down by these hills. Allovial-fans or taluses fringing the mountains of Balociustan ECOLOGICAL STUDY OF THE XEROPHYTES OF BANNU AND ITS OUTSKIRTS deposits. From the Wazir hills on the west talus fans of baulders and gravel run

*MOHAMMAD SUBHAN, MOHAMMAD QASIM, MOHAMMAD AYUB AND **MIR ARIF ALI because of sand worked down from the Bhittani and Marwat ranges. Bannu city is

located at north-west corner of the district, thus the soil of the city and its outskirts is

of clay silt type (Bannu district Gaz ttier 1902) and (Wadia 1937). TDARTERA

towards

te vilnan

the water

Nine plant species from the flora of Bannu district of Pakistan with continental type of climate were studied. As expected from the climate, all the species have will an anatomical characteristics. However, it was found that one of the species, Acacia fernesiana is of limited ditribution in Pakistan and adjoining areas of India, is of confusing nature and is exposed for further studies. Tamarix troupii, Zizyphus Maritiana and Saccharum spontaneum have a very wide range of distribution extending to the interior of south-east Asia, whereas at a depth the distribution range of Alhagi camelorum, Capparis decidua, Calotropis procera and Phoenix dactylifera of course vary from one another and they are mainly distributed in the vast arid region, extending westward to western Asia. Opuntia monaeantha. one of the exotic species from the new world fails to reproduce sexually in the prevalent environment. Phoenix dactylifera embodies both Xeric and amphibial characteristics and thus provides an ambigous nature.

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Environment plays a dominant role in the distribution of various plant species and it has been observed that plants developed under somewhat similar ecological conditions have similar morphological and anatomical characteristics. This end in view, some species of Xerophytic nature were collected from Bannu and its outskirts to correlate their distribution with the environmental conditions of the Bannu basin which is as follows: intensity is high. Inspite of intensive cultivation in the breat, Banau has an extreme

Bannu district as a whole is surrounded by mountains on all sides and is located at 70° 30' east longitude and 33° north latitude. The whole district is situated between 32° 16' north and 33° 5' north latitude and between 70° 23' East latitude and 71° 16' east latitude. Total area of the district is 1748 square miles with an extreme length of 52 miles from north to south and 34 miles from east to west.

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