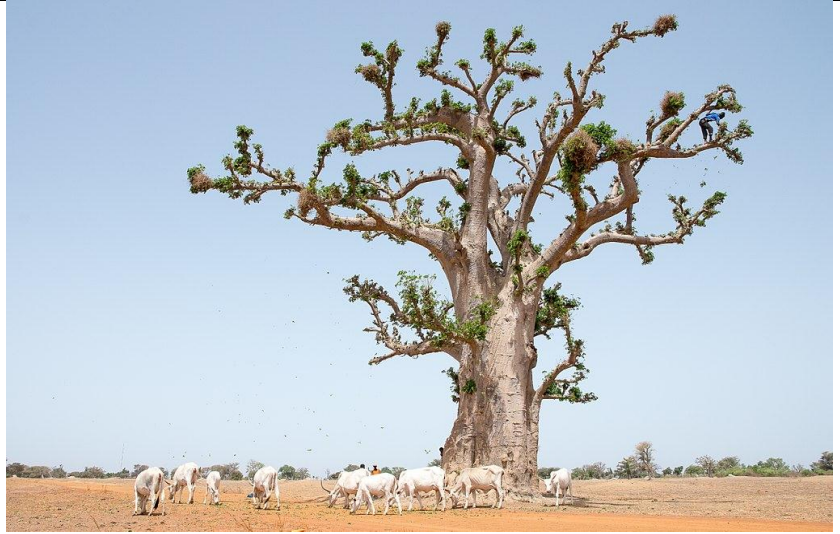


Adansonia digitata

Scientific classification

Kingdom : Plantae
Order : Malvales
Family : Malvaceae
Genus : *Adansonia*
Species : *A. digitata*



Adansonia digitata

Description:

Adansonia digitata, the **African baobab**, is the most widespread tree species of the genus *Adansonia*, the baobabs, and is native to the African continent. The long-lived **pachycauls** are typically found in dry, hot **savannahs** of **sub-Saharan Africa**, where they dominate the landscape, and reveal the presence of a watercourse from afar. Their growth rate is determined by ground water or rainfall, and their maximum age, which is subject to much conjecture, seems to be in the order of 1,500 years. They have traditionally been valued as sources of food, water, health remedies or places of shelter and are steeped in legend and superstition. European explorers of old were inclined to carve their names on baobabs, and many are defaced by modern graffiti.

MEDICINAL USES: *Adansonia digitata* L. is a multi-purpose tree with a lot of food and medicinal uses, and a fibrous bark that is used for various applications, protein, and fat. Both the kernel and the pulp contain substantial quantities of Ca, K, and Mg. The pulp is therapeutically employed as febrifuge, analgesic, anti-diarrhea, anti-dysentery and for treatment of smallpox and measles. The parts of the plant like leaves, bark and seeds are used as a panacea to treat almost any disease and specific documented uses include the treatment of malaria, tuberculosis, fever, microbial infections, diarrhea, anemia, dysentery, toothache and as immune stimulant.