## Pentoxylales

Stem – Pentoxylon sahnii Leaf-Nipaniophyllum sahnii Male fructification-Sahnia nipaniensis Female-Carnoconites compactus

# Pentoxyleae

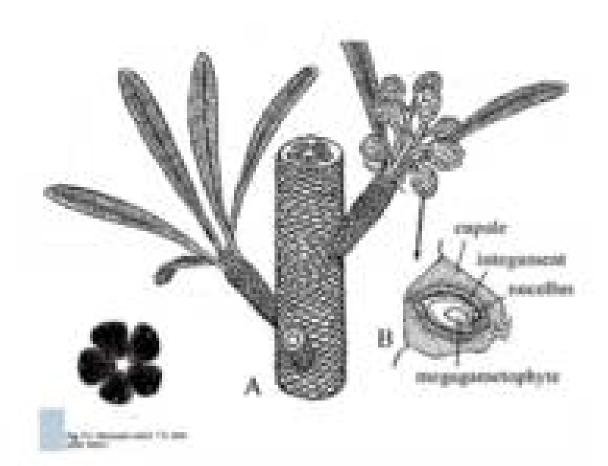
- This unique group of Gymnosperms appeared in the Rajmahal flora was erected by Prof Birbal sahni in 1948
- Sir B.P. Srivastav in 1946 reported a petrified stem which he named as *Pentoxylon sahnii*.
- Much of the information of this unique group was made available by Birbal sahni, B.P. Srivastav, Vishnu mittre, A.R.Rao, M.N.Bose, and B.D.Sharma

### Pentoxylalis

- Habit : small tress or shrubs that possessed long and short shoots.
- Figure 1: called Pentoxylon because it frequently showed five segments of triangular vascular tissue arranged in a ring around a central ground tissue. The primary xylem is mesarch and secondary xylem is pycnoxylic (resembling the wood of confers). The short and long shoot are covered by an armour of spirally arranged leaf bases. The short shoots often terminated in a crown of spirally arranged Nipaniophyllum-type of leaves. Besides foliage leaves some short shoots were terminated by clusters of ovulate cones or pollen organs.

#### Discovery of Pentoxylales:

This group has been discovered and named as "Pentoxyleae" by well-known Indian Palaeobotanist Professor Birbal Sahni (1948). This is a group of some fossil plants described from Rajmahal Hills in Amrapara District (Santhal Parganas) of Eastern Bihar (India) revealing their existence in Barassic Period.



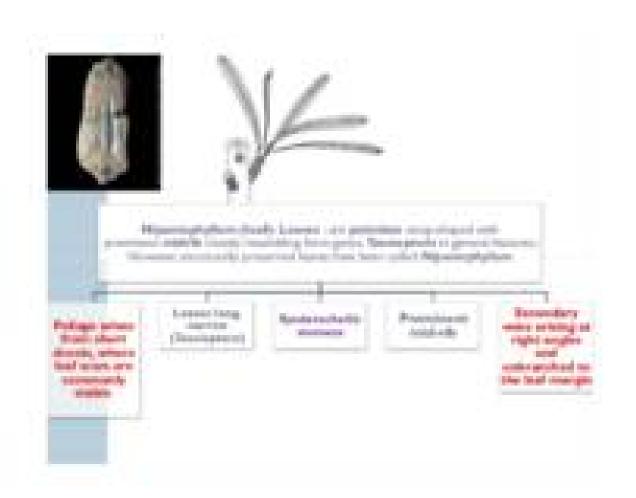
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#### Sahnia (male flower Sahnia nipaniensis)

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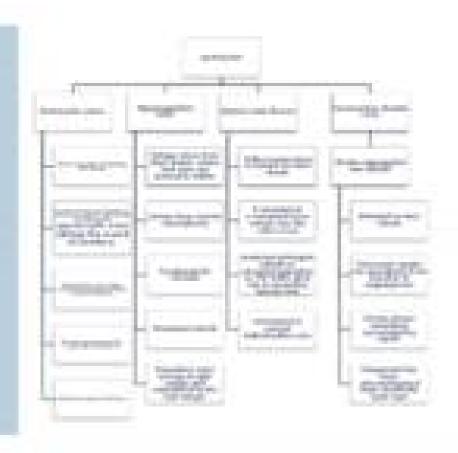
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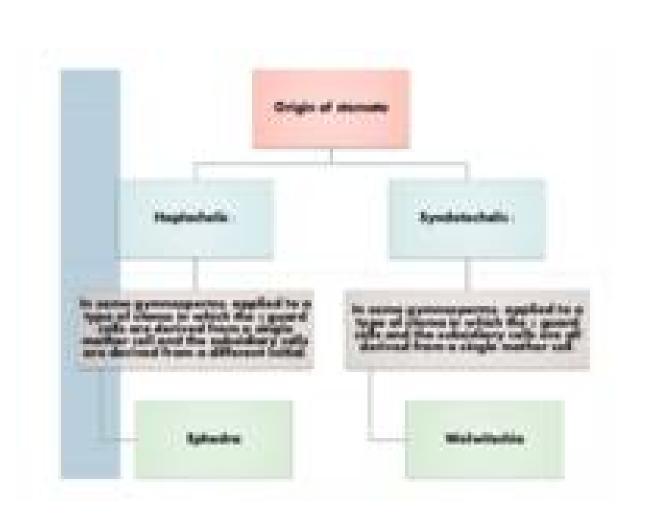
#### Carnoconites (female cone) C. compactum and C.laxum



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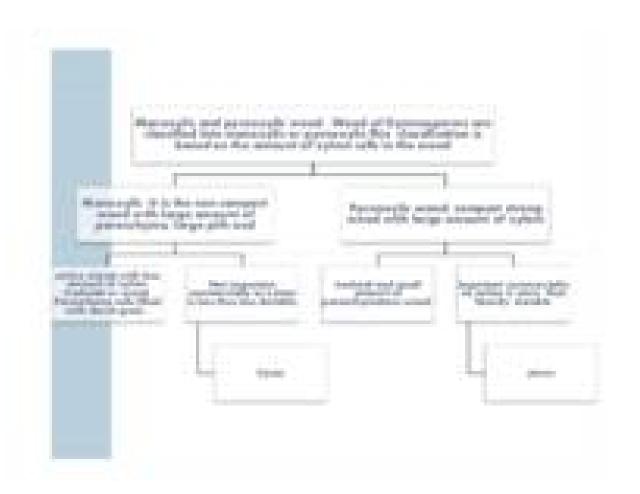
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# Affinities of Pentoxylon