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| Nota di contenuto       | 1.Current Status of Vegetation of the Dried Bottom of the Aral Sea -- 2. Role of Grasslands in Soil Carbon Storage - Case Study from Alpine Grasslands of North-Western Kashmir Himalayas -- 3.The Importance of Forest for Soil, Food and Climate Security in Asia -- 4.The vegetation of Pamir-Alay Mountainous System in the Middle Asia -- 5.Plant Diversity and Species Distribution Pattern across the Pir Panchal Mountain Forest Range in the Western Himalayas -- 6.The Ecology of Pakistani Ferns and Lycophytes -- 7.Woody Species Diversity in the Foot Hills of Eastern Himalayas -- 8.Phytogeographical classification of Plants Distributed in the Jambil Valley District Swat, Pakistan -- 9. Diversity of Cyanobacteria in Thermal Water Bodies of Southwest India -- 10. Biodiversity and Freshwater Ecosystem Services; A Case Study of |

the Hamzakot area of Mardan, Pakistan -- 11. Ecological Evaluation of *Parrotiopsis jacquemontiana* in the Hindu Kush and Himalayan Ranges of Pakistan and its Conservation Status -- 12. Role of Chitral Gol National Park in Maintaining and Conserving Plant Diversity of the region -- 13. Liakot Forests in Kalam, District Swat, Pakistan; Floristics, Conservation, Sustainability and Ecological Classification -- 14. Plants and Plant Communities of the Kurram Valley, Pakistan -- 15. Spatial Diversity, Patterns of Forest Vegetation and Sustainability Analysis of the Murree Mountains of Western Himalayas -- 16. Phytosociological Studies, Economic Values and Sustainable Uses of *Alnus nitida*; a monophyletic species of the western Himalayas and Hindu Kush region of the Sino-Japanese belt of Pakistan -- 17. Vegetation Diversity of Ranikot Fort Area, Sindh, Pakistan -- 18. GRAVEYARDS - Conservation Spots of Species Diversity: Case Study from the North Western Area of Pakistan -- 19. Environmental Issues in Nexus to Ecological Poverty in Balochistan, South-West Province of Pakistan -- 20. Urban Greening towards Sustainable Development and Sustainability -- 21. Revision of the genus *Allium* L. (Amaryllidaceae) in the flora of India -- 22. A taxonomical revision of genus *Allium* L. (Amaryllidaceae) in the Flora of Middle Asia -- 23. A Preliminary Checklist, Phenology and Biological Spectrum of the Vascular Flora of Manglot Wildlife Park, Nizampur Pakistan -- 24. Floristic Inventory of Ethno-botanically important plants of Thangy Dara District Dir lower Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan -- 25. Invasive Alien Species; An Emerging Challenge for the Biodiversity of Pakistan -- 26. Vascular Plant Diversity of Changa Valley, District Shangla, Hindukush Range, Pakistan -- 27. Bee Diversity in Pakistan -- 28. Fish Fauna of Kashmir Valley and their Conservational Measures for Sustainable Fish Production -- 29. Anuran Diversity in Three Landscapes of Kodagu Region of the Western Ghats of India -- 30. Himalayan Ibex (*Capra sibirica hemalayanus*): Distribution, Population Structure and Conservation -- 31. Current Status of the Bird Life of Pakistan -- 32. Gummosis of Stone Fruit -- 33. Agrobiodiversity; Effect of Drought Stress on Eco-Physiology and Morphology of Wheat -- 34. Microgravity - Simulation, Acceleration and Effects on Plants: Case Study on Globally Important Agricultural Crop Rice -- 35. Fruit Diversity in Kashmir -- 36. Weed vegetation in Maize Crop of the Shahbaz Garhi, District Mardan; Gradient of Diversity and Species Composition -- 37. Management of Mango Hopper, in Mango (*Mangifera indica* L.) Agro ecosystems through Different Ways -- 38. Wild Morels in Pakistan: Environmental and Trading Statues -- 39. Folkloric Knowledge of Plant Species Used by Local Communities in a Protected Area of Kashmir Himalayas -- 40. *Peganum harmala*: Phytochemistry, Traditional Uses and Biological Activities -- 41. Ethnomedicinal and Cultural importance of *Myrtus communis* L. for the Local Communities Living in the Remote Tribal District of Bajaur -- 42. Ethnobotany in Iran: Pas-Qaleh Village (Tehran); A Case Study -- 43. An Overview of Common Medicinal Plants of Middle Asia -- 44. Diverse Medicinal Attributes of Indigenous Flora of the Southwest India -- 45. Genus *Thymus* in Iran - Ethnobotany, Phytochemical, Molecular and Pharmacological Features -- 46. Systematic and Medicinal Uses of Fern Diversity in the Swat Valley, Khyber Pukhtunkhwa, Pakistan -- 47. Ethnodiversity of Moist Temperate Mountain Forests - A Case Study from Ayubia National Park, Western Himalayas, Pakistan -- 48. Floristic diversity and Ethno-botanical Knowledge of Mahnoor Valley in the Himalayas of Pakistan -- 49. Climate Change and Medicinal Plants, India: An Overview -- 50. Ethnobotany and Sustainable Utilization of Plants in the Potohar Plateau, Pakistan -- 51. An Overview of Ethnobotany of *Berberis lycium* Royle in Pakistan -- 52. Brick Kilns: Types, Emissions, Environmental

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#### Sommario/riassunto

Of the world's seven continents, Asia is the largest. Its physical landscapes, political units, and ethnic groups are both wide-ranging and many. Southwest, South and Middle Asia are highly populated regions which, as a whole, cover an extremely large area of varied geography. In total, this domain is unique in its plant diversity and large vegetation zones with different communities and biomes. It is rich in endemics, with specific and intraspecific diversity of fruit trees and medicinal plants, including a number of rare, high value, species. At the same time, much of the land in the region is too dry or too rugged, with many geographical extremes. Overgrazing, oil and mineral extraction, and poaching are the major threats in the area. This two-volume project focuses on the dynamic biodiversity of the region with in-depth analysis on phytosociology, plants, animals and agroecology. There are also chapters that explore new applications as well as approaches to overcome problems associated with climate change. Much of the research and analysis are presented here for the first time. We believe this work is a valuable resource for professionals and researchers working in the fields of plant diversity and vegetation, animal diversity and animal populations, and geo-diversity and sustainable land use, among others. The first volume guides our readers to West Asia and the Caucasus region, while volume two focuses on issues unique to South and Middle Asia.

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