There are few which you might have heard about like Kubuntu, Xubuntu, Lubuntu, etc. These are not nicknames that users have given to their systems. Let us tell you the reason behind such different names.

There are different versions which are categorized according to their certain purpose or the desktop environment they use.

Now, when it comes to Linux, the user has the freedom to select your desktop environment?. Now you might wonder what this is. It is a bundle of components which provide common GUI elements like icons, toolbars, wallpapers and other desktop widgets. Most of these have their own set of integrated apps as well as utilities so that the users get a uniform feel while using the Operating System.

This actually changes the look as well as the feel of the OS that you use, and at times programs as well.

Are you still confused? Well, let us give you a rather loose analogy. This is like wearing clothes; if you dress like a hippie then you shall come across as like this. If you have similar hair, then there shall be a uniform feel of being one.

Now, what is the advantage to use one desktop environment over the other? In the last analogue with clothes, if you wear jeans which are skinny, you may look smart but you cannot run fast. There are compromises, you see.

Some of these focus on the use of graphics, but then for this, you need to have a better hardware configuration. On the other side, some of these run better with a system which have low configuration but might not look that good.