



Saraca asoca

1. Name of Plant

Scientific Name: *Saraca asoca* (Roxb.) de Wilde

Common Name: Ashoka Tree

Hindi Name: अशोक वृक्ष

Family: Fabaceae (Caesalpinioideae)

2. Taxonomy Details

- **Kingdom:** Plantae
- **Division:** Angiosperms
- **Class:** Dicotyledonae
- **Order:** Fabales
- **Family:** Fabaceae
- **Genus:** *Saraca*
- **Species:** *Saraca asoca*

3. Habit & Habitat

Habit:

- Evergreen medium-sized tree
- Height: 6–12 m
- Dense, spreading crown

Habitat:

- Native to tropical and subtropical regions of India
- Commonly found in moist deciduous forests
- Cultivated in gardens, temples, and avenues

4. Ecological Importance

- Provides shelter and habitat for birds and insects
- Flowers attract pollinators like bees and butterflies
- Helps in soil stabilization and microclimate regulation
- Contributes to biodiversity conservation in tropical ecosystems

5. Economical Uses

Medicinal Uses

- Bark used in Ayurveda for gynecological disorders
- Anti-inflammatory, anti-ulcer, and antimicrobial properties
- Used in treatment of dysmenorrhea, menorrhagia, and uterine disorders

Ornamental Uses

- Highly valued as an ornamental tree due to bright orange-yellow flowers
- Widely planted in gardens, parks, and religious places

Cultural & Religious Uses

- Sacred in Hindu and Buddhist traditions
- Associated with Lord Buddha and Hindu mythology