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Review Of Research



MEDICINAL PLANTS USED FOR JAUNDICE BY THE TRIBES OF KHED TEHSIL, PUNE DISTRICT, MAHARASHTRA



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ABSTRACT

An ethno-botanical survey was undertaken to collect information on the use of plants for the treatment of jaundice by the tribes of Khed Tehsil, Pune District, Maharashtra. Tribals of this area have authentic information about to cure jaundice. The main symptom of jaundice is a yellowish discoloration of the white area of the eye and the skin. They have been using different plant parts like roots, stem bark, leaves, fruits and flowers. In majority of cases, extract from the whole plant were used for curing jaundice, followed by root, fruit. The indigenous knowledge of local traditional healers about the native plants used for medicinal purposes was collected by personal interviews during field visits. A field walk with the healers enabled plant collection and documentation relating to the remedial information of plants used for the treatment of jaundice. In the present investigation, 31

plant species, belonging to 24 different families used by the tribals for treatment of jaundice are documented.

KEYWORDS:ethno-botanical, treatment, jaundice, healers.

INTRODUCTION:

Medicinal plants are used extensively for treatment of different ailments. In India, the main



traditional systems of medicine include Ayurveda, Unani and Siddha. The traditional healers provide considerable information about the use of many plants or plant parts as medicine. Many of the life saving drugs in present day of allopathic system are obtained from plant origin. Jaundice can indicate liver or gallbladder disorders. Jaundice is a yellow discoloration of the skin, mucous membranes, and the whites of the eyes caused by increased amounts of bilirubin in the blood. When the excretion of bilirubin is hindered, excess bilirubin passes into the blood, resulting in jaundice. Jaundice can also result from the excessive breakdown of red blood cells and too much bilirubin is released into the bloodstream. This occurs typically in the haemolytic anemias. Jaundice is common in newborns

because there is some hemolysis during labour and delivery and the newborn's liver is immature and may not be fully up to the task of handling the bilirubin for a few days. Jaundice typically brings yellow staining of the skin, loss of appetite and feelings of nausea. Jaundice is a yellowish discoloration of the skin and mucous membranes caused by hyperbilirubinemia. Jaundice becomes visible when the bilirubin level is about 2 to 3 mg/dL (34 to 51 $\mu\text{mol/L}$). The present work deals with traditional medicines used on treating jaundice from Khed tehsil, Pune district of Maharashtra.

METHODOLOGY:

STUDY AREA: Khed tehsil is situated in the Pune District and lies between Lat. $18^{\circ} 37' 1''$ - $19^{\circ} 17' 4''$ N and Long. $73^{\circ} 30' 51''$ - $74^{\circ} 3' 5''$ E on the north -western part of Deccan plateau and is composed of undulating hilly country. It is bounded on the north by Ambegaon tehsil, on the south by Maval and Haveli tehsils and on the east by Sirur tehsil. The western boundary is formed by the range of Sahyadris. Bhimashankar, Vandra, Tambarvadi etc. are some of the areas covered by Sahyadris in the tehsil. The crest of the hills is about 1,060 metres in these areas forming rounded buffs and clear cut ridges while in other places like Khed town, Mahalunga, Alandi, etc., it falls down to 600 to 625 metres above mean sea level. The major hilly belt, the western ghats (known in these parts as Sahyadris) is the most important factor affecting the temperature, climate and consequently the vegetation of the area. From this main line, three major spurs of hills run obliquely eastwards sinking gradually in the plains of Deccan plateau, one running along the northern border of the tehsil comprising of the hills of Bhovargiri, Tokavda, Sherewadi, Bibi, etc., a second one along the southern border of the tehsil comprising of the hills of Bhangarwadi, Gadad, Koliya, Vahagaon, Siva etc., and in between these two a third one comprising of the hills of Shinga, Adgaon, Kondeshwar etc., The area studied possess a rich variety of flora and type of vegetation.

In Khed tehsil total villages are 98. The human population according to the 2001 census approximate 3,43,214, and tribals population 38,272 percentage of total population to the tribal population 11.15%. Tribals are found in large number in this region.

The present study has been conducted in two steps:

Step I- A survey was conducted among the tribals of Khed tehsil to gather information on plant species used for jaundice as used by them.

Step II- An efforts have been made to collect the plants which were in flowering and fruiting conditions and were identified by the help of Cooke, T. (1958), Hooker, J.D. (1872-1897), Razi, B.A. (1952), Santapau, H. (1957), Varadpande, D.G. (1966), Shirke, D. R. (1983). The information regarding the medicinal uses of plants was gathered from the tribals of Khed tehsil to gather information on plant species used for jaundice as used by them. This information is collected by following Jain, S.K. (1991). Medicinal uses and properties were confirmed by following Nadkarni, A.K. (1927) and Chopra et al. (1956) respectively.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION:

The present study brought knowledge of tribals for the treatment of jaundice. The collected plant specimens have been identified by the flora, the collected plants species are alphabetically arranged according to their Botanical name, families, local name, parts used and uses.

ENUMERATION:

1) *Acacia catechu* Willd., Family- Mimosaceae, Local name- Khair, Part used- Stem bark, Use- Stem bark

2 gm is mixed with water and the extract is taken to cure jaundice.

2) *Adhatoda vasica* Nees, Family- Acanthaceae, Local name- Adulsa, Parts used- Flower, leaves. Use- Leaves and flower extraction used in jaundice.

3) *Aegle marmelos* Corr., Family – Rutaceae, Local name –Bel, Parts used –Fruit. Use- Fruit extraction used in jaundice.

4) *Argemone mexicana* Linn., Family-Papaveraceae, Local name-Pivala-dhotara, Parts used- Stem. Use- Curry made from of stems is used in jaundice.

5) *Asparagus racemosus* L Family- Liliaceae, Local name- Satavari, Parts used-Root. Use- Juice made from the tuberous roots is used in jaundice.

6) *Bauhinia racemosa* Lam., Family- Caesalpiniaceae, Local name- Apta. Parts used- Bark, leaves, root. Use- Bark, leaves, root water extract is useful in jaundice.

7) *Boerhavia diffusa*, Linn., Family- Nyctaginaceae, Local name-Vasu. Parts used-Whole plant Use- Whole plant extraction useful in jaundice.

8) *Bougainvillea spectabilis*, Willd., Family- Nyctaginaceae, Local name-Bougainvel, Parts used- Leaves. Use- Leaves decoction used for jaundice.

9) *Cajanus indicus*, Spreng. Family-Fabaceae, Local name- Tur, Parts used-Leaves. Use- Juice made from young leaves is used in jaundice.

10) *Chenopodium album*, Linn. Family-Chenopodiaceae, Local name- Chakvat, Part used- Root. Use- The decoction of roots is effective against jaundice.

11) *Curcuma longa*, Linn. Family – Zingiberaceae, Local name – Haldi, Parts used –Rhizome. Use- Paste of rhizome is taken with cow milk to cure jaundice jaundice.

12) *Citrus medica*, Linn., Family- Rutaceae, Local name -Mahalungi, Parts used - Fruit, leaves. Use- The decoction of fruits and leaves is effective against jaundice.

13) *Curculigo orchoides* Gaerth., Family-Amaryllidaceae, Local name-Kalimusli, Part used-Root. Use- Water extract of root is drunk to treat jaundice.

14) *Cuscuta reflexa*, Roxb.. Family-Boraginaceae, Local name-Amarvel, Parts used-Whole plant. Use- The extract of the whole plant along with *Saccharum officinarum* juice is drunk to treat jaundice.

15) *Eclipta alba*, Haask, Family- Asteraceae, Local name- Bhangra, Parts used- Whole plant. Use- Whole plant extraction used in jaundice.

16) *Euphorbia hirta*, Linn., Family-Euphorbiaceae, Local name – Dudhi, Parts used - Whole Plant. Use- The extract of the whole plant is used in jaundice.

17) *Ficus religiosa*, Linn., Family- Moraceae, Local name -Pipal, Parts used - Bark. Use- Bark is used in jaundice.

18) *Glycosmis pentaphylla*, Corr., Family-Rutaceae, Local name-Datmajan, Parts used-Leaves. Use- Juice of leaves is used in jaundice.

19) *Lawsonia inermis*, Linn., Family- Lythraceae, Local name- Mendhi, Parts used-Bark. Use- Bark of the herb is used in jaundice.

20) *Luffa acutangula*, Roxb. Family- Cucurbitaceae, Local name- Dodka-turai, Parts used- Leaves. Use- The juice of leaves is used in treatment of jaundice.

21) *Leucas cephalotes*, Spreng., Family- Lamiaceae, Local name- Guma, Parts used- Whole plant. Use- The extract of the whole plant is used in jaundice.

22) *Melia azedarach*, Linn., Family- Meliaceae, Local name-Baka nimb, Parts used- Leaves. Use- The extract of the leaves is used in jaundice.

23) *Mentha arvensis*, Linn., Family-Lamiaceae, Local name- Pudina, Parts used- Whole plant Use- The

extract of the whole plant is used in jaundice.

24) *Oxalis corniculata*, Linn., Family- Oxalidaceae, Local name-Ambusi, Parts used-Whole herb. Use-The juice of the plant is given in jaundice.

25) *Phyllanthus emblica*, Linn., Family- Euphorbiaceae, Local name- Awala, Parts used- Fruit. Use-The dried fruits are used in jaundice.

26) *Phyllanthus niruri*, Linn., Family- Euphorbiaceae, Local name- Bhuiawala, Parts used- Whole plant. Use-Whole plant juice given in jaundice,

27) *Raphanus sativus*, Linn., Family-Brassicaceae, Local name- Mula, Parts used- Root and leaves. Use-The juice of roots and leaves are given for curing jaundice.

28) *Solanum xanthocarpum*, Schrad., Family- Solanaceae, Local name – Kateringani, Parts used -Whole plant. Uses - The extract of the whole plant is used in jaundice.

29) *Tamarindus indica*, Linn., Family -Caesalpiniaceae, Local name -Chinch, Parts used- Fruit.. Uses - The fruits are used in jaundice.

30) *Thespesia macrophylla*, Blume., Family- Malvaceae, Local name- Ran-bhendi, Parts used- Leaves. Use -The juice of leaves is used in treatment of jaundice.

31) *Tinospora cordifolia*, Miers., Family-Menispermaceae, Local name- Gul-vel, Parts used-Leaves. Use-The extract of the leaves is used in jaundice.

CONCLUSION:

The present research paper is an attempt to enlist the medicinal plants to cure jaundice with the help of tribals. The tribals in the area are dependent on limited agriculture land and local plant products. In this investigation 31 plants belonging 24 families have been documented.

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