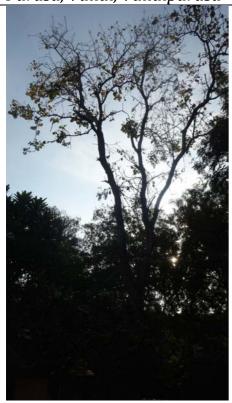
Flame of the forest

**Common name:** Flame of the forest **Botanical name:** *Butea monosperma* 

Family: Faboideae; Name in Tamil: Parasa, Kattumurukku, Murukku, Palasu, Pungu,

Purasu, Vallai, Vallaiparasu









Field identification: Deciduous, tree. Erect tree with crocked trunk and irregular branches, 20-40 feet. Bark rough, ash coloured. Leaf trifoliate, common stalk 10-23cm, leaflets leathery texture, terminal leaflet blunt oval shape, 4-8 inches. Flowers bright orange-red in clusters with black velvety calyces. Fruit pod, up to 20 cm long, with single seed.

**Location on campus:** Nambikai Nilayam

**References**: (i) Sahni, K.C. (1998) The Book of Indian Trees. Mumbai: Bombay Natural History Society/ Oxford University Press. p 87-88. (ii) Blatter, E. & Millard, W.S. (1997) Some Beautiful Indian Trees. Mumbai: Bombay Natural History Society/ Oxford University Press. p12-17 (iii) Krishen, P. (2006) Trees of Delhi: A field guide. Dorling Kindersley, New Delhi. p200-1