



RESEARCH ARTICLE

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## Species diversity and community structure of trees and shrubs of Japfü mountain, Kohima: Nagaland

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**ABSTRACT :** The present study entitled “ Diversity and Phytosociological Analysis of Trees and Shrubs species of Japfü Mountain, Kohima: Nagaland” was conducted in Japfü Mountain in Kohima district of Nagaland state in order to investigate the altitudinal variation of diversity and community structure of trees and shrubs species. The study area was divided into four sites based on the increasing ranges of altitude viz., site-I (1600-2000 m), Site-II (2000-2400 m), Site-III (2400-2800 m) and Site-IV (>2800m). A total of 816 individuals from 40 tree species belonging to 18 families and 32 genera, 1451 individuals from 20 shrubs species belonging to 14 families and 17 genera were recorded from the study area. Results from the tree layer showed that the dominant species at site-I was *Alnus nepalensis* with IVI (89.32), Site-II and Site-III were both dominated by *Quercus lamellosa* with IVI value 48.6 and 104.89, respectively whereas Site-IV was dominated by *Rhododendron macabeaenum* with an IVI (131.13). Considering the shrub layer, the dominant species form Site-I was *Debregeasia longifolia* with IVI (85.4), Site-II was dominated by *Eupatorium odoratum* with IVI (77.95), Site-III by *Polygonum molle* with IVI (181.9) whereas *Gaultheria fragrantissima* dominated Site-IV with IVI (191.43). Family Ericaceae had the maximum tree as well as shrub species.

**KEY WORDS :** Diversity, Phytosociology, Japfü Mountain, IVI, Tree, Shrubs

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