



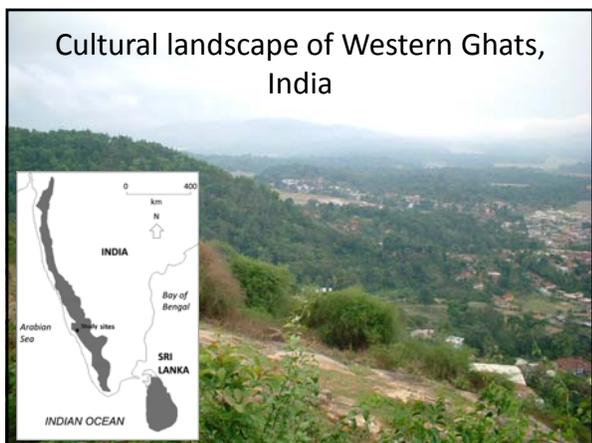
Session 41 - JOFFRE 1-3
Tuesday, May 6, 15:40-16:40

- Speakers and topics
 - Shonil Bhagwat
 - Cultural landscapes of the Western Ghats in India
 - Quang Bao Le, Roman Seidl, Fridolin Brand
 - Thresholds in community forest landscapes of Vietnam
 - Giacomo Fedele, Florie Chazarin, Hety Herawati, Bruno Locatelli
 - Forest communities in Indonesia, Peru and Burkina Faso
 - Bishawjit Mallick
 - Community resilience of mangrove forests in Bangladesh

Emergence of sacred forests in a cultural landscape of the Western Ghats, India

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Bhagwat SA, S Nogué, KJ Willis (2014) Forest Ecology and Management, Available online 23 December 2013 - <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.foreco.2013.11.017>



Sacred forest groves of India



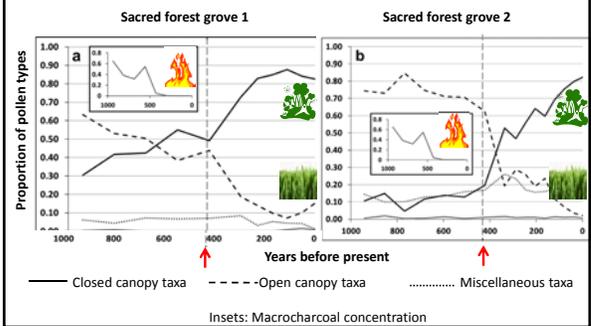
Research questions

- How old are sacred forest groves?
- How do cultural factors influence the nature of these forest fragments?
- How can long-term view inform community-forest management in agricultural landscapes today?

Forest recovery in sacred groves



Increasing vegetation cover in two sacred forest groves

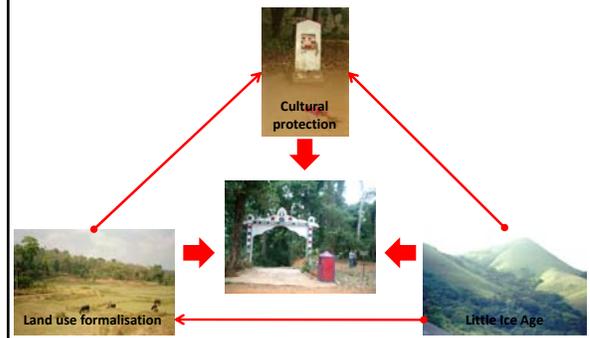


Emergence of sacred forest groves



- Climate change, societal awareness of forest loss and recognition of 'ecosystem services'
- Land use enforcement
 - Land surveys
 - Taxes from people
 - Sacred groves
- Faith-based conservation

What led to the emergence of sacred forest groves 400 years ago?



Revitalisation movements

A revitalization movement is "a deliberate, organized, conscious effort by members of a society to construct a more satisfying culture." Wallace (1956) *American Anthropologist* 58: 264-281

Emergence of sacred forest groves as a social-ecological process



Suggestions

- Community forests are important for the provision of ecosystem services
- The loss of the commons and the degradation of forests can also lead to the loss of benefits to agriculture
- Policies need to strengthen the contemporary relevance of community forests to support smallholder farming landscapes