

Folk-lore Herbothotherapy of Ghazipur District, (U.P.), India

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Abstract

This contribution is an enumeration of 20 medicinal plants used in popular by rural people of Ghazipur district. The villagers of the district seek their nearby plant wealth for the treatment of their daily life melodies to chronic diseases. Viz. fever, cough, diarrhoea, dysentery, jaundice, leucorrhoea, skin diseases, mumps, scorpion stings, snake bites etc.

Keywords

Ayurveda, Herbothotherapy, Ghazipur, Fever, Snake bites



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INTRODUCTION

Ayurveda is as old as the human race and its ailments which might have originated incidentally in the remote past and as a result of repeated experimentation on human being became time honored therapy¹. This Knowledge was brought to us through various folk-tales and oral teaching, and is still preserved in rural, tribal and nomadic. But due to the onslaughts of unpleased developmental activities and westernization, this treasure of knowledge is at the verge of extinction and soon shall become no more, therefore, there is an urgent need to record these tradition modes of treatment of various diseases².

Owing to the demand of time the intensive and extensive surveys of more than 20 villages of Ghazipur district were conducted in different seasons during the course of exploration large number of ethno botanically important plant species were gathered and the maximum emphasis was given to exact information's hazarding herbotherapy against various diseases from knowledgeable person of the villages through personal contact and influence.

This communication enumerates 20 ethno therapeutic plants, which have not been or have been reported by earlier workers like Kirtikar and Basu, 1935⁴, Anonymous, 1948-76³; Chopra et al., 1956, 1969³; Agarwal, 1986¹; Mayar et al., 1989; Saxena and Tripathi, 1990; Jain 1968, 1991; Shukla et al., 1992; and Khanna et al., 1996; P.V. Sharma, et al 2009⁷; J.L.N. Sastry, et al 2010⁵; K.C. Chuneekar, et al 2010; etc.⁶

The enumeration in this paper is in alphabetic order of botanical name of plant species followed by family names in parentheses, local name and their therapeutic uses with method of drug preparation, doses and modes of application^{6,7}.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The customary method of plant collection and their preservation in herbarium for future use was followed. The method for the collection of ethno botanical information has been as per the recommendations of society of ethno botanists.

The enumeration in this paper is in alphabetic order of botanical names of the plant species followed by family names, vernacular names (V), local names (L) with

their therapeutic uses, preparations, dosages and modes of application^{2,3,6,7}.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

In present investigation 20 plant species belonging to 15 different families were found to have remedial actions against 10 different human ailments. These curative

properties of plants/ plants part are attributed to the chemical like alkaloids, phenolic, saponins as well as Rasa, Guna, Virya, Vipaka, Prabhava etc. present there in, bis-a-

ENUMERATION

S. No	Botanical Name	Family	Vernacular Name	Local Name	Use
1.	<i>Abutilon indicum</i> (Linn)	Malvaceae	Atibala	Kakahi	Root; decoction used as gargling in toothache.[6]
2.	<i>Achyranthes aspera</i> Linn	Amaranthaceae	Apamarg	Chidchidi	Seed; powder used in warm infestation, root paste used over boil.[7]
3.	<i>Adhatoda vasica</i> Nees	Acanthaceae	Vasa	Adusa	Leaf; swarasa and decoction used in asthma.[6]
4.	<i>Aegle marmelos</i> Corr	Rutaceae	Bilva	Sriphala	Fruit; ripe used in constipation, unripe used in diarrhoea.[6,7]
5.	<i>Argemone mexicana</i> Linn	Papaveraceae	Satyanashi	Bhandbhan	Root; paste applied in scorpion sting.[6]
6.	<i>Azadirachta indica</i> A. Juss	Meliaceae	Nimb	Neem	Root; paste applied over boils to excused out the pus and healed the wound.[4,6]
7.	<i>Boerhavia diffusa</i> Linn	Nyctaginaceae	Punarnava	Gadahpurna	Leaf; swarasa and root; paste used in jaundice.[6,7]
8.	<i>Butea monosperma</i> (Lam.)	Papilionate	Palash	Dhak	Seed; powder used in warm infestation.[6,7]
9.	<i>Calotropis procera</i> (Ait) R. Br.	Asclepidaceae	Ark	Madar	Warm leaf applied over joint in pain and swelling. Latex applied over snake bitten area to detoxify snake poison.[2,6,7]
10.	<i>Cyperus rotandus</i> Linn	Cyperaceae	Mustak	Motha	Tuber; 10gm paste/powder given orly in snake bite.[6,7]
11.	<i>Dalbergia sisso</i> (Roxb.)	Pappilionatae	Shinshapa	Sisso	Leaf; 20 ml decoction given orally twice a day in diarrhoea. [7]
12.	<i>Datura metel</i> Linn;	Solanaccae	Dhatura	Dhatura	Leaf; Coated with mustard

					oil,warmed applied over joints in rheumatism.[1]
13.	<i>Ficus glomerata</i> Roxb.	Moraceae	Udumber	Gular	Bark; decoction used in diarrhoea and dysentery.[6,7]
14.	<i>Nerium indicum</i> Mill.	Apocynaceae	Karvir	Kaner	Leaf; extract applied in skin diseases.[6]
15.	<i>Nyctanthes arbor-tristis</i> Linn.	Oleaceae	Parijat	Harsingar	Leaf; decoction used in sciatica.[7]
16.	<i>Ocimum sanctum</i> Linn.	Labiatae	Tulsi	Tulsi	Leaf; swarasa used in cough and fever.[6,7]
17.	<i>Ricinus communis</i> Linn	Euphorbiaceae	Eranda	Redi	Oil; used in constipation, root; decoction used in pain, leaf; coated with mustard oil warmed applied over joint in pain and swelling.[6]
18.	<i>Terminalia arjuna</i> (Roxb.)	Combretaceae	Arjuna	Arjuna	Bark; decoction used in heart diseases and asthma.[7]
19.	<i>Tinospora cordifolia</i> (Willd)	Menispermaceae	Guduchi	Guruch	Stem decoction used in fever. [6]
20.	<i>Vitex negundo</i> Linn.	Verbenaceae	Nirgundi	Meudi	Leaf; extract used in joint pain and coated with mustard oil ^{6,7}

bis the drugs of natural origin have other chemicals which prevent the side effect of active ingredients, thus they can be used for long term without any harm. However on the other hand the synthetic allopathic drugs have active ingredients in there purest form therefore the treatment through causes subsidiary complication but also invitee's system ailments by destroying the bodies' immunity against various disperses. Thus it is suggested that many of these folk claims recommended eradicating the various ailments. The medicines obtained from plant resources are not only cheap but also

available everywhere and side by side devoid of ill effects during treatment. Therefore, the summation of these kinds lays foundation and draws attention of experts of various disciplines like dravyaguna, phytochemistry, pharmacology, medicinal chemistry, medicine etc. For phytochemical and pharmacological screening of such plant based drugs and their utilization in health care programmed. If the quality and efficacy of drugs are improved on the basis of scientific expertise then they shall ultimately proved to be cheap

and harmless remedy and provide perfect health care in future.

CONCLUSIONS

Synthetic allopathic drugs have active ingredients in their purest form therefore the treatment through them not only causes subsidiary complications but also invite sister ailments by destroying the body's immunity against various diseases. Thus, it is suggested that many of these folk claims can be recommended to eradicate the various diseases.

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