

The fundamental unit of life is cell.

Cell is the structural and functional unit of life.

Cell is termed as the structural unit of life as it provides

structure to our body. Cell is considered as the functional unit of life as all the functions of the body take place at cell level.

Discovery of cell: Discovered by Robert Hooke in 1665 and later Brown in 1831 discovered the nucleus in the cell.

Cell theory states: All living organisms are composed of cells. Cell is the fundamental unit of life. All new cells come from pre-existing cells.

Types of organism on the basis of number of cells: There are two kinds of organisms on the basis of life:

a) Unicellular organisms:

The organisms are made up of single cell and may constitute a whole organism. They are named as unicellular organisms. For example - Amoeba, Paramecium, Bacteria etc.

b) Multicellular organisms:

These organisms which are composed of a collection of cells but have division in a coordinated manner with different cells specialized to perform particular task in the body are named as multicellular organisms. For example - Plants, human being, animals etc.

Shape and size of the cell

Cell varies in shape and size. They may be oval, spherical, rod

rectangular, spindle shaped or totally totally irregular like the nerve

The size of cell also vary in different organisms. Most of the cells are microscopic in size like red blood cell. While some cells are large like nerve cell.