

CONCEPT MAP

FIVE KINGDOM CLASSIFICATION

The scientific procedure of arranging organisms into groups and subgroups on the basis of their similarities and dissimilarities and placing them in a hierarchy of categories is called **biological classification**. The earliest classification systems recognised only two kingdoms of living things: Animalia and Plantae followed by three and four kingdom classifications introducing Kingdom Monera and Protista. The most accepted and latest five-kingdom classification was proposed by **R.H. Whittaker** in 1969 to develop phylogenetic relationships. In this classification, the organisms are classified on the basis of following criteria: (i) complexity of cell, (ii) complexity of the body organisation, (iii) mode of nutrition, (iv) mode of reproduction, (v) ecological role and (vi) phylogenetic relationships.

