

Acknowledgement

*"To Him who is in love with Nature
In communion with her visible forms
She speaks in various Languages".*

This small childhood fascination of mine brought me into a short journey – a journey to get a little more acquainted with a small group of beautiful trees that occurs far and wide throughout the Northern hemisphere having spread across along three major direction from its point of Origin in the south west China.

In course of this study I have had the opportunity to meet and came across a lot of people who have in some way or the other contributed to help me successfully complete the journey. It is thus, both through gratitude and a sense of being highly privileged that I wish to bestow upon my gratefulness.

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Countless names may have been missing form this list but to them I say that though they names may not be here on paper they shall always remain in my heart.

Today I sand awe stricken for I had chosen the genus Acer for its beauty. What am I to say now that the little bonsai that adorns my sitting room has an ancestral history being one of those first angiospermic plants to have originated evolved during the cretaceous having reached the peak during the m Mioecene. It often saddens me to think that some of them may be lost forever through the activity of man.

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