

Indian J. Trop. Biodiv. **21(1&2)** : 15-27 (2013)
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FLORISTIC COMPOSITION AND VEGETATION TYPES IN A TROPICAL DRY DECIDUOUS FOREST OF CHITRAKOOT, BUNDELKHAND REGION OF UTTAR PRADESH, INDIA

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ABSTRACT: The forests of Chitrakoot district of Bundelkhand region of Uttar Pradesh, India have been undertaken in present investigation which reflects the phytosociological attributes of the forest community of this region. The vegetation types of district Chitrakoot is mainly Tropical dry mixed deciduous forest. Vegetation analysis was conducted during 2007 to 2012. The survey documentation of the plant species in the different forests areas of Chitrakoot recorded 54 species of tree and 38 species of shrubs/herbs/climbers. The dominant tree species *Diospyros melanoxylon* exhibited higher IVI value (27.6027) and among shrub/herb/climber species *Flacourtia indica* exhibited higher IVI value (70.6328). The basal area of different tree species varied between 5.7490 to 0.0062 m²/ha. Among the trees *Diospyros melanoxylon* showed maximum density (5.7490 m²/ha) and the basal area of different shrub/herb/climber species varied between 0.4762 to 0.0006 m²/ha where *Flacourtia indica* showed maximum density (0.4762 m²/ha) among lower group.

Keywords: *Bundelkhand, biodiversity, phytosociology, species richness, vegetation analysis*