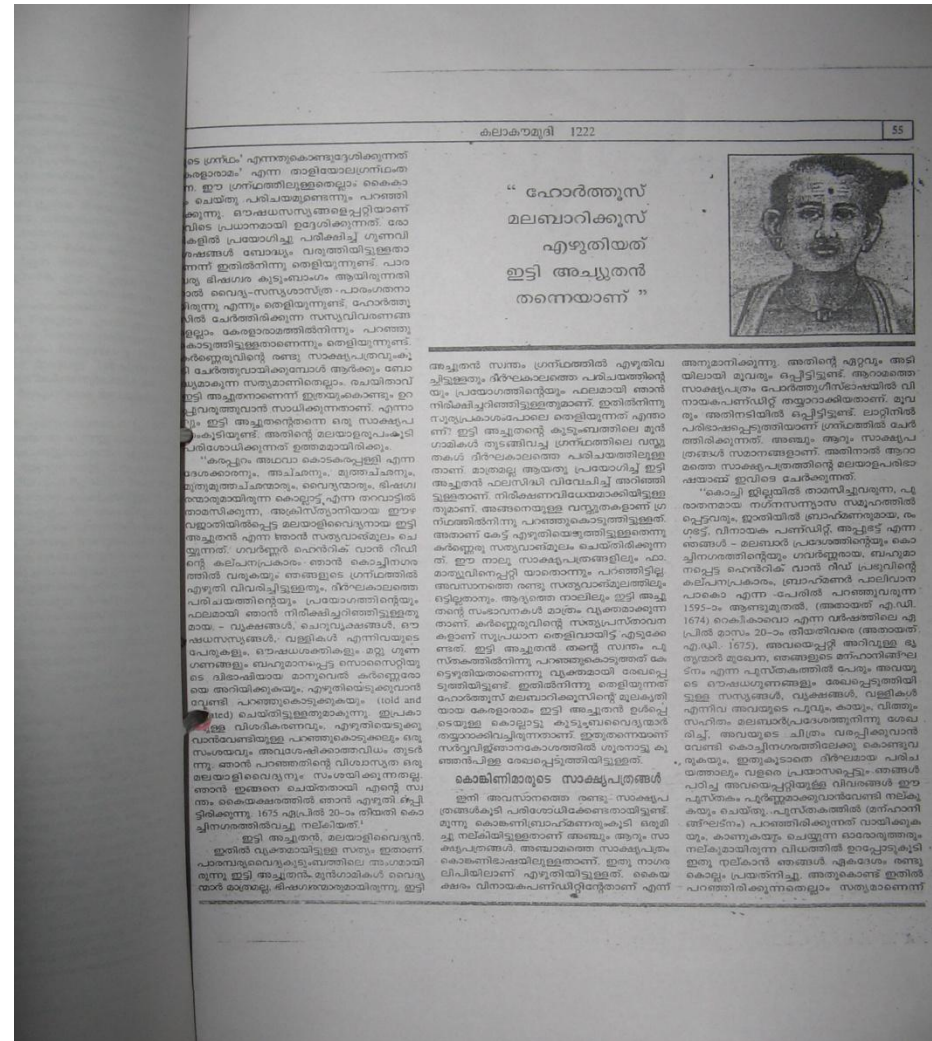


Influence on the study of plants (Botany):

- **Hortus Malabaricus** is a classic book in botany which shows light on the
- Indian system of classification then prevalent which has even influenced the development of the modern system of classification of plants (Taxonomy).

The Indian system of classification of plants

- Most importantly, from the subsequent history of tropical botany, the insight of the Ezhava [Itty Achuden] into the affinities between a large number of plants in the HM is revealed by the names they give to those species which have the same stem and to which one or more prefixes are added: for example Onappu, Valli-onappu and Tsjeri-onappu. The names also give us a considerable amount of incidental sociological material. In Onappu 'Onam' is the harvest festival in which this particular flower would be used. The names thus preserve the true social affinities of the plant name, instead of isolating them in a context less arbitrary category, as well as allowing, probably, a true affinity in terms of pharmacological properties. The knowledge of Ezhava has directly influenced the classification of HM."

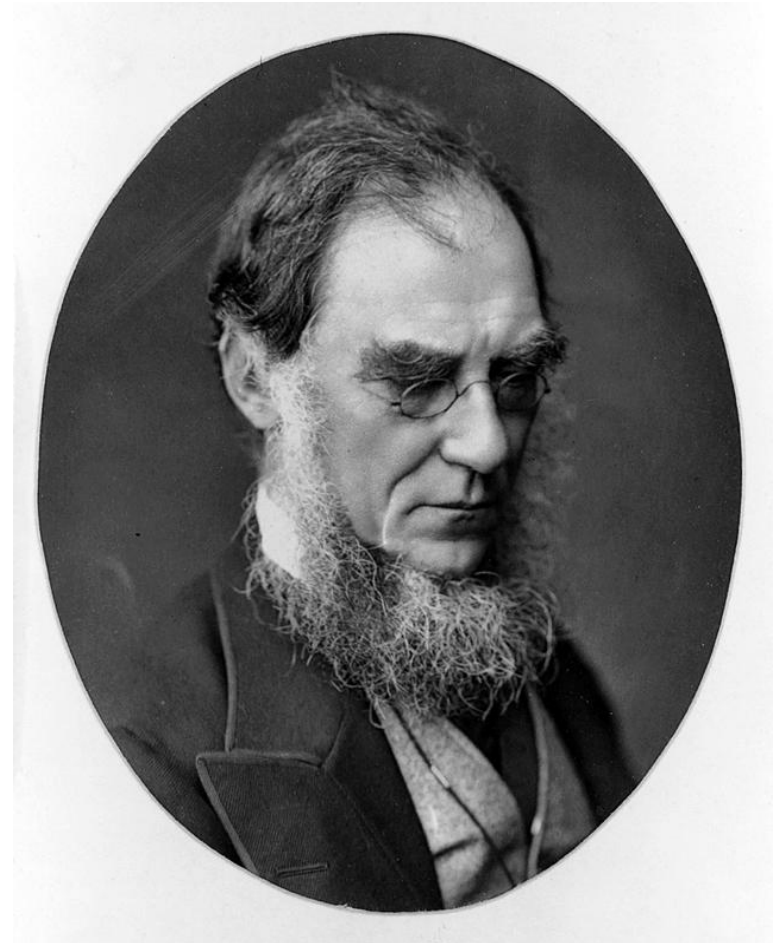


...influence on botany books

- Hortus Malabaricus has directly influenced the many historically and botanically important texts that have relied heavily on the Hortus.
- Linnaeus, in particular, in 1740, fully adopted the Ezhava classification and affinities in establishing 240 entirely new species, as Di Adanson (1763), Jussieu (1789), Dennstedt (1818) and Haskarl (1867).
- In India, Roxburg, Buchanan-Hamilton and **Hooker** all relied on the same Ezhava structure.

Joseph D. Hooker (1817-1911)

Flora of British India including Malay Peninsula (1872—1897)



Modern study of plants

- *Species Plantarum* published in 1753 by Carl Linnaeus (1707-1778) described all the then known plant species of the world. In this work, he presented a codified system where all plant species then known were included with binomials, often with key characters, references and information on their habitats. Linnaeus propounded through this book an artificial sexual system of classification of plants and binomial nomenclature. Linnaeus divided Plant Kingdom into 24 Classes, each of which was named according to the number of stamens and their arrangement in flowers. **Among the many old books Linnaeus consulted, only two commanded his explicit faith and admiration: *Hortus Elthamensis*, by Dillenius and *Hortus Malabaricus* by Van Rheed**



Role of Local experts in the documentation of TK

- Van Rheede in his preface mentions the role played by the native physicians referring to them as “some physicians” without specifying or naming them. However, the certificates included in the Volume I clearly identifies the four local collaborators as the Ezhava physician (Itty Achuden) and the three Brahmin physicians (the Konkani physicians such as Appu Bhat, Ranga Bhat and Vinayaka Pandit).



Coddia-janā. lat.
കുറ്റിമല. malab.
Kareetāla
करतला Brām.
فخاخنا قنوع. Arab.

Fig. 1



Thanks...