

BOTANICAL NAME-Ficus religiosa ENGLISH NAME – Sacred fig, bo tree HINDI NAME - Peepal FAMILY- Moraceae

## **DESCRIPTION :**

- Large tree, deciduous.
- Trunk short, thick, often fluted; exudes milky latex.
- Bark yellowish or grey brown, smooth, become scaly with ages.
- Leaves large, with wavy margins and long stalks; heart shaped at base with very long pointed tip; shiny on top.
- Figs in pairs, from leaf axils; reddish at first, eventually deep purple when ripe.

## <u>USES :</u>

- Many parts of the peepal find use in traditional medicine; the juice of the root- bark for curing toothache and strengthening the gums; the fig as a laxative and for treating asthma.
- The milky latex is use to treat crack heels.
- The leaves makes an excellent fodder especially for buffaloes and elephants.
- Deenal tree are an important host of a lac insect