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About the Institute

The Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation, a research division of Carnegie Mellon University, specializes in the history of botany and all aspects of plant science and serves the international scientific community through research and documentation. To this end, the Institute acquires and maintains authoritative collections of books, plant images, manuscripts, portraits and data files, and provides publications and other modes of information service. The Institute meets the reference needs of botanists, biologists, historians, conservationists, librarians, bibliographers and the public at large, especially those concerned with any aspect of the North American flora.

Hunt Institute was dedicated in 1961 as the Rachel McMasters Miller Hunt Botanical Library, an international center for bibliographical research and service in the interests of botany and horticulture, as well as a center for the study of all aspects of the history of the plant sciences. By 1971 the Library's activities had so diversified that the name was changed to Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation. Growth in collections and research projects led to the establishment of four programmatic departments: Archives, Art, Bibliography and the Library.

Aerogramme

ON INDIA GOVERNMENT SERVICE

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अन्य विदेशीय पत्र

Chatter Manzil Palace,
LUCKNOW, INDIA



Prof. B. M. KASAPLIGIL
Department of Botany
Mills College
OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA
U.S.A.

Sender's name and address :-
भेजने वाले का नाम और पता :-
Director,
CENTRAL DRUG RESEARCH INSTITUTE
Chatter Manzil Palace,
LUCKNOW, (INDIA)

तीसरा मोड़

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Telegram : CENDRUG
Telephones : 22051-3, 27594-6

CENTRAL DRUG RESEARCH INSTITUTE
(COUNCIL OF SCIENTIFIC & INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH)



Chattar Manzil Palace

Ref. No. Bot. K. Conf. 160

Lucknow 18th January, 1965

Prof. B. C. Kundu,
M.A., Ph.D. (Leeds),
F.L.S., F.B.S., F.N.I. *From*

36

My dear Dr. Kasapligil,

I had been indeed very happy to meet you. I actually gave up all hopes of meeting you but ultimately it is due to my good luck that I discovered you at the entrance of the herbarium of the Botany Department at Berkeley. I told Prof. L. Constance to arrange a meeting but as he was busy due to the students unrest probably he could not talk to you. Anyhow, I had the opportunity of meeting ^{you} at least 1/2 hours and discussing problems of mutual interest. Your work on *Corylus* has been very useful for my work on *Cissampelos*.

My wife has thanked you very much for the excellent packet of *Candia* sent by you for her.

It is a pity that I could not spend more time with you and meet Mrs. Kasapligil, although I had the pleasure of ~~meeting~~ talking here over the phone.

With kindest regards to you and Mrs. Kasapligil.

Yours very sincerely,

B. C. Kundu
(B. C. Kundu) 18/1/65

Prof. Baki Kasapligil,
Department of Botany,
Mills College,
Oakland, California, U.S.A.

January 7, 1966

Mills College
Biology Department
Oakland, California 94613
U. S. A.

Professor B. C. Kundu

Rose Institute

Calcutta 9, I N D I A

Digitized by the Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

Dear Colleague,

We are truly delighted to receive your most fascinating and beautiful greeting card. The leaf is very skilfully cleared and I wish I knew how to do it myself. Are the parenchyma cells removed with a strong alkaline solution? If not please give me some hints. I think this is a marvelous technique for surveying foliar vasculature.

From your new address, I understand you transferred from Lucknow to Calcutta. That is why I am sending this letter to your new address and I hope it will find you in good health and happiness. Lately, I had correspondence with Professor Kaul who wrote to me that he was retired from the National Botanic Gardens and joined the Central Drug Research Institute in Lucknow. He was awfully nice to send me a herbarium of Indian plants through Mrs. Cameron Wayman Snow, one of my former students from Mills College who is stationed in Lucknow with her husband.

My work on the genus Geryllus is progressing slowly but steadily. Microtome sectioning of the floral buds is awfully difficult possibly because of tannic substances. Today, I did have some good luck after soaking the material in 25% soln. of HF. The Himalayan and Japanese species do not grow well although I keep them under bell jars. Most likely, I will have to keep them in growth chambers.

My family joins me in wishing you and your family a prosperous and happy New Year. With my warmest regards, I remain

Cordially yours,

Baki Karapetian

Professor B.C. Kundu, Director
 Central Drug Research Institute
 Chattri Manzil Palace
 Lucknow, India

Digitized by the Hindi Institute for Botanical Documentation

Dear Colleague,

~~It was awfully nice to receive your good letter.~~
~~but~~ I regret for the delay in answering your good letter
 I received quite some time ago. Indeed, it was my good
 fortune to ^{cross your way} bump into you ~~on the Berkeley campus~~, when
 you ^{had given} gave up all hopes of ~~finding~~ locating me on the
 Berkeley Campus. Our discussion of the subjects of mutual
 interest was very stimulating to me. ~~For~~

^{histotaxonomic} The other day, I came across ~~with~~ your interesting
 report while reading the Proceedings of the Edinburgh
 Congress. I ~~look forward to receive your article on~~ Cissampelos
~~peles when it is~~ I am so glad to know that my work on
Corylus has been useful to your studies ~~off~~ on Cissampelos.

Recently, I have been comparing my collections of
Cocculus pendulus from the Jordanian deserts with those
~~now~~ growing in western India. I was amazed with the
 degree of variability in this particular species. Cocculus and
Cissampelos are considered allied genera in ^{several} ~~various~~ systems
 and of classification. I feel that ~~the~~ Cocculus pendulus is a very
 complex species and ^{that} ~~therefore~~ the African, Arabian and
 Indian races of it deserve an anatomical as well as cytological

and palynological survey. The desert tribes of Arabia prepare an alcoholic ~~drink~~^{beverage} from the fruits of this prostrating shrub. and The drink is called "Chamr-ul-madjune" by the beduins, "chamr" meaning fermentation or fermented drink; and "madjune" meaning crazy or foolish. To me, this ~~plant~~ ^{Digitized by the H. J. Lam Institute for Botanical Documentation} has two important uses: 1 - It attracts the bees and wasps more than any other plant in extremely dry parts near the Red Sea. It can serve as an important nectar and pollen source in bee-keeping. 2 - I understand that the Indian races are ^{of} climbing types of plants. The Jordanian races are prostrating shrubs and can serve as an excellent sand binder. If any one of your students becomes interested, I shall gladly loan my Jordanian specimens for comparison.

~~My~~
My dear Professor Linder, I wish you would have informed me about your visit to California so that I could have arranged your accommodation in our house. Next time you come to California you are perfectly welcome to stay in our house which is ~~not far from the UC Berkeley campus~~ centrally located with respect to important botanical centers of the Bay Region, such as Stanford Univ., ^{U.C.} Berkeley, and Calif. Acad. of Sciences in San Francisco.

Mrs. Karaphigil and ~~the~~^{our} boys join me in sending our best wishes and regards to you and your family.

Very sincerely yours,

BY AIRMAIL
PAR AVION

हवाई पत्र
AEROGRAMME



Professor Baki Kasapligil
Department of Botany
Mills College

OAKLAND

California
U. S. A.

SECOND FOLD

NO ENCLOSURES ALLOWED

SENDER'S NAME AND ADDRESS:

Dr. B. C. Kundu
Joint Director
Bose Institute

Calcutta - 9, INDIA.

Dr. B. C. Kundu, Ph.D. (Leeds), F.N.I.,
Joint Director.

Bose Institute
93/1, Acharya Prafulla
Chandra Road, Calcutta-9,
INDIA.

Dated May 14, 1966.

Digitized by My dear Professor Kasapligil, Botanical Documentation

I received your letter long back. I am sorry
that I have not sent any reply to that.

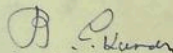
Trust this finds you quite all right with
Mrs. Kasapligil and children.

I expect to leave for Peru via New York on the
18th May to attend the International Conference on
Tropical Agriculture. I shall return most probably
by the 10th of June, 1966 via San Francisco or Los
Angeles. I would very much like to meet you and
spend at least 2/3 days in your Laboratory, in case
it is possible for me to come via San Francisco.

I shall write to you again either from Peru
or from Sab Paulo.

With personal regards,

Yours sincerely,


(B. C. Kundu)

Professor Baki Kasapligil
Department of Botany
Mills College
OAKLAND
California
U. S. A.



Hotel Columbus

AV. AREQUIPA 1421

TELEF. 47800 - 809

LIMA - PERU

17. 6. 66

Digitized by The Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

My dear Professor Kasapligil,

I came to South America to attend the International Conference on Tropical Agriculture held at Lima - Peru and Belém - Brazil from May 22 to June 4. After the conference was over, I visited several Agricultural Institutes and Botanical Institutes. I am now on my way back to Calcutta via U.S.A.

I had a mind to spend at least two days with you, but since my passage has been booked via Los Angeles, I don't know if I can spend at least a day with you. I shall be at Los Angeles from June 23 to June 28.

I shall indeed be very sorry if I cannot meet you even for a day. I have been so charmed by your kind behaviour so last time when I had met you at Berkeley.

I shall be at the following address at L.A.
c/o Mrs Ruth Keane, 1919
Tenth Street, Santa Monica, California - 90405.

With best personal regards

Professor Baki Kasapligil

Yours sincerely
B.C. Kumer

BY AIR MAIL
PAR AVION

हवाई पत्र
AÉROGRAMME



055 POSTAGE 055
भारत INDIA

Professor Baki Kasapligil
Department of Botany
Mills College

OKLAND

California

SECOND FOLD

NO ENCLOSURES ALLOWED

SENDER'S NAME AND ADDRESS:

Prof. B. C. Kundu
Joint Director
Bose Institute
93/1, Acharya P. C. Road
Calcutta - 9, INDIA.

Bose Institute
93/1, Acharya Prafulla Ch. Road
Calcutta - 9, INDIA.

Professor B. C. Kundu, Ph.D. (Leeds), F.N.I.,
Joint Director.

Dated July 27, 1966.

My dear Professor Kasapligil,

I am indeed very sorry to know that my letter sent from Lima did not reach you in time. I also thought that you had not received my letter. I spent 11 days at Los Angeles and planned to spend two days with you at Oakland. It is a pity that it had not been possible.

There is a possibility of my going to S. A. again next year when I shall definitely spend a few days with you. I am also trying to spend a few months in the States as visiting of Professor in some Universities.

Yes. We have many things to discuss together and compare our observations. In case I find an opportunity to come to Oakland next year we shall certainly do this.

With best personal regards to you and Mrs. Kasapligil.

Yours ever

B. C. Kundu
(Balai Chand Kundu)

To
Professor Baki Kasapligil
Department of Botany
Mills College
Oakland
California.

BY AIRMAIL
PAR AVION

हवाई पत्र
AÉROGRAMME



055 POSTAGE 055



Professor Baki Kasppligil
Department of Botany
MILLS COLLEGE
OAKLAND - 13
CALIFORNIA

U. S. A.

SECOND FOLD

NO ENCLOSURES ALLOWED

SENDER'S NAME AND ADDRESS:-

Dr. B. C. Kundu
Bose Institute
93/1, Acharya P. C. Road
Calcutta - 9
India.

Bose Institute
93/1, Acharya Prafulla Chandra Road
Calcutta - 9, India.

Dr. B. C. Kundu, Ph.D. (Leeds), F.N.I.,
Joint Director.

Dated August 2, 1966.

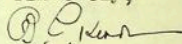
Digitized by the Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

Dear Friend,

I have just been informed in a letter by
Director, Foreign Post, Indian Postal Department, Bombay
that a parcel kindly sent to me by you has been opened
by some body and the contents removed. It is a pity that
such a thing has happened. The Director wants to know
about the contents, so that he can search for that. I
shall be obliged if you kindly inform me about the
contents of the parcel kindly sent by you. I am sorry
for the trouble given to you.

With best personal regards,

Yours sincerely,



(B. C. Kundu)

Professor Baki Kasapligil
Department of Botany
Mills College
Oakland
California
U. S. A.

August 28, 1966

Professor Balai Chand Kundu
Bose Institute
93/1 Acharya P. C. Road
Calcutta 9, India

Dear Colleague,

Thank you very much indeed for your kind letters that reached me upon my return from a field trip I made to Northern California. As you will recall, I was teaching the summer session of San Francisco State College as a visiting professor until August. After the termination of the session I made a collecting trip up to the Oregon border of California and returned home recently. Now, I am back to my duties at Mills College and trying to prepare my laboratories for the Autumn semester.

I am delighted to know that you are planning to visit the States again. Any university in this country should be fortunate to have you as a guest professor. I hope you will realize your plans soon and will let me know your date of your arrival. I still regret very much that we failed to meet each other while you were in California last June.

In your second air letter, you informed me that a parcel I sent you sometime ago got lost in Bombay. If I remember correctly, that envelope contained some publications of Mills College. Possibly, a young clerk could not resist the pretty pictures. I shall gladly send you the same together with the reprints of my recent publications.

In your next letter, kindly tell me about the nature and organization of the Bose Institute. The Indian botanist Bose is very familiar to me since my days as a freshman in the college, but I am not familiar with the functions and activities of the commemorative Institute. Does the Institute have a regular periodical, would it be possible to obtain a list of publications issued by the Institute?

With my best wishes and personal regards, I remain,

Most sincerely yours,

Baki Kasapligil
Professor of Botany

2nd Letter sent
Oct. 23. 1966

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BY AIR MAIL
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AÉROGRAMME



Dr. B. Kasapligil,

Mills College,

Oakland,

California (U.S.A.).

SECOND FOLD

NO ENCLOSURES ALLOWED

SENDER'S NAME AND ADDRESS:

Prof. B.C.Kundu,

Jt. Director,

Bose Research Institute,

93/1 Acharya Prafullachandra Road,
Calcutta 9 (India).

BOSE RESEARCH INSTITUTE
93/1 Acharya Prafullachandra Road,
Calcutta 9.

Prof. B.C.Kundu, Ph.D.(Leeds), F.N.I.,
Jt. Director.

Dated 28 November 1966

igitized by the Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

Dear friend,

Thank you very much for your kind letter.
I have been indeed very happy to know that Mrs. Kasapligil has liked the small present.

The Bose Institute has been founded by Sir J.C.Bose, F.R.S., one of the foremost scientists of India, in 1917. He was originally a Professor of Physics, but became famous by his works on Plant Physiology, particularly on the movements of Mimosa pudica and Desmodium gyrans. He had also his own theory on the ascent of sap.

In the Institute, there are four main departments: Botany, including Plant Biochemistry, Chemistry, Physics, Microbiology. Besides, there is a small section of Animal Physiology.

In the Botany Dept. research works on Cytogenetics, Cytotaxonomy, Palynology and Anatomy are being carried out by a number of workers. I am trying to develop a school on synthetic taxonomy based on the studies of anatomy including floral anatomy, palynology and cytology in addition to that of external morphology. I do not know how far I shall be successful. At present three workers are working with me on this aspect. I know you are also interested in this kind of study. In January 1965 when I was in Berkley I discussed this also with Prof. Constance. One of his Indian students was then working on a problematic genus on all these aspects in order to find out its correct taxonomic position.

Last June I worked for some time in this Smithsonian Institute at Washington. I discussed about this aspect of studies with some of the senior workers. They were interested in this. I found not much work was carried out there. If I get an opportunity I will do with you or with some other Institution, this kind of studies on some genera of Family Menispermaceae.

With best personal regards to you and Mrs. Kasapligil.

Dr. B. Kasapligil,
Mills College,
Oakland, California,
U.S.A.

Yours sincerely,

B.C. Kundu
(B.C.Kundu)

BY AIRMAIL
PAR AVION

हवाई पत्र
AÉROGRAMME



Dr. Baki Kasapligil,
Professor of Botany,
Mills College,
Oakland 13,
California, U.S.A.



दूसरा मोड़ SECOND FOLD

इस पत्र के अन्दर कुछ न रखिये NO ENCLOSURES ALLOWED

भेजने वाले का नाम और पता: SENDER'S NAME AND ADDRESS:

Prof. B.C.Kundu,
Bose Research Institute,
93/1 Acharya Prafullachandra Road,
Calcutta 9.

भारत INDIA

BOSE RESEARCH INSTITUTE

93/1 Acharya Prafullachandra Road, Calcutta 9.

Prof. B.C.Kundu, Ph.D.(Leeds), F.N.I.
Research Professor of Botany.

Dated 10 September 1968

Digitized by the Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

My dear Dr. Kasapligil,

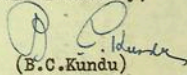
I have not heard from you for very very long time. Trust this finds you all quite all right.

I am hoping to attend the International Botanical Congress, Seattle, next year and if that is possible I shall certainly come to Oakland and spend some days with you.

One of my students has submitted her thesis on "Cytological and Anatomical Investigation on some members of the Family Boraginaceae" for the D.Phil Science Degree. I have proposed your name for Examiner of the thesis. I hope you will kindly agree to examine the thesis.

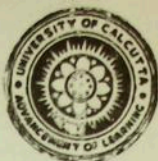
With kindest regards,

Yours sincerely,


(B.C.Kundu)

Dr. Baki Kasapligil,
Professor of Botany,
Mills College,
Oakland 13,
California, U.S.A.

No. 1318 / D.Phil.
(Sc):



UNIVERSITY OF CALCUTTA
SENATE HOUSE,
CALCUTTA-12.

The 17th Sept., 1968.

Digitized by the Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

Professor Baki Kasapligil,
Department of Botany, Mills College, Oak Land,
California :

Dear Sir,

I have the honour by direction of the Vice-Chancellor and Syndicate to invite you to act as a member of the Board of Examiners to adjudicate upon the undermentioned thesis submitted for the D.Phil. (Science) Degree of this University.

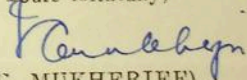
Each member of the Board of Examiners is paid an honorarium of Rs. 100 (one hundred rupees) only. The thesis covers 233 typed pages.

In case you accept the appointment it will be expected that your report will be made available to the University within three months.

I shall feel obliged if you would kindly let me know, at your earliest convenience, whether you are agreeable to examine the thesis.

A copy of the thesis will be forwarded to you in case you condescend to accept the appointment.

Yours faithfully,


(J. C. MUKHERJEE),

Deputy ~~Assistant~~ Registrar.

Name of the candidate : Sm. Pratima Raychaudhuri, M.Sc., Class II

Title of the thesis : "Cytological and anatomical Studies on some members of the family Boraginaceae" :

SB.

copy

Thank you
Baki
Kus

No. 1318...../D.Phil.
(Sc):



UNIVERSITY OF CALCUTTA
SENATE HOUSE,
CALCUTTA-12.

The 17th Sept., 1968.

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Professor Baki Kasapligil,
Department of Botany, Mills College, Oak Land,
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Dear Sir,

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Each member of the Board of Examiners is paid an honorarium of Rs. 100 (one hundred rupees) only. The thesis covers 233 typed pages.

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A copy of the thesis will be forwarded to you in case you condescend to accept the appointment.

Yours faithfully,

J. C. Mukherjee

(J. C. MUKHERJEE),

Deputy ~~Assistant~~ Registrar.

Name of the candidate : Sm. Pratima Raychaudhuri, M.Sc., Class II

Title of the thesis : "Cytological and anatomical Studies on some members of the family Boraginaceae" :

SB.

SCUP-28R-27.10.65-5,000.

RECEIVED
OCT 24 1968

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

Copies for Dr. Wert's
information

Professor B. C. Kundu, Ph.D.
Bose Research Institute
93/1 Acharya Prafullachandra Road
Calcutta 9, India

September 22, 1968
Oakland, California

Dear Colleague,

I am very happy indeed to receive your kind letter of September 10, 1968. I was in Turkey during last August and returned to California on the 9th of September and immediately afterwards I resumed teaching my classes which began earlier than usual this academic year.

I am delighted to know that you are planning to visit us next summer. First of all I should like to outline my travel arrangement for a sabbatical leave in Europe, so that you could make the possible adjustment accordingly. I plan to depart from San Francisco with my wife and two children on the 12th of July 1969 with the Oceanliner Canberra which will take us to Le Havre in France. We plan to spend two months in Switzerland and a year in Turkey until Sept. 1970. Our last day for the present academic year will be 1st of June 1969 which is the day of our annual Commencement for those receiving their degrees. I shall be free during the month of June as well as during the first week of July. Therefore, I would like to invite you to Oakland, more specifically to our house and to our College any time during this period. We shall be honoured to be your hosts here. May I suggest that you plan to be here anytime during the period I mentioned above. Of course, if you arrive earlier during May, I still would be available to help you any way I can. Most likely we shall rent out our house for a year and vacate it on the 10th of July next summer. If you plan to visit other institutions or botanists in California or in other states, perhaps you can schedule them after your visit to Oakland. I believe the Congress will take place during August and you still would have enough time to make your other contacts before the Congress.

Thank you for proposing my name as an examiner for the thesis of your student. It is a pleasure to help you or your students any time. Under a separate cover, I forwarded the reprints of my recent publications. I am not quite sure if you ever received our Thank You-letter for the beautiful scarf you sent to my wife. It is a piece of art and Mrs. Kasapligil treasures it. My wife joins me in sending our best wishes and kindest regards to you and to all members of your family.

Cordially yours,

Professor Baki Kasapligil, Ph.D.
Head of the Biology Department

Digitized by the Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

BY AIR MAIL
PAR AVION

हवाई पत्र
AÉROGRAMME



Prof. Baki Kasapligil, Ph.D.;
Head of the Biology Department,
Mills College,
Oakland, California, 94613.
U.S.A.

दस्ता मोड़ SECOND FOLD

इस पत्र के अन्दर कुछ न रखिये NO ENCLOSURES ALLOWED

भेजने वाले का नाम और पता:- SENDER'S NAME AND ADDRESS:-

Prof. B.C.Kundu,
Prof. Bose Research Institute,
93/1 Acharya Prafullachandra Road,
Calcutta 9.

भारत INDIA

BOSE RESEARCH INSTITUTE

93/1 Acharya Prafullachandra Road, Calcutta 9.

Prof. B.C.Kundu, Ph.D.(Leeds), F.N.I.
Research Professor of Botany.

Dated. 16 October 1968

Digitized by the Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

Dear Friend,

I have been indeed very happy to receive your letter dated September 22, which I have received yesterday when the Institute opened after the Autumn (Pujah) holidays.

I am very anxious to visit some of the important Institutes where anatomical and taxonomical works are being carried out and there to attend the International Botanical Congress at Seattle. I have been trying to get some financial help from the Government of India, but upto now I have not received anything. Yesterday I received a letter from ^{Dr.}Anton Lang, Vice-Chairman of the Program Committee. He informs me that the Congress does not have funds for travel support for botanists.

I shall, therefore, try to have ^a visiting professorship in any of the universities any where in the U.S.A. at least for a year from early part of next year. I do not know to whom I shall write about this. In case you can help me in this matter, I shall be obliged. I know Prof. Ernest Gifford and ^{Dr. V. L. Chaudh} I can write to him about this. You may kindly discuss with any of your friends about visiting professorship in the U.S.A. I can teach any aspect of Botany, but I would prefer to teach anatomy and taxonomy *and also carry on some research work.*

I hope you have received a letter from the Registrar, Calcutta University about the examination of the thesis of my student.

I am glad to know that Mrs. Kasapligil has been pleased to receive the small present sent to her.

Kindly accept my kindest regards and convey them to Mrs. Kasapligil *and send me your reply as early as possible.*

Yours sincerely,

Prof. Baki Kasapligil, Ph.D.,
Head of the Biology Dept.,
Mills College, Oakland, California -
U.S.A. 94613.

B.C. Kundu
(B.C.Kundu)

I guess we tell him about Herbert Mason. Will you write him? (copy)
m

BOSE RESEARCH INSTITUTE

93/1 Acharya Prafullachandra Road, Calcutta 9.

Prof. B.C.Kundu, Ph.D.(Leeds), F.N.I.
Research Professor of Botany.

Dated. 16 October 1968

Digitized by Dear Friend, Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

I have been indeed very happy to receive your letter dated September 22, which I have received yesterday when the Institute opened after the Autumn (Pujah) holidays.

I am very anxious to visit some of the important Institutes where anatomical and taxonomical works are being carried out and there to attend the International Botanical Congress at Seattle. I have been trying to get some financial help from the Government of India, but uptil now I have not received anything. Yesterday I received a letter from ^{Dr.}Anton Lang, Vice-Chairman of the Program Committee. He informs me that the Congress does not have funds for travel support for botanists.

I shall, therefore, try to have ^avisiting professorship in any of the universities any where in the U.S.A. at least for a year from early part of next year. I do not know to whom I shall write about this. In case you can help me in this matter, I shall be obliged. I know Prof. Ernest Gifford and ^{Dr. B. K. Kasapligil} I can write to him about this. You may kindly discuss with any of your friends about visiting professorship in the U.S.A. I can teach any aspect of Botany, but I would prefer to teach anatomy and taxonomy. *and also carry on some research work.*

I hope you have received a letter from the Registrar, Calcutta University about the examination of the thesis of my student..

I am glad to know that Mrs. Kasapligil has been pleased to receive the small present sent to her.

Kindly accept my kindest regards and convey them to Mrs. Kasapligil. *and send me your reply as early as possible.*

Yours sincerely,

Prof. Baki Kasapligil, Ph.D.,
Head of the Biology Dept.,
Mills College, Oakland, California -
U.S.A. 94613.

B. C. Kundu
(B.C.Kundu)

October 21, 1968

Mr. J.C. Mukherjee, Registrar

Senate House

University of Calcutta

Calcutta 12, India

Dear Sir,

Thank you for your letter dated September 17, 1968, No. 1318.

Although your letter was sent by airmail, it reached me today; i.e. a month later.

I shall gladly examine the Ph.D. dissertation of Sm. Pratima Raychaudhuri and forward my report to you within three months upon the arrival of the theses. Kindly send me the thesis by airmail and let me know if you expect me to return the thesis together with my report.

Sincerely your,

Professor Baki Kasapligil, Ph.D.
Head of the Biology Department



UNIVERSITY OF CALCUTTA
SENATE HOUSE,
CALCUTTA-12.

No. 1842...../D.Phil.
(Sc.):

The...15th November, 1968.

Professor Baki Kasapligil, Ph.D.,
Head of the Biology Department, Mills College, California,
U. S. A.

Dear Sir,

Kindly refer to your letter dated 21.10.68.

I am sending herewith for favour of your adjudication and report a copy of the thesis submitted by the undernoted candidate for the D.Phil. (Sc.) ~~/D.Sc./D.Litt~~ degree of this University.

The thesis may either be examined in consultation with your colleagues and a joint report forwarded to this University or you may forward your individual opinion about the merit of the thesis, stating definitely whether you commend the thesis for the award of the degree or not and your report may kindly be sent to this office together with the copy of the thesis within three months or earlier, if possible. Your kind attention is specially invited to Rule 13 in the enclosed extract from the Regulations.

I am to state in this connection that the University of Calcutta has instituted two Doctorate Degrees of different standards—D.Phil. (Arts/Science/Medical) being the lower degree and D.Litt. or D.Sc., the higher, just as they are obtained in some British or Foreign Universities.

Yours faithfully,

(J. C. MUKHERJEE),

Deputy Registrar.

Name of the candidate :— Sm. Pratima Raychaudhuri, M.Sc., Class II

Title of the thesis :— "Cytological and anatomical studies on some

Constitution of the Board of Examiners :— members of the family
Boraginaceae" :

- 1) Prof. Baki Kasapligil
- 2) Dr. J. J. Shah
- 3) Dr. B. C. Kundu, (Internal), Bose Institute,
93/1, Acharyya Prafulla Chandra Road, Calcutta - 9.

Enclos.—(1) One copy of the thesis.

(2) An extract from the Regulations.

(3) A remuneration bill.

SCUP-27R-27-10-65-5,000.

SB.

Extract from the University Regulations

Chapter XXXIII-A

**DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN ARTS AND
SCIENCE (D.Phil.)**

Digitized by the Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

1. Any Master of Arts and Science or Master of Science (Tech.) of the University of Calcutta, or (subject to the sanction of the Syndicate) any Master of Arts or Science or Master of Science (Tech.) of any other University recognised by this University for this purpose, may apply to the Registrar for registration for the D.Phil. degree in the subject within the purview of the Regulations in which he has obtained the degree of Master of Arts or Science, as the case may be, or in an allied subject.

2. The applicant shall state in the application for registration his qualifications and indicate the subject which he proposes to investigate. The application must be supported by a certificate in a form to be prescribed by the Syndicate from a teacher recognised by the University for this purpose, under whose guidance he intends to carry out the work. The Syndicate may exempt a candidate from production of the certificate in special cases.

3. Every application shall be placed before a D.Phil. Degree Committee consisting of the Vice-Chancellor, the President of the Post-graduate Council in Arts or Science, as the case may be, the Dean of the Faculty concerned, Head of the Department in the particular subject, and two experts in the subject to be appointed by the Syndicate in consultation with the relevant Executive Committee. The Syndicate will grant the application for registration for the D.Phil. Degree after considering the recommendation of the said D.Phil. degree Committee.

4. On his application being granted by the Syndicate the applicant shall be registered and shall work for two years under a teacher recognised by the University for the purpose and prepare a thesis for the degree. He may, not later than one year after his registration, be permitted to change the subject or scope of his research with the approval of the D.Phil. Degree Committee.

— I am impressed with her awareness
of the pertinent literature concerning
Boraginaceae
— Being a "Mediterranean Botanist", I was
please to see that the fam. Boraginaceae
received a deserved attention

5. The candidate for the D.Phil. degree shall submit three type-written or printed copies of his thesis embodying the results of research and affording evidence of originality shown by him by the discovery of new facts or by a critical survey of facts or relations between facts discovered by others.

The candidate must produce along with the thesis a certificate from the teacher under whom he has worked, stating that he has fulfilled the requirements of the Regulations relating to the nature and prescribed period of research work.

Notwithstanding anything contained above, the Syndicate may, in special cases, after considering the recommendation of the D.Phil. Degree Committee, permit a candidate for the D.Phil. degree to submit a thesis prepared independently or under the guidance of a person having special knowledge in the subject or under the guidance of one of the University teachers recognised above provided that the candidate concerned has carried on research work for a period of at least two years after he has passed the M.A. or M.Sc. Examination. The candidate shall for this purpose submit an application to the Registrar which shall not be entertained unless two Doctors in any Faculty or two members of the Faculty concerned of this University or unless two members of the relevant Council of Post-graduate Teaching of this University have testified to the satisfaction of the Syndicate that in habits and character the candidate is a fit and proper person for the D.Phil. degree. After the permission to present the thesis for the D.Phil. degree has been granted by the Syndicate the candidate shall be enrolled as a candidate for the D.Phil. degree in a register for such candidates.

6. The candidate may also submit in support of his thesis the contents of any work he may have previously published but he shall not submit as his thesis any work for which a Degree of Distinction has been conferred on him in this or any other University. He will not, however, be precluded from incorporating any such work in a thesis covering a wider field, provided he indicates in a written statement the work so incorporated.

7. Every candidate shall forward with his thesis a fee of Rs. 200. No candidate who fails to pass or present

himself for examination shall be entitled to claim a refund of his fee.

8. After considering the recommendation of the D.Phil. Degree Committee, the Syndicate shall refer the thesis to a Board of three Examiners including the teacher, if any, under whom the candidate has worked.

If the thesis is approved by the Board of Examiners, they will furnish the Syndicate with a report indicating in what respects the thesis affords evidence of originality.

9. After the thesis has been approved by the Board of Examiners, the candidate shall be asked to appear at an oral examination, and also in the case of a Science subject at an oral or a practical examination or both, in respect of the subject of his thesis to be held by at least two Examiners of whom the teacher, if any, under whom he worked will ordinarily be one.

The Examiners may also ask questions beyond the subject of the thesis in order to satisfy themselves that the candidate has adequate knowledge of the particular branch of Arts or Science on which he has submitted his thesis.

10. If the Examiners are satisfied with the oral or/and practical examination, they shall submit a report to the Syndicate approving the work of the candidate.

If the candidate fails to satisfy the Examiners at the oral or/and practical examination, the Syndicate may on the recommendation of the Examiners, permit him to appear again at the oral or/and practical examination after six months but within a period not exceeding one year following the date of his failure. The fee on re-entry shall be half the fee originally paid.

11. If the Syndicate, after considering the report of the Examiners, are satisfied that the candidate is worthy of the Degree of D.Phil., they shall cause his name to be published with the title of the subject of his thesis.

12. A diploma under the seal of the University and signed by the Vice-Chancellor will be given to each successful candidate at the next Convocation held for conferring degrees.

13. Notwithstanding anything contained in the above regulations, if the thesis of a candidate, originally presented

for admission to the D.Litt. or D.Sc. degree under the provisions of Chapters XXXIV and XXXIII, respectively, is not recommended by the Board of Examiners concerned, but is on the other hand adjudged by them to be of sufficient merit to justify his admission to the D.Phil. degree, the thesis shall, if the candidate so elects, be deemed to be a thesis presented and approved for the D.Phil. degree for the purpose of Sections 8 and 9 above. Such a candidate shall, unless specially exempted by the Syndicate on the recommendation of the Board of Examiners, be asked to appear at an oral or/and practical examination, as the case may be, to be conducted by a Board of Examiners to be specially constituted by the Syndicate for the purpose. The Examiners may ask questions beyond the range of the subject of the thesis.

The provisions of Sections 10, 11 and 12 will apply to these candidates.

N.B.—D.Phil., Registration fee— Rs. 50.

Last dates for submission of applications of the thesis—31st January,
30th April,
31st July,
15th November.

SCUP—125R—1.3.67—2,000.

- Chronological citation of the reference
cf. last paragraph of P. 2 & P. 175 & P. 176, 177
- Some of the references cited in the
text are not listed in the bibliography
(Hutchinson 1927 on p. 7; Schleiden 1899 on
p. 176; Harris 1955 on P. 196;
- Misspelling of author's names: cf.
Favarger with Fagerger on pp. 3 & 25.
- Chromosome drawings are excellent,
but the photomicrographs (with the

exceptions of Fig. 1. Plate 2) ^(Fig. 15 Plate 4) have no clarity ^(L)
and they need to be redone or printed
on contrast paper.

- What is the basis of the histogram
in Fig 10? Did she use the Feulgen
Technique in combination with cytopho-
togrametric method?
- "Cells with fibrous thickenings" in
the middle of p. 130 is a term not
clear to me. Does she mean sclerenchyma
fibers?

- I am not in favor of the use of ⁽³⁾ the verb "intend" on p. 136 which implies a humanly attribute to the vascular bundles
- No reference is made to the classical work of L. Petet (Pétiole des dicotylédones, au point de vue de l'anatomie comparée et de la taxonomie. Ann. Sci. Nat. Bot. ser. 7, 6: 342-354) who demonstrated the significance of petiole anatomy. (cf. P. 227 for the recent literature on the subject.)

- On p. 127, the author says: The disc⁽⁴⁾
may be receptacular (Puri 1950) or axial
(Rao 1959) in origin. Both of these terms mean
the same thing.

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हवाई पत्र
AÉROGRAMME



Professor Baki Kasapliligil
Department of Botany
MILLS COLLEGE
OAKLAND
CALIFORNIA-94613
U. S. A.



पहला मोड़ FIRST FOLD

दूसरा मोड़ SECOND FOLD

इस पत्र के अन्दर कुछ न रखिये NO ENCLOSURES ALLOWED

भेजने वाले का नाम और पता:- SENDER'S NAME AND ADDRESS:-

Professor B. C. Kundu
Bot. Research Institute
CALCUTTA-9

भारत INDIA

Rose Research Institute
Calcutta-9

Professor B.C.Kundu, Ph.D. (Leeds), F.N.I.
Research Professor of Botany

December 11, 1968

igitized by the Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

My dear Professor Kasapligil,

I hope you have by now received the thesis of Miss Pratima Raychaudhury. In case you want any clarification on any point kindly write to me about it. I also hope that you will be able to send your report early.

I thank you very much for the reprints of your two interesting papers which have just been received.

With kind personal regards,

Yours sincerely

B. C. Kundu

Professor B. Kasapligil, Ph.D.
Department of Botany,
Mills College
Oakland, California, 94613

P.S. With regard to the matter I wrote to you earlier, I also wrote to Dr. Choudhury of Santa Barbara whom I know for many years. He has informed that he "is submerged in a whole battery of problems" and has, therefore sent my letter to the President, Botanical Society of America to see if any general support fund may be available. If possible, kindly enquire into the matter, or talk to Professor Foster about it.

December 18, 1968
Oakland, Calif.

Professor B. C. Kundu, Ph. D.
Bose Research Institute
93/1 Acharya Prafullachandra Road
Calcutta 2, India

Digitized by the Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

Dear Colleague,

I was hoping very much to give you some good news regarding the possibility of a visiting professorship, but I could not arrange a position for you thus far. I wish I knew your intentions last summer. I certainly would be happy to have you here to take care of my classes during my forthcoming sabbatical year. Another colleague was already appointed upon my recommendation. I made several contacts with the Botany Departments here in the San Francisco bay region, but I regret to tell you that I could not find any vacant position. However, I shall continue to make additional contacts during the Christmas vacation. Any university should be fortunate to have a fine scholar like you. By all means, you should write to Dr. E. Gifford as well as to Dr. V. I. Cheadle. As you may know, Professor Cheadle is no longer in Davis. He became the Chancellor of the University of California, Santa Barbara, Calif. I know he is a very influential person and he would do his best to help you.

I received Miss Pratima Raychaudhuri's dissertation about a week ago, but I did not have the opportunity to read it yet. Presently, I am very busy with the final examinations, but I hope to complete my gradings within a week or two. Then, I shall prepare my report about the dissertation.

Please do excuse my delay in answering your letter. I hope I shall be able to give you better news next time. Since we plan to depart for Europe on the 12th of July, I shall not be able to attend the Botanical Congress in Seattle. It is a beautiful city indeed, I hope you will be able to visit it. I know Professors A. Kruckeberg (Taxonomy), R. Walker (Physiology) & R. Norris (Algology) at the Univ. of Washington. I shall ask them about the possibilities in helping you for travel funds.

Mrs. Kasapligil and my children join me in wishing you and your family a prosperous and happy New Year. With kindest personal regards, I remain

Sincerely yours,

Baki Kasapligil
Head of the Biology Dept.

max

Professor G. Ledyard Stebbins
Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences
202 Junipero Serra Blvd.
Stanford, California 94305

Dec. 26, 1968

Digitized by the Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

Dear Ledyard,

Thank you for sending me a copy of the list of foreign botanist who have been asked to participate in various programs of the forthcoming Congress in Seattle. I would like to suggest the inclusion of Professor R.C. Kundu in this list. Professor Kundu's address is: Bose Research Institute, 93/1 Acharya Prafullachandra Road, Calcutta 9, India. I know him personally and consider him as one of the top Indian Botanists who made important contributions with his research on the ontogeny of the fibers of Boehmeria and Corchorus. In a recent letter I received from him, I understand that he is very anxious to attend the Botanical Congress but is unable to receive any financial assistance from the Indian Government. He is willing to serve as a visiting professor in any university or college and teach Anatomy, Morphology or Taxonomy. This, of course, would enable him to attend the Congress as well. I recommend him very highly in every respect and I would be very grateful if you could arrange a travel grant or a visiting professorship for him.

Happy New Year and my best wishes for a successful Congress.

Cordially yours,

S. S. S.
Baki Kasapligil
Head of the Biology Department

(118)
(26, Dec, 1968?)

Dear Ledyard,

Thank you for sending me a copy of the foreign
Botanist who have been asked to participate in ~~one of the~~
various programs of the forthcoming Congress in Seattle.
I would like to suggest the inclusion of Professor. B. C.
Kunder in ^{this} your list. Professor Kunder's address is: Bose
Research Institute, 93/1 Acharya Prafullachandra Road,
Calcutta 9, India. I know him personally and consider
him as one of the top Indian Botanists who made important
contributions ~~on the~~ with his research on the ontogeny of
the ^{fibers of} Boehmeria and Cochorus. In a recent letter I received
from Professor ^{him} Kunder, I understand ^{that} he is very anxious to
attend the Botanical Congress, but ~~he~~ is unable to receive any
financial assistance from the Indian Government. He is
willing to serve as a visiting professor in any university
or College ^{and teach Anatomy, Morphology or Taxonomy} ~~in this country~~. This, of course, would enable
him to attend the Congress as well. I recommend him
very highly in every respect and I would be very grateful
if you ^{could} ~~can~~ arrange a travel grant or a visiting
professorship for him.

Happy New Year and my best wishes for a successful
Congress.

Cordially yours,

B. K.
Head of the Biology Dept

अन्तर्देशीय पत्र
इस पत्र के अन्दर कुछ न लिखिये
INLAND LETTER
NO ENCLOSURES ALLOWED

O. I. G. S.



No. 1397

Prof. Baki Kasapligil,
Professor of Botany
Mills College, Oakland
California, 94613
U.S.A.

lv
From : **Prof. J. J. Shah**
The Registrar
SARDAR PATEL UNIVERSITY
VALLABH VIDYANAGAR
Dist. Kaira [Gujarat]



TELEPHONE : 8 (VALLABH VIDYANAGAR)
GRAM : "UNIVERSITY"

SARDAR PATEL UNIVERSITY

VALLABH VIDYANAGAR
(GUJARAT)

No. PG/Bot/21/1397

Date 30-12-1968.

Digitized by the Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

From
Professor J.J.Shah,
Head, Dept. of Botany.

To
Professor Baki Kasapligil,
Professor of Botany,
Mills College, Oakland,
California, 94613,
U.S.A.

Dear Professor Kasapligil,

I hope you have received the Ph.D. thesis of Sm. Pratima Raychaudhuri from the Calcutta university. The thesis is entitled "Cytological and anatomical studies on some members of the Family Boraginaceae". I am also one of the co-examiner. As it is suggested that we may submit a joint report, I desire to know if you agree to this proposal. This will be also helpful to me as I have to conduct the viva voce examination. In case you desire certain classification from the candidate, please also inform me. If you desire that we may submit our joint report on our assessment of the thesis, please send a copy of your report to me. I would add my comments and draft a joint report which will be sent to you for your approval and signature.

Please accept my sincere wishes and greetings for the New Year.

Yours sincerely,

J.J.Shah
(J.J.Shah)
Professor of Botany.

vc.30.xii.

gitized by the Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation



हवाई पत्र
AÉROGRAMME



Prof. Baki Kasepligil,
Professor and Head of the Biology Dept.,
Mills College,
Oakland,
California 94613, U.S.A.



दूसरा मोड़ SECOND FOLD

इस पत्र के अन्दर कुछ न रखिये NO ENCLOSURES ALLOWED

भेजने वाले का नाम और पता: SENDER'S NAME AND ADDRESS:

Prof. B.C.Kundu,
Bose Research Institute,
93/1 Acharya Prafullachandra Road,
Calcutta 9, India.

भारत INDIA

BOSE RESEARCH INSTITUTE
93/1 Acharya Prafullachandra Road, Calcutta 9

Prof. B.C.Kundu, Ph.D.(Leeds), F.N.I.
Research Professor of Botany.

Dated 26 December 1968

Digitized by the Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

My dear Prof. Kasapligil,

I have just received your letter dated December 18, 1968.

I am sorry to trouble you about the visiting professorship. Some time back I wrote to Dr. V.I.Cheadle about this matter. He was away at that time and on his return he has informed me that as he ~~has~~ is very busy with administrative matters of the University, he can not do much for me. He has, therefore, sent my letter to the President, Botanical Society of America, for necessary action. Unfortunately I did not write to Dr. Gifford whom I know very well. I have sent ~~him~~^a letter today for kindly finding out the possibility of arranging of visiting professorship anywhere in the United States. I know Prof. Foster also, but have not written to him.

I am particularly anxious to go to the U.S.A. in 1969 for attending the International Botanical Congress. In view of the acute financial stringency the Deputy Secretary, Education Department, Government of India, New Delhi, whom I had met a few months back in this connection, informed me that financial help may not be available for this purpose. I would, therefore, request you to kindly try any university, anywhere in the U.S.A. Sorry to be excused for this trouble.

I wish you and Mrs. Kasapligil and children a prosperous and a happy New Year.

With best personal regards,

Yours sincerely,

B.C.Kundu
(B.C.Kundu)

Prof. Baki Kasapligil,
Professor and Head of the Biology Dept.,
Mills College,
Oakland,
California 94613, U.S.A.

XI International Botanical Congress, Inc.



UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON, SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

August 24 - September 2, 1969

sponsored by

THE PLANT SCIENCE SOCIETIES OF THE UNITED STATES
THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES
THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES—NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL

January 4, 1969

NATIONAL COMMITTEE

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Digitized by the Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

Reply to: G.L. Stebbins
Center for Advanced Studies in the Behavioral Sciences
202 Junipero Serra Blvd.
Stanford Ca. 94305

Dr. Baki Ksaplgil
Biology Department
Mills College
Oakland 13, Ca.

Dear Baki:

Many thanks for calling my attention to Professor B.C. Kundu. In his case, as with other Indians, we may find a different solution. Dick Cowan, our Secretary, is negotiating with the State Department in hopes of obtaining money available for Indian Science and Scientists under Public Law 480. In view of the large number of people whom we would like to help, I think it best to rely on this source for Indian visitors until we know more definitely about its availability. Because of Professor Kundu's prominence in the field of Economic Botany, I expect that he would be more likely than most others to get help under this law.

Sincerely

Ledyard

G. Ledyard Stebbins

January 24, 1969

Professor B.C. Kundu
Bose Research Institute
92/1 Acharya Prafullachandra Road
Calcutta 9, India

Dear Professor Kundu,

Enclosed, I am sending you a copy of my report on Miss Pratima Ray Chaudhuri's thesis. The copies of my letters addressed to Professor J.J. Shah and Mr. J.C. Mukharjee (Deputy Registrar of the University) are also attached. I returned the thesis to the Registrar's Office by air mail. I hope Miss Chaudhuri will have an opportunity to see my corrections and comments made directly on the pages of her dissertation. She may find my suggestions as helpful hints when she revises the thesis for publication. I am very impressed with her work and I would appreciate receiving a copy when it is published.

With all good wishes and personal regards.

Sincerely yours,

Baki Kasapligil
Head of the Biology Department
Division of Natural Sciences
Mills College, Oakland, California

Professor B. C. Kundu
Bose Research Institute

93/1 Acharya Prafullachandra Road

Calcutta 9, India
Digitized by the Institute for Botanical Documentation

Dear Professor Kundu,

Enclosed, I am sending you a copy of my report on Miss Pratima Ray Chaudhuri's thesis. The copies of my letters addressed to Professor J. J. Shah and Mr. J. C. Mukharjee (Deputy Registrar of the University) are also attached. I returned the thesis to the Registrar's Office by air mail. I hope Miss Chaudhuri will have an opportunity to see my corrections and comments made directly on the pages of her dissertation. She may find my suggestions ~~as~~ as helpful hints when she ~~prepares~~ revises the thesis for publication. I am very impressed with her work and I would appreciate receiving a copy when it is published.

With all good wishes and personal regards.

Sincerely yours

1 carbon copy

Professor J. J. Shah

Head of the Department of Botany

Sardar Patel University

Vallabh Vidyanagar

Dist. Kaira (Gujarat), INDIA

Dear Professor Shah,

Thank you for your letter dated 30. Dec. 1968.

I read Miss Pratima Ray Chaudhuri's thesis and was pleased with the quality of her work. Attached to this letter, I am sending you a copy of my report on the thesis. I mailed the original copy of my report to ~~the~~ Mr. J. C. Mukherjee, Deputy Registrar of the University of Calcutta and another carbon copy to Professor B. C. Kundu of the Bose Research Institute. If you wish to prepare a joint report as you suggest in your letter, I am perfectly willing to sign it.

With all good wishes and regards,

Sincerely yours,

Baki Tasapliligil
Head of the Biology Department
Division of Natural Sciences
Mills College, Oakland, Calif.

January 24, 1969

Mr. J.C. Mukharjee
Deputy Registrar
Senate House
University of Calcutta
Calcutta 12, India

Dear Sir:

Attached to this letter, I am sending you my report as an examiner of the thesis entitled "Cytological and anatomical studies on some members of the family Boraginaceae" submitted by Miss Pratima Ray Chaudhuri. Under a separate cover, I am returning the copy of the thesis. I made some minor comments including corrections of the typographical errors directly on the pages of the thesis. These suggestions are aimed at improving the manuscript when the author revises her work for publication. Otherwise, the thesis as a whole is an excellent one and I approve the acceptance of it.

Signed copies of the forms concerning the honorarium are also attached to this letter. I wish to donate the sum of 100 rupees to the library funds of the University of Calcutta for the purchase of Botany books.

Sincerely yours,

Baki Kinsapligil
Head of the Biology Department
Division of Natural Sciences
Mills College, Oakland, California

1 copy not
3rd carbon copy

Mr. J. C. Mukharjee, ~~E~~
Deputy Registrar

Digitized by the ~~Herbarium~~ Institute for Botanical Documentation
University of Calcutta
Calcutta 12, India

Dear Sir,

Attached to this letter, I am sending you my report as an examiner of the thesis entitled "Cytological and anatomical studies on some members of the family Boraginaceae" submitted by Miss Pratima Ray Chaudhuri. Under a separate cover, I am returning the copy of the thesis. I made some minor comments including ^{corrections of} the ~~the~~ typographical errors directly on the pages of the thesis. These suggestions are aimed at improving the manuscript ~~for~~ when the author revises her work for publication. Otherwise, the thesis as a whole is an excellent one and I approve the acceptance of it.

~~It was a pleasure to assist your university under~~
Signed copies of the forms concerning the honorarium are also attached to this letter. I wish to donate this sum ^{of 100 Rupees} to ~~the~~ library ^{funds} of the University of Calcutta for the purchase of Botany books. Sincerely yours

A Report on the Doctoral Dissertation, Submitted
by Miss Pratima Ray Chaudhuri of the University
of Calcutta

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I read the thesis of Miss Pratima Ray Chaudhuri dealing with ^{the} "Cytological and Anatomical Studies on Some Members of the Family Boraginaceae". Being a mediterranean botanist, ^{familiar with the family,} I was delighted to see that the family Boraginaceae received a thorough attention from the points of Cytotaxonomy, Histotaxonomy and Palynology. Miss Chaudhuri's investigations ~~deal~~ include five species under the genus Cordia of the subfamily Cordioideae, three species of the subfamily Ehretioideae (Ehretia acuminata Br., E. laevis Roxb. and Coldenia procumbens Linn.), four species of Heliotropium curassavicum under the subfamily Heliotropioideae and seven species representing the genera Trichodesma, Cynoglossum, Anchusa, Arnebia and Echium under the subfamily Boraginoideae. The dissertation contains ~~232 pages~~ neatly typed 232 pages, 19 of which are dedicated to the tables summarizing the chromosome counts and measurements and the dimensions of the pollen grains. Cytological and anatomical observations ^{and their comparison} are vividly ~~etc~~ and abundantly illustrated and thoroughly documented by photomicrographs, histograms and ~~and~~ beautiful diagrams and drawings throughout the text.

The dissertation is divided into six chapters by the author. ~~The~~ ^{one deals with} first chapter ~~the~~ candidate discusses the scope of the investigation with a lengthy introduction ^{towards the} justification of her cytological and ~~Distinction by approach to the~~ ⁱⁿ phylogenetic evaluation of the members of Boraginaceae in question. This introductory chapter reviews the ^{part and present} literature comprehensively and compares critically ^{various} ~~the~~ systems of classifications ^{applied to} ~~applied to~~ Boraginaceae. B. Clarke's key (1885) is adopted for the identification of the ~~genera~~ ^{subfamilies}, genera and species studied. The construction of a ^{revised} modern key based on Miss Chandhuri's findings would be desirable. I am pleased to note that the ~~the~~ geographic distribution as well as the economic importance of the members of the family Boraginaceae are also covered in this chapter. I am particularly impressed with the author's awareness of the pertinent literature concerning Boraginaceae as well as of the related publications.

The chapters II, III, IV and V cover the observational results of the investigator which are presented in an orderly ~~fashion~~ and uniform fashion that follows the ^{sequence of} Introduction, 2) Materials and methods, 3) Observations & descriptions, 4) Discussion, 5) Summary and 6) References. To me, each chapter ^{appears to be} ~~represents~~ an independent manuscript ready to ~~be~~ ^{published} ~~sent~~ to the press ~~as~~ for publication. Possibly, the author had such a scheme in ~~her~~ mind while preparing this colossal piece of work. However, if the author intends to publish ^{this} ~~the entire work~~ ~~altogether~~ in a book form, the headings such as "Introduction" and "Materials

and Methods" should be condensed drastically ^{to avoid} repetitions. ^(Presume) ^{Assuming the aforementioned book form,} ^{could} If this is the case, even the references ^{could} be combined ^{into} a single bibliography at the end of the entire work. All karyotypes, ~~meiotic~~ idiograms and meiotic stages I examined in Chapter II on Cytology, reflect the refinement in the technical skill of the candidate which I believe is a highly desirable trait for a student of science. Miss Chaudhuri's cytological studies in Boraginaceae ~~resulted important~~ yielded important data regarding the basic chromosome numbers in the taxa studied. Based on her ~~cytological~~ karyomorphological studies, she concluded a polyphyletic evolution within the family and judged the degree of phylogenetic affinities among different tribes and subfamilies.

In chapter III, the author carefully emphasized on the anatomical features of taxonomic value such as trichomes, stomatal apparatus, petiole, ~~stole~~ and nodal and internodal structures of the ~~stole~~. ^{In this chapter} Miss Chaudhuri proposes ~~a new species rank~~ the segregation of the species Cordia dichotoma collected from two different localities and favors the idea of establishing two new species under the same genus because of the striking differences in the vegetative anatomy she ~~observed~~ ^{observed}. To me, this is a fine example demonstrating the use of anatomical ~~data~~ characteristics of diagnostic value in delimiting ~~and~~ and establishing of the taxa.

The chapter on ~~the~~ floral anatomy ^{covers} a broad comparative survey of the vasculature of ~~the~~ floral appendages in all

the species involved. Being a student of floral anatomy myself, I fully realize and appreciate the enormous work carried out by the candidate beyond the descriptions presented by the candidate in the dissertation. However, it is pleasing to note that the painstaking phase of her research yielded ~~not~~ valuable ~~results~~ ^{information} in understanding the degree of evolutionary specializations within the family. Appendicular traces are analyzed through a series of sections at different levels of the flowers and the findings regarding their number, degree of adnation, coalescence and reduction are ~~noted~~ ^{properly} sensibly utilized in interpreting the trends of floral evolution.

The fifth chapter is dedicated to the palynological investigations ~~in~~ which includes ^{the} precise descriptions of the pollen structural features ^{of the pollen grains} (such as shapes, ^{germ} pores, exine sculptures, sexine and nexine features and size variations). Miss Chandhuri's palynological survey reveals three morphotypes of pollen grains in the family: the spheroidal reticulate grains , the prolate punctate-guttulate grains  and prolate psilate grains. Possible trends in the ~~evolution~~ ~~phylogeny~~ phylogenetic specializations of the pollen grains are cautiously discussed under the heading of "Line of evolution" and these ~~trends~~ ^{present} ~~are~~ ^{thoughts} correlated with the divergent lines of ~~evolutionary~~ ^{evolutionary} within the family. Dimorphic pollen grains are reported from Coroaria alba, C. selvestina and Henebria hispidissima. ~~This condition. Pollen dimorphism is attributed to hetero.~~ No possible cause is proposed for the pollen dimorphism, but it is interesting to note that this condition is associated either with heterostyly or with the hybrid nature of the plants.

in question. The photomicrographs of the pollen grains are excellent in quality.

The concluding chapter of the thesis is a compact synthesis of all evidences ~~obtained~~ ^{obtained} from different lines of her investigations. Based on her correlated findings, Miss Chandhuri suggests the segregation of the sub-family Cordioideae from the rest of Boraginaceae. On the other hand, the author maintains the subfamilies Ehretioideae, Heliotropoideae and Boraginoideae under the same family Boraginaceae as a single assemblage possibly derived from a common progenitor. Miss Chandhuri's concept of evolutionary trends within the family is clearly summarized in a dichotomously branching arboreal diagram at the end of this chapter.

Taking the entire thesis into consideration, I recommend that Miss Pratima Ray Chandhuri's thesis titled "Cytological and Anatomical Studies on Some Members of the Family Boraginaceae" to be accepted ~~there~~ ^{in Science} for the fulfillment of requirement towards the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy. Miss Chandhuri made a significant contribution to our understanding of the evolution of Boraginaceae. ~~and~~ I further recommend the publication of the entire work.

Professor Baki Tasapliligil, Ph.D.,
habilit.

Head of the Biology Department
Division of Natural Sciences
Mills College, Oakland, California



TELE { PHONE : 29 (VALLABH VIDYANAGAR)
GRAM : "UNIVERSITY"

SARDAR PATEL UNIVERSITY

DEPARTMENT OF BOTANY

VALLABH VIDYANAGAR
[Gujarat - INDIA]

No. PG/Bot/1595

Date: 3-2-1969.

From

Professor J.J. Shah,
Head, Dept. of Botany.

To

Professor Baki Kasapligil,
Head, Biology Department,
Division of Natural Sciences,
Mills College, Oakland,
California.

Dear Prof. Kasapligil,

Many thanks for your letter dated January 24th, 1969. I have just finished my reading of Miss Pratima Ray Chaudhuri's thesis entitled "Cytological and anatomical studies on some members of the family Boraginaceae." I am pleased to send you a copy of my report on the thesis. As you have already sent your report to the Registrar, I also prefer to send him mine. We, both of us agree in the final evaluation of the thesis.

With best regards and good wishes,

Yours sincerely,

(J.J. Shah)

Professor of Botany

Encl. as above.

vc.3.11.

Evaluation report on the Doctor of Philosophy thesis entitled "Cytological and anatomical studies on some members of the family Beraginaceae" - submitted by Miss Pratima Ray Chaudhuri, Calcutta University.

I have gone through the thesis "Cytological and anatomical studies on some members of the family Beraginaceae" of Miss Pratima Ray Chaudhuri. My comments on the evaluation of the thesis are as follows.

- (1) In the cytological studies the candidate has done good work. However, I feel that while publishing these results the candidate should consult the cytological data, obtained by Dr.G.N. Bhattacharya. (a short summary is published in the annual report of the Cytegenetics laboratory, Dept. of Botany, Calcutta University, Vol.1. 1966). To make my point clear, I would cite one or two examples. According to Bhattacharya the chromosomes of Gordia sebastina are longer than the chromosomes of Heliotropium indicum, Eretia acuminata and Gordia subletii. He also reports that the 2n chromosome number of G.subletii and E. acuminata is 36 and 30 respectively. Table 17 on page 73 of the present thesis does not confirm these observations. The histogram of the investigated species (Fig.10 of the thesis) does not support the contention of Bhattacharya that reduction in chromatin matter has been associated in evolution from woody to herbaceous forms in the family Beraginaceae.
- (2) The candidate has carefully studied the nodal and internodal anatomy of some members of the family Beraginaceae. I am pleased to note that she has also extended her studies to the vascular supply of axillary and accessory buds. But I am not fully convinced of her observations on this

aspect. While publishing these results I hope she refers to my paper "Axillary bud traces in certain dicotyledons" *Canad. J. Bot.*, 1968. The justification for describing the primary central stele of the investigated species as predominantly dissected siphonostelic type is not evident to me. Her attempt to investigate other anatomical characters like, stomata, trichomes and petiolar anatomy for the assessment of the systematic position of the various taxa of the family is noteworthy. The candidate describes the stomata as anemecytic but prefers to classify them as cyclostylic after Watson (1967). In anemecytic stomata no subsidiary cells are present while in cyclostylic one subsidiary cells are present in a ring.

- (3) The candidate's work on the floral anatomy refers to about 20 species belonging to 4 subfamilies of the Beraginnaceae. It forms an important part of the thesis and shows comprehensive familiarity of the candidate. The work on floral anatomy has brought out very good information and I am sure the data will be useful in the future. The general conclusion that except Gerdiolideae, the different taxa of the rest of the subfamily has similarity with each other, finds support in palynological work.
- (4) The candidate has carried out the palynology of about 19 species of the family and has shown three lines of pollen evolution within the family. The suggestion of polyphyletic or parallel evolution on the basis of palynology has its supporting evidences in floral anatomy.
- (5) The diagrams and photomicrographs amply illustrate the general observations furnished in the thesis. For publication I wish the candidate uses still more magnified and better drawn diagrams especially with reference to her studies in floral anatomy and nidal anatomy.

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(6) I have pointed out minor corrections or errors

in the thesis itself for the benefit of the candidate. They should be considered ^m nearly as suggestions.

W

(7) The thesis is a good contribution in understanding the position of the various taxa of Beraginaceae. It is a good example also how comprehensive taxonomic work can be done. I recommend that the thesis be accepted for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy (D.Phil.) in partial fulfilment of the regulations of the University of Calcutta. I suggest that the candidate may be asked to appear for a viva voce examination with all the necessary micropreparations in support of her observations furnished in the thesis.

J. J. Shah
(J. J. Shah)
Professor of Botany
and
Head of the Department,
Sardar Patel University,
Vallabh Vidyanagar,
Gujarat.

BY AIR MAIL
PAR AVION

हवाई पत्र
AEROGRAMME



Prof. Baki K. Sengupta,
Prof. & Head of the Biology Dept.,
Mills College, Oakland,
California 94613, U.S.A.



पहले मोड़
FIRST FOLD

दूसरा मोड़
SECOND FOLD

इस पत्र के अन्दर कुछ न रखिये NO ENCLOSURES ALLOWED

भेजने वाले का नाम और पता: SENDER'S NAME AND ADDRESS:-

Prof. B.C. Kundu,
Bose Research Institute,
93/1 Acharya Prafullachandra Road,
Calcutta 9, India.

भारत INDIA

BOSE RESEARCH INSTITUTE

93/1 Acharya Prafullachandra Road, Calcutta 9

Prof. B.C.Kundu, Ph.D.(Leeds), F.N.I.
Research Professor of Botany.

Dated 6 February 1969

igitized by the Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

Dear Prof. Kasapligil,

I have just received your letter dated January 25th and the copy of your report on Miss Pratima Roy Chaudhury's thesis. I am indeed very thankful to you for kindly taking the trouble of scrutinizing the thesis very carefully and recommending this for acceptance for the fulfilment of requirement towards Degree of Doctor Philosophy in Science. I am also very glad to note that you have found it to be significant contribution towards our understanding of the evolution of the Family Boraginaceae. As desired by you we would arrange for the publication of the entire work after making necessary corrections. I am sure the suggestions made by you will be very helpful to improve the manuscript and all these will be incorporated in the revised manuscript meant for publication.

With personal regards,

Yours sincerely,


(B.C.Kundu)

Prof. Baki Kasapligil,
Prof. & Head of the Biology Dept.,
Mills College, Oakland,
California 94613, U.S.A.

If necessary, you may kindly contact Dr. Cowan or Dr. Lang.

Very sorry for this intrusion.

With best personal regards to your and Mrs. Kasapligil,

Yours sincerely,

B.C. Kundu
(B.C. Kundu)

Prof. Baki Kasapligil,
Prof. & Head of the Biology Dept.,
Mills College, Oakland,
California 94613, U.S.A.

BY AIRMAIL
PAR AVION
हवाई पत्र
AÉROGRAMME



Prof. Baki Kasapligil,
Head of the Biology Department,
Mills College, Oakland,
California, U.S.A.
California 94613, U.S.A.

दूसरा मोड़ SECOND FOLD

इस पत्र के अन्दर कुल न रखिये NO ENCLOSURES ALLOWED

भेजने वाले का नाम और पता: SENDER'S NAME AND ADDRESS:

Prof. B.C. Kundu,
Bose Research Institute,
93/1 Acharya Prafullachandra Road,
Calcutta 9. India.

भारत INDIA

BOSE RESEARCH INSTITUTE

93/1 Acharya Prafullachandra Road, Calcutta 9

Prof. B.C.Kundu, Ph.D.(Leeds), F.N.I.
Research Professor of Botany.

Dated 7 February 1969

Dear Prof. Kasapligil,

I have received the letter of Prof. Stebbins addressed to you in connection with financial support to Indian scientists for attending the International Botanical Congress. I am indeed very grateful to you for kindly writing to Prof. Stebbins and drawing his attention about this matter. I note that Dr. Cowan is negotiating with the State Department in hopes of obtaining money available for Indian science and scientists under Public Law 480. I have not received any intimation from Dr. Cowan recently. I had the opportunity of knowing Dr. Cowan when I had worked for about a week in the Smithsonian Institution in 1966. Dr. Cowan, whom I had written earlier, informed me some time back that the Congress had only limited funds for paying personal travel expenses for those who are invited to participate in this Symposium and for that reason he sent a copy of my letter to Dr. Anton Lang. Dr. Anton Lang has sent me a special invitation letter in the following manner:

".... extend you a cordial invitation to become a member of the Congress and to contribute a paper dealing with your recent investigations. This work has attracted very considerable interest in the international botanical community, and we feel strongly it should be presented before the Congress."

I approached the Government of India, Education Department, for financial assistance and I have been informed recently by the Under Secretary, Education Department, Government of India, the following: "Your case has been carefully examined but in view of the financial stringency and the fact that financial assistance is restricted only to those scientists who are specially invited to preside over a session of an International Conference or Symposium, it has not been found possible to accommodate your request".

I did not know if anybody from India has been invited to preside over a session or not. However, Dr. A.K.Sharma, Reader, Department of Botany, Calcutta University (one of our old students) informs me that he has been invited to preside over a session of the Section of Structural Botany.

Except that special invitation from Dr. Cowan, I have not received any other invitation with regard to Chairmanship or Co-Chairmanship of any session of a section. I may, however, mention that I was a Co-Chairman of the Cytogenetics Section of the International Botanical Congress held at Canada, and was offered partial financial assistance by the authorities of the Congress, but due to certain official formalities of the Government of India at the last hour, I could not attend. I could not attend the Congress at Edinburgh in 1964, because in that year I had two other invitations - one in the U.S.S.R. and the other at the U.S.A. During my U.S. tour in December 1964 I had the pleasure of meeting you at Berkeley.

P. T. O.

September 8, 1970

Professor B. C. Kundu

Bose Institut

93/1 Acharya Prafulla Chandra Road

Calcutta 9, I N D I A

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Dear Colleague,

I was delighted to receive the reprints of your recent studies on Nyctanthes and Mimosa pudica all of which represent the fine quality of your refined techniques and scholarship. All these papers arrived in good time since I am teaching a course in plant anatomy beginning next week. Surely, my students also will appreciate your good work.

As you know, I was in Europe during my sabbatical leave. For that reason I could not attend the Seattle Congress. I am so glad that you were able to attend it. I was extremely happy to read your name in the proceedings of the congress. After visiting at least a dozen of countries in Europe, we returned to Oakland about two months ago. Right now, I am busy in arranging the laboratories, before the department is flooded by the incoming students. Likewise, our children also will start their schools at the same time. Mrs. Kasapligil is a good nest maker and she supervises the house painters at work. We were fortunate to have good tenants in our house while we were away. Nevertheless, a great deal of repairing and remodeling will be necessary before ^{we} can settle.

Mrs. Kasapligil joins me in sending best wishes and regards to you and to your family.

Cordially yours,

Baki Kasapligil, Ph. D.
Professor of Botany

I am sure you must
have been very busy in resuming
your laboratory & start your work.

Thank you very much for
your letter.

With kindest regards to you
and Mrs. Kasapligil,

Yours truly
B. P. Khuder

P.S. I met recently Mr. Robert Murphy
at New Delhi. He has not heard
from you for quite a long time.

One of my American friends,
Mrs. Ruth Kean from Los Angeles,
came to visit India. She spent
about a week at Calcutta. We
were fortunate to have her as our
guest. Tomorrow we expect that
you would come & stay as our
guest.

BPK

BY AIRMAIL
PAR AVION
हवाई पत्र
AÉROGRAMME



Professor Baki Kasapligil
Mills College

Biology Dept

OAKLAND

CALIFORNIA

U. S. A 94613



दूसरा मोड़ SECOND FOLD

इस पत्र के अन्दर कुछ न रखिये NO ENCLOSURES ALLOWED

भेजने वाले का नाम और पता: SENDER'S NAME AND ADDRESS:

B. P. Khuder

Base Building

Calcutta

भारत INDIA

Res:

332 Lake Town

Calcutta: 53-

INDIA

Bose Institute

Cal: 9

Sept 21, 1970

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Dear Friend,

I had been anxious to write to ~~know~~ you, but did not know when you would be back to U.S.A. I had been to Seattle, Thanks to ~~you~~ Smithsonian Institution authorities for the grant for this purpose. After visiting Seattle, I had been to several places. My paper on the ~~filling~~ of Mimosa excited all of interest as it was discussed with Professor Esau.

Event, Currier and other authorities. I had actually been to Madison to discuss with Professor Esau about some of my problems. I also met several other people in other universities and finally worked for a couple of weeks at the Botany Dept., Smithsonian Inst.

Washington, D.C. on the Monispermaceae which I was working there. Dr. ~~Dr.~~ ~~Dr.~~ invited me to work on the project of the revision of the Flora of Ceylon by the Smithsonian Institution. Although I agree to this, it has not been possible for me to leave for Ceylon earlier. I expect to leave for Colombo on the 25th September for about two months. I shall write to you on arriving at Colombo.

I have retired from the Bose Institute this year and hope to work either here or at the Botanical Survey as an Honorary Professor. In case I get some other offer elsewhere, outside country, I shall also accept it, if it is for a short period.

sep 21, 1970

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AÉROGRAMME



Professor Baki Kasapligil
4852 Reinhardt Drive



OAKLAND - 19

CALIFORNIA

U.S.A.

दूसरा मोड़ SECOND FOLD

इस पत्र के अन्दर कुछ न रखिये NO ENCLOSURES ALLOWED

भेजने वाले का नाम और पता:- SENDER'S NAME AND ADDRESS:-

Professor B.C. Kunder

Base Institute

Calcutta - 9

भारत INDIA

332 Lake Town

CALCUTTA: 55

India

January 1, 1971

Dear Friend,

On an invitation from the
Smithsonian Institution, Washington D.C.

I had been to Ceylon in September, 1970.
and have now returned a few weeks
back. Trimen's Flora of Ceylon is
being revised by experts in
different families. Mostly persons
from U.S.A., Europe and Australia. I
have invited. For the last few years I
have been working on the family Menispermaceae;
and from late I have been invited to
work on this family. Recently I have
revised the genus *Hibiscus* (in India)
and so I may assist Dr. Sahas
in his project.

I send you all kindest my
very best wishes for the NEW YEAR.
May the New Year bring to you all
happiness and peace of mind.
Trust this finds you, Mrs. Kasapigal
and your sons in good health.

I have returned from St. Rose
Hospital, but am still unable to
attend to my duties in an honorary capacity.
I expect to be back to Ceylon in
April to finish my work and submit
my draft manuscript. If everything
goes on all right, I may visit USA
in June/July.

With personal regards

Yours sincerely

B. C. Kunder

January 17, 1971

Professor B. C. Kundu
332 Lake Town
Calcutta 55, India

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Dear Colleague,

I wish to thank you for both of your letters that I could not answer earlier. Because of an eye operation, I could not write during the holiday season to extend my good wishes to you and to your family. My condition is improving steadily and hopefully, I shall regain my normal vision in 3 or 4 months.

I understand, you have been busy more than ever since your "retirement". I wish I could do the same! Your work on the Menispermaceae of Ceylon sounds very interesting indeed. I remember that we had some correspondence about this family a few years ago. The mountains of Ceylon must be very beautiful, I may visit them sometime in future.

I hope you will keep me informed about your travel plans to the U.S. next summer. We shall be delighted to see you here if you can spend a few days with us. I shall be glad to reserve the dates to have you as our house guest during your visit to the Bay Area of San Francisco. I am sure that we shall have many problems to discuss.

Please accept our belated good wishes for the New Year. Mrs. Kasapligil and our sons David and Danyal join me in sending cordial greetings and best regards to you and to your family.

Did Miss Pratima Chaudhuri publish her thesis on Boraginaceae? I would be obliged to receive a reprint of her work.

Very truly yours,

Baki Kasapligil
4852 Reinhardt Drive
Oakland, California
U. S. A. 94619

हवाई पत्र
AEROGramME



Dr. Baki Kasepligil, Ph.D.

Professor of Botany;

Wills College,
Oakland, California 94613.

U.S.A.



दूसरा मोड़ SECOND FOLD

इस पत्र के अन्दर कुछ न लिखिये NO ENCLOSURES ALLOWED

भेजने वाले का नाम और पता

SENDER'S NAME AND ADDRESS

B.S. Math

Botanical Survey of India,

1, Sadar Street

Calcutta-700013.

पिन PIN

भारत INDIA

पहला मोड़ FIRST FOLD

Dr. B.C. Kundu, Ph.D. (Leeds), F.R.A.
Emeritus Research Professor

Botanical Survey of India,
1, Sudder Street,
Calcutta-700013.
India.

4th May, 1974.

Digitized by the Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation

Dear Friend,

I have not been able to write to you for a very long time. I submitted a paper to be read before the First International Congress of Evolutionary Biology held at Boulder, Colorado in August, 1973. The authorities of the Congress had no special grant to help me for my travel expenses and the grant promised by the Government of India was not sufficient to ^emet all expenses. I had, therefore, to cancel my programme.

I have several relatives in California (San Diego) and also in Chicago and several students in different parts of the U.S.A. If I had gone I would not have any difficulty in moving about. I had a mind to spend a few days with you at Oakland, but that was not possible. I donot know when I can come to the U.S.A. again and meet you.

I had been really very shocked to hear about the sudden death of Professor Adriance Foster, who had been always so very kind to me. He examined the Ph.D. thesis of one of my students in 1972. *I met him last at Seattle in 1969.*

One of my students is submitting her Ph.D. thesis "On the anatomical studies of the genera Hibiscus & Abutilon" very soon. I am proposing your name as one of the external foreign examiners. I shall indeed be much obliged if you kindly agree to examine the thesis.

2 Kindly convey my regards to Mrs. Kasapligil.

Hoping to hear from you and

With best regards,

Yours sincerely,

B.C. Kundu
(B.C. Kundu)

Dr. Bakki Kasapligil, Ph.D.
Mills College, Oakland, California 94613,

A REPORT ON THE DOCTORAL DISSERTATION
SUBMITTED BY MISS PRATIMA RAY CHAUDHURI OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CALCUTTA

I read the thesis of Miss Pratima Ray Chaudhuri dealing with the "Cytological and Anatomical Studies on Some Members of the Family Boraginaceae". Being a mediterranean botanist familiar with the family, I was delighted to see that

Boraginaceae received a thorough attention from the points of Cytotaxonomy, Histotaxonomy and Palynology. Miss Chaudhuri's investigation includes five species under the genus Cordia of the subfamily Cordioideae, three species of the subfamily Ehretioideae (Ehretia acuminata Br., E. laevis Roxb. and Coldenia procumbens Linn.) four species of Helis tropium under the subfamily Heliotropioideae, and seven species representing the genera Crichedesma, Cynoglossum, Anchusa, Arnebia and Echium under the subfamily Boraginoideae. The dissertation contains 232 (pages) neatly typed, 19 of which are dedicated to the tables summarizing the chromosome counts and measurements and the dimensions of the pollen grains. Cytological and anatomical observations and their comparison among the species studied are vividly and abundantly illustrated and thoroughly documented by photomicrographs, histograms and beautiful diagrams and drawings throughout the text.

The dissertation is divided into six chapters by the author. The first one deals with the scope of the investigation in a lengthy introduction towards the justification of her cytological and anatomical approach to the phylogenetic evaluation of the members of Boraginaceae in question. This introductory chapter reviews the past and present literature comprehensively and compares critically various systems of classifications applied to Boraginaceae. B. Clarke's key (1885) is adopted for the identification of the subfamilies, genera and species studied. The construction of a revised modern key based on Miss

Chaudhuri's findings would be desirable. I am pleased to note that the geographic distribution as well as the economic importance of the members of the family Boraginaceae are also covered in this chapter. I am particularly impressed with the author's awareness of the pertinent literature concerning Boraginaceae as well as of the related publications.

The chapters II, III, IV and V cover the observational results of the investigator which are presented in an orderly and uniform fashion that follows the sequence of 1) Introduction, 2) Materials and methods, 3) Observations and descriptions, 4) Discussion, 5) Summary, and 6) References. To me, each chapter appears to be an independent manuscript ready to be published. Possibly, the author had such a scheme in mind while preparing this colossal piece of work. However, if the author intends to publish this work in book form, the headings such as "Introduction" and "Materials and Methods" should be condensed drastically in order to avoid tiresome repetitions. Assuming the aforementioned book form, even the references should be combined in a single bibliography at the end of the entire work. All karyotypes, idiograms and meiotic stages I examined in Chapter II on Cytology reflect the refinement in the technical skill of the candidate which I believe is a highly desirable trait for a student of science. Miss Chaudhuri's cytological studies in Boraginaceae yielded important data regarding the basic chromosome numbers in the taxa studied. Based on her karyomorphological studies, she concluded a polyphyletic evolution within the family and judged the degree of phylogenetic affinities among different tribes and subfamilies.

In Chapter III, the author carefully emphasized on the anatomical features of taxonomic value such as trichomes, stomatal apparatus, petiole, nodal and internodal structures of the stele. Miss Chaudhuri proposes the segregation of the species Cordia dichotoma collected from two different localities and favors the idea of establishing two new species under the same genus

because of the striking differences in the vegetative anatomy she observed. To me, this is a fine example demonstrating the use of anatomical characteristics of diagnostic value in delimiting and establishing the taxa.

The chapter on floral anatomy covers a broad comparative survey of the vasculature of floral appendages in all species involved. Being a student of floral anatomy myself, I fully realize and appreciate the enormous work carried out by the candidate beyond the descriptions presented in the dissertation. It is pleasing to note that the painstaking ^aphase of her research yielded valuable information in understanding the degree of evolutionary specializations within the family. Appendicular traces are analyzed through a series of sections at different levels of the flowers and the findings regarding their number, degree of adnation, coalescence and reduction are sensibly utilized in interpreting the trends of floral evolution.

The fifth chapter is dedicated to the palynological investigations which include the precise descriptions of the structural features of the pollen grains such as shapes, germ pores, exine sculptures, sexine and nexine features and size variations. Miss Chaudhuri's palynological survey reveals three morphotypes of pollen grains in the family: spheroidal reticulate grains, prolate punctate-gillate grains, and prolate psilate grains. Possible trends in the phylogenetic specializations of the pollen grains are cautiously discussed under the heading, "Line of Evolution" and correlated with the divergent lines of prevalent evolutionary thought, within the family. Dimerphic pollen grains are reported from Cordia alba, C. sebestina and Arnebia hispidissima. No possible cause is proposed for the pollen dimerphism, but it is interesting to note that this condition is associated either with heterostyly or with the hybrid nature of the plants in question. The photomicrographs of the ^bpollen grains are excellent in quality.

The concluding chapter is a compact synthesis of all evidences obtained from different lines of her investigations. Based on her correlated findings, Miss Chaudhuri suggests the segregation of the subfamily Cordioidae from the ^{rest} of Boraginaceae. On the other hand, the author maintains the subfamilies Ehretioideae, Heliotropoideae and Boraginoideae under the same family Boraginaceae as a single assemblage possibly derived from a common progenitor. Miss Chaudhuri's concept of evolutionary trends within the family is clearly summarized in a dichotomously branching arboreal diagram at the end of this chapter.

Taking the entire thesis into consideration, I recommend that Miss Pratima Ray Chaudhuri's thesis be accepted for the fulfillment of requirement towards the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Science. Miss Chaudhuri made a significant contribution to our understanding of the evolution of Boraginaceae. I further recommend the publication of the entire work.

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