

## ETHNO-MEDICO-BOTANY OF SOME SACRED GROVES OF ADILABAD DISTRICT OF TELANGANA STATE

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### ABSTRACT

Sacred groves are the pockets of almost climax vegetation. Preserved on religious grounds. They are located in the remote tribal areas. There are many plants grown near the temples, which are regarded as the sacred plants by different ethnic groups of the country. Sacred groves are not only the sacred ecosystems functioning as a rich repository of nature's unique biodiversity but also a product of the socio-ecological philosophy that our forefathers have been cherishing since days. In India, from time immemorial, the concept of conservation of nature has been carefully woven into the various religious beliefs and customs. Tribal folklore is rich in Magico-religious beliefs and taboos. Sacred groves are ancient natural sanctuaries that have supported the growth of several interesting and rare species of flora and fauna of the past. In the district, many centers are considered under sacred grove category. For example the temple area of Jainath, situated in Jainath, a small village 21 Kms from Adilabad, the temple area of Basara-Saraswati, Ginnedhari of Tiryani Mandal, Keslapur a remote village of Indervelli Mandal, the area of Kunthala Waterfalls, the area of Pochara waterfalls, Mahagoan of Bhainsa mandal, Narnoor of Narnoor Mandal, Dankanapally of Tiryani Mandal, the temple area of Sadalpur, an ancient Temples of Lord Bhirava and Mahadeva located at just 37 kms away from Adilabad and Sirichelma of Ichoda Mandal are known as places of sacred groves.

**KEYWORDS:** Sacred Groves, Local Tribal Communities, Adilabad District

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