

# FLORA OF BANGLADESH

No. 22

PUNICACEAE

EDITOR  
MD. SALAR KHAN

BY  
Mahbuba Halim

June 1983

BANGLADESH NATIONAL HERBARIUM  
BANGLADESH AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH  
COUNCIL

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DEPT. OF BOTANY  
UNIVERSITY OF DHAKA

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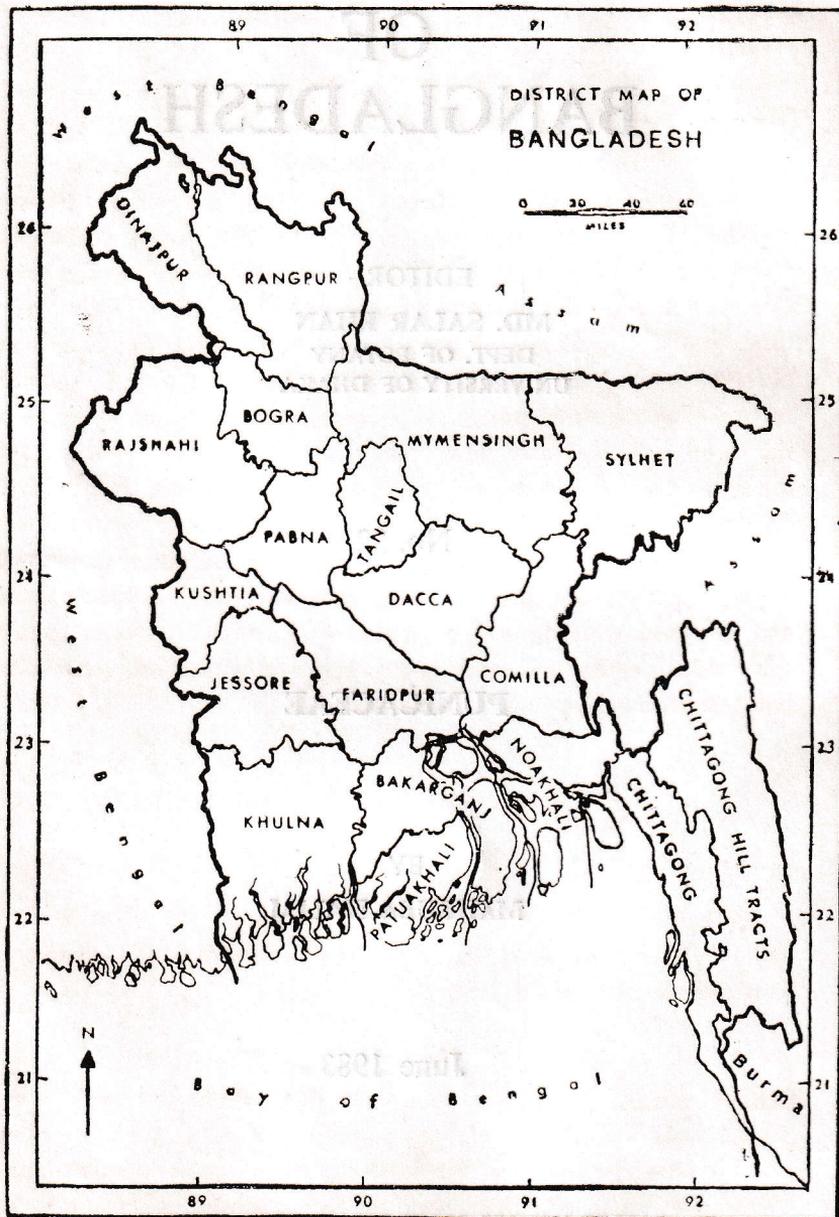
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## PUNICACEAE

### **Mahbuba Halim**

Large glabrous shrubs or small deciduous trees, often spiny. Leaves simple, opposite or nearly so, entire, exstipulate. Flowers bisexual, showy, solitary or clustered in the axils, short peduncled. Calyx of 5 to 7 lobes thick and leathery, turbinate, adnate to the ovary. Corolla 5-8, crumpled in the bud, inserted at the throat of the calyx tube. Stamens numerous in many series on the calyx tube, filaments filiform, anthers versatile. Carpels 8-12 rarely as few as 3, arranged in one or more series, adnate to receptacle, the outer elevated above the inner during early development of the inferior ovary so that the series become ultimately superposed. Ovary divided into as many chambers as there are carpels, placentae of the outer series of carpels displaced and appearing parietal; ovules numerous, styles united; stigma slightly lobed. Fruit a many celled berry with a leathery coat and crowned with the calyx. Seeds many, angular, outer coat of testa pulpy, edible and inner horny. Embryo with spirally convolute cotyledons, each auricled at the base.

## PUNICA L.

Sp. Pl.: 472(1753).

**P. granatum** L., Sp. Pl.: 472 (1753). Hook f., Fl. Brit Ind. 2: 580 (1879); Prain, Beng. Pl.: 367 (1903) -reprint 1963 ; Backer in Van steenis, Fl. Males. ser. 1, 4 (3): 227 (1951).

Bengali: *Dalim*

English: Pomegranate

A shrub or low tree, branchlets terete, often ending in a spine. Leaves 2-6 cm x 1-1.5 cm, opposite, sub opposite or clustered, leathery, oval, elliptic or oblong, narrower at both ends especially at the base, intramarginal nerves distinct or obscure. Flower c. 4 cm long, pedicel c. 2 mm, terminal on short side twigs and often in

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*Obtainable from :*

**Banglaedsh National Herbarium**  
 229, Green Road, Dhanmondi,  
 Dhaka—5, Bangladesh.

