



FUNGAL REMAINS FROM LATE HOLOCENE LAKE DEPOSIT OF DEMAGIRI, MIZORAM, INDIA AND THEIR PALAEOCLIMATIC IMPLICATIONS

B.D. MANDAOKAR, M.S. CHAUHAN and SHANTANU CHATTERJEE

BIRBAL SAHNI INSTITUTE OF PALAEOBOTANY, LUCKNOW-226007

*E-mail: bdmankar@yahoo.com

ABSTRACT

The present communication is an attempt to portray the fungal remains retrieved from a 2m deep sediment profile analysed from Demagiri, southern Mizoram. Several types of fungal forms/spores encountered in the lake sediments comprise *Alternaria*, *Helminthosporium*, *Tetraploa*, *Curvularia*, *Cookeina*, *Nigrospora*, *Multicellaesporites*, *Ornasporonites*, *Dyadosporonites*, *Actinopelte*, *Kutchiathyrites*, *Clasterosporium*, *Helicoma*, *Entophlyctis*, etc. encompassing a time bracket of last 850 yr BP. In fact, the organic-rich sediments drifted from the nearby tropical humid forest cover provided an ideal habitat/substratum for the growth of fungi. The preponderance of fungal remains in the investigated lake bed sediments could be attributed to in situ proliferation of the fungi as well as their transportation from the adjoining forest belt, from higher reaches by wind and water and by upthermic winds from the lower elevations to the depositional site. In all, the recovery of fungal remains in great diversity and numbers suggests that the region enjoyed a humid climatic condition during the course of sediment accumulation the lake basin.

Keywords: Late Holocene, Fungal remains, Palaeoclimate, Demagiri, Mizoram