

KARTHICK BALASUBRAMANIAN

Dr. Karthick Balasubramanian is a Scientist at the Agharkar Research Institute, Pune specialized in diatom taxonomy and ecology. He has conducted pioneering work on the taxonomy and systematics of India's freshwater diatom flora. He has described three new genera and more than 100 new species of diatoms. Apart from his classical taxonomic work, he uses fossil diatoms to understand climate change. His diatom expertise was also used in archaeology to understand the age and environmental conditions of the civilisation. He is one of the biggest proponents of science communication in regional languages to reach the less privileged communities. He has published over 80 research papers and has contributed to science writing in Tamil for magazines, newspapers, and Wikipedia. For his contribution towards diatom systematics, one genus of freshwater diatom called *Karthickia* is named after him. He is the only South Asian editor of DiatomBase, a global-level database of diatoms worldwide and serves as an Editor for Phytotaxa.

5 BEST PHYCOLOGICAL PUBLICATIONS

1. **B Karthick**, Murugesan Yogeshwaran & J. Patrick Kociolek (2023) A new freshwater gomphonemoid diatom genus from India, with the description of a new species from the Eastern Ghats, *Phycologia*, <https://doi.org/10.1080/00318884.2023.2268381>
2. N Wadmare, A Baghela, JP Kociolek & **B Karthick** (2022) Description and Phylogenetic Position of Three New Species of *Stauroneis* Ehrenberg (Bacillariophyceae: Stauroneidaceae) from the Indian Subcontinent. *European Journal of Phycology*. 57 (1) 48-67 <https://doi.org/10.1080/09670262.2021.1888390>
3. Lokhande V, Radhakrishnan C, Kociolek J P, Lowe R & **B Karthick** (2020). The diatom genus *Luticola* D.G. Mann (Bacillariophyceae) in the Western Ghats of India and its biogeography. *European Journal of Phycology*. 56 (2): 142–158. <https://doi.org/10.1080/09670262.2020.1783460>
4. Surajit Roy, Yan Lie, Patrick J Kociolek, Rex Lowe & **B. Karthick** (2019). A new diatom genus *Kulikovskiyia* gen. nov. (Bacillariophyta) from the lateritic rock pools of the Western Ghats, India and from Hainan Province, China. *Phycological Research*. 68 (1) 80-89. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1111/pre.12400>
5. Taylor, J.C, **Karthick, B**, Kociolek, J.P., Wetzel, C.E and Cocquyt, C. (2014) *Actinellopsis murphyi* gen. et spec. nov.: A new small celled freshwater diatom (Bacillariophyta, Eunotiales) from Zambia. *Phytotaxa* 178 (2): 128–137. DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.11646/phytotaxa.178.2.4>

Google Scholar Profile:

https://scholar.google.com/citations?hl=en&user=dtaks3IAAAAJ&view_op=list_works&sortby=pubdate

BRIEF ACADEMIC BACKGROUND

Present & Previous Positions

January 2022 – To date	Scientist – E , Biodiversity & Paleobiology Group, Agharkar Research Institute, Pune. INDIA.
January 2018 – December 2021	Scientist – D , Biodiversity & Paleobiology Group, Agharkar Research Institute, Pune. INDIA.
December 2013 – December 2017	Scientist – C , Biodiversity & Paleobiology Group, Agharkar Research Institute, Pune. INDIA.
January 2013 – December 2013	Post-Doctoral Fellow , Dept of Environmental Science and Management, NorthWest University, Potchefstroom, SOUTH AFRICA
February 2012 – October 2012	Post-Doctoral Fellow at Museum of Natural History, University of Colorado, Boulder, CO, U.S.A.
April 2011 – January 2012	Research Associate at Centre for Ecological Sciences, Bangalore. INDIA
February 2010 - February 2011	Post-Doctoral Fellow at Museum of Natural History, University of Colorado, Boulder, CO, U.S.A.
August 2004 - January 2010	Research Project Assistant at Centre for Ecological Sciences, Indian Institute of Science. Bangalore. INDIA

Education

PhD	University of Mysore, Botany Thesis: “Ecology of stream diatom communities in Central Western Ghats.” (Degree Awarded in April 2011)	2006-2010
MSc	Bharathidasan University, Environmental Science Dissertation: “Ecology of selected streams and tributaries of Sharavathi River Basin, Western Ghats” (Overall score 82.2 %) University Second Rank Holder Qualified UGC NET – Environmental Sciences, 2003	2002-2004
BSc	Periyar University, Majored in Microbiology, Entomology & Biochemistry (Overall score 66.7 %)	1999-2002