



On the identity of *Benglebra* Mahmood & Ahmad, and other Mukariini (Hemiptera: Cicadellidae: Deltocephalinae) from Bangladesh and Pakistan

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Abstract

The leafhopper tribe Mukariini (Deltocephalinae) is newly recorded from Pakistan and Bangladesh. Members of the tribe are reviewed including the genus *Benglebra* Mahmood & Ahmed 1969 from Bangladesh, which was previously placed in Typhlocybinae, **new placement**. The identities of its two included species, *B. alami* Mahmood & Ahmed and *B. bipunctata* Mahmood & Ahmed are discussed, and their types re-examined and illustrated. Two other, included and figured, Mukariini newly recorded from Bangladesh and Pakistan are: *Mukaria splendida* Distant and *Flatfronta* sp., respectively. *Hussainiana tripunctata* Mahmood & Ahmed 1969 is synonymised with *Kolla ceylonica* Melichar 1903, **syn. nov.**, of the subfamily Cicadellinae, resulting in the synonymy of *Hussainiana* with *Kolla* Distant 1908, **syn. nov.**

Key words: taxonomy, *Mukaria*, *Flatfronta*, *Hussainiana*, *Kolla*

Introduction

In their paper on new leafhoppers from E. Pakistan (Bangladesh), Mahmood & Ahmed (1969) described two new genera, *Benglebra* (on Bamboo) and *Hussainiana* which they placed in Typhlocybinae. Subsequently, Dworakowska (1971) expressed the opinion that the former probably belonged in Deltocephalinae and the latter in Cicadellinae. During work on the subfamily Deltocephalinae of Pakistan (Khatri & Webb, 2010) and more recently on Oriental Mukariini (Deltocephalinae) it became apparent that *Benglebra* belongs in that tribe. The reason for its earlier mistaken placement is not difficult to see as its external appearance is not typical of Deltocephalinae, having a depressed form, transverse striations on the foremargin of the head and reduced and basally obscure forewing venation. These features no doubt influenced the placement of *Mukaria* and Mukariini in Nirvaninae by Evans (1947) and Li & Chen (1999) respectively, but members of the tribe have also been placed in Aphrodinae by Hamilton (1983), and in their own subfamily (Mukariinae) by Linnavuori (1979), Oman *et. al.* (1990) and Chen *et. al.* (2007). However, in the present paper we follow Zahniser & Dietrich (2010) in treating the group as a tribe of Deltocephalinae. We also confirm the placement of *Hussainiana* in Cicadellinae as a synonym of *Kolla* Distant. In addition to *Benglebra*, we newly record two other Mukariini genera from Bangladesh (previously E. Pakistan) and Pakistan.

Material examined is deposited in Zoological Museum University of Karachi Pakistan (ZMUK) and The Natural History Museum, London (BMNH).

Taxonomy

Benglebra Mahmood & Ahmed

Benglebra Mahmood & Ahmed 1969: 86. Type species: *Benglebra alami* Mahmood & Ahmed