



CHINAR TREE

THE PRIDE OF KASHMIR

THE LONG-LEAVED WONDER...

The Chinara tree is a deciduous tree. It belongs to the family of flowering plants. It is also known as the Oriental Plane. The tree was also mentioned in Greek historical and literary records. The Chinara tree had an important place in the gardens of Persia. In Kashmir the tree was initially planted near the religious places of the Hindu's. During Muslim rule the tree continued to be used as a landscape tree in gardens. The tree is believed to have been first planted by a mystic named Syed Abdul Qasim Shah Hamdani in 1374 AD.

USEFUL TO ALL....

The barks and leaves of the Chinara are known to have medicinal properties. The timber derived from the tree is used for making furniture. It is known as lace wood. The roots and twigs of the tree are used for making dyes. Because of commercial purposes the Chinara trees of Kashmir are facing severe threat. They are being cut for timber and also for making roads.

The Chinara has been declared the National Property of the State of Jammu and Kashmir. The government has issued a ban on cutting and felling of the Chinara trees in the state.

There is an island on the Dal Lake in Srinagar in Kashmir which is famous for its Chinara trees. The island has four Chinara trees and is popularly called Char Chinara by the locals. In fact these trees have survived for ages and have become part of the geographical landscape of the region.



THE SCIENTIFIC NAME

Can you figure out the scientific name of the tree and write it in the space below.

