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Darjeeling Diversity Renaissance: Jari Buti Experience in Makaibari Tea Estates

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Abstract—Landscape of Darjeeling and its primary forest biodiversity has completely changed after introduction of Tea monoculture in 19th century. But still there is a huge diversity of flora with medicinal and healing properties. A fusion of traditional medicine (shamans and animistic herbal rites), with innovative sustainable agricultural practices, scientific modern western methods of formulation and preservation of indigenous herbs, will lead to a renaissance of the region. The synergies released will usher in an era of improved livelihood standard of health, hygiene, environmental up-gradation and community uplift. These are the objectives of the Jari Buti experiment at Makaibari Tea Estates.