

ETHNOMEDICINAL PLANTS IN LEELKI- BEED AREA OF RAJGARH OF CHURU DISTRICT, RAJASTHAN, INDIA

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Abstract: *Ethnomedicinal plants are expansive natural resources of valuable herbal medicinal organic as well as inorganic biodegradable constituents that are nicely used for curing various ailments of inhabitants. The study was carried out to documents the indigenous practices of some therapeutic plants of Leelki-Beed area of Rajgarh of Churu district. The information regarding the use of herbal drugs was collected from local inhabitants of the area, Vaidya, Hakims and concluded by interviews and questionnaires method. The present paper documented 10 plants species belonging to 07 families of Angiosperms used to cure some chronic & common diseases found in human.*

Key words. Leelki-Beed, inhabitants, Ethnomedicinal plants

Introduction

John. W. Harshberger proposed the term “Ethnobotany” in 1985. This term is the discipline deals with the interaction between people and plants (Hamilton *et al.*, 2003) Ethnobotany is well-defined as multidisciplinary branch of natural science, religious, cultural, instrumental, agricultural house hold appliances and several other discipline (Patel and Patel, 2013). The world Health organization (WHO) reported that 80 percent of the Global population is dependents on traditional herbal medicine for their primary health care. About 70 percent of floral species are found in tropical and subtropical area of the world. However, only 7000-7500 plant species reported to have good medicinal properties. More than 43 percent flowering plants are mentioned to be of medicinally important in India (Khan and Singh, 2012)

Review of Literature

India is regarded as one of the oldest country in which major contribution of folk ethnomedicinal herbs used in treating several diseases and ailments (Mehra *et al.*, 2014; Bajpai *et al.* 2016). However, there is no authentic document of such type excluding a few archaeological sculptures and carves of Moheno-Daro is available from pre Vedic period in country. Such type of information is documented in Rigveda (1500-400 BC), Upnishada (1000-600 BC) and two ancient Indian literatures such as Charaka Samhito (900 BC), Sushruta Samhita (700 BC). Bhava Prakash (1600 AD) is one of the last and most popular contributions on Hindu system of medicine (Singh, 2004; Srivastava *et al.*, 2006; Sweta and Sharma, 2018). Ethnobotanical studies in different areas of Rajasthan have been carried out by several workers such as Kirtikar and Basu (1984), Joshi (1995), Singh and Pandey (1998), Trivedi (2002), Katewa (2009), Jain *et al.* (2009), Meena and Yadav (2010), Upadhyay *et al.* (2010), Sharma and Kumar (2013) *etc.*

Study area

The study area Leelki Beed is situated in Rajgarh Tehsil of Churu district, a part of Thar Desert of Rajasthan (India). It is situated 24 km away from sub-division headquarter Rajgarh and about 64 km away from district headquarter Churu. Leelki Beed is bounded by Rajgarh tehsil towards East, Taranagar tehsil towards West. Bhadra tehsil (Hunumangarh district) and Rajgarh are the nearest towns of study area and Chainpura Chhota is its nearest village. As per 2009 states it comes under gram panchayat Mahlana Utrada. The study area is well known for extremes of diurnal and annual temperature and erratic and scanty rainfall. Rainy season is of short duration.

Observation and Discussion

The area of Leelki Beed is rich in floral wealth. These herbal medicinal plants have the property of treating various chronic and common diseases. In present study the selected 10 medicinally important plant species are documented used in curing Hydrophobia, Migraine, Night blindness and other common diseases.

1. *Achyranthes aspera* Linn.

Family: Amaranthaceae

Local name: Latjira

Vernacular name English- Prickly chaff flower; Hindi-Latjira; Sanskrit Apamargah; Bengali-Apamarga; Gujarati-Apamarga; Merathi-Aghaada.

Medicinal Uses

- The plant is widely used in treating cough, asthmatic cough chronic malaria, fever, piles, bronchitis and diarrhea.
- The root is used in whooping cough and tonsillitis.
- The leaves are used in injuries, intermittent fever, urination and typhoid.
- Root and inflorescence are used in hydrophobia.



2. *Albizia lebbbeck* (Linn) Willd

Family: Fabaceae

Local name: Siris

Vernacular name: English-East Indian walnut; Hindi-Siris; Sanskrit-Sirisa; Pilo Sarashio, Marathi-Kala Shira.

Medicinal uses

- The plant is used in treating bronchitis, asthma, leucorrhoea, gonorrhoea and other genital diseases.
- The bark is used in leprosy, bronchial asthma, eczema, pertussis and paralysis.
- Its juice is applied as eye drops to cure night-blindness.



3. *Calotropis procera* (Ait) R.Br.

Family: Asclepiadaceae

Local name: Aak

Vernacular name: English-Cabbage tree; Hindi-Aak; Sanskrit- Madar; Bengali-Arkanda, Gujarati-Aakdo; Marathi- Ruii.

Medicinal uses

- Its roots are used to treat leprosy, asthma, elephantiasis rheumatism and diarrhea.
- The tender leaves are used in treating migraine.
- Dried latex and dried roots are used as antidote for snake poisoning.
- The flowers are used to cure cough, asthma and cholera.



4. *Corchorus depressus* (Linn.) Christensen

Family: Tiliaceae

Local name: Kurand

Vernacular name: Hindi- Cham ghas; Sanskrit-Bhedani; Marathi-Bahuphali.

Medicinal uses

- The plant is used in pain, fever, liver disorder, stomach pain, and sexual dysfunction.
- Roots are rubbed on stone and smeared over forehead to get relief in migraine.
- Roots are also used to increase the viscosity of seminal fluid and to set-up menstrual disorder.
- Powdered stem and young leaves give cooling effect during heat.



5. *Crotalaria burhia* Buch-ham.

Family: Fabaceae

Local name: Sinio

Vernacular name: Hindi- Jhamo; Sanskrit- Shudarshana; Bengali- Sissaii, Gujarati- Ghugharo, Marathi- Ghari.

Medicinal uses

- The plant is used to cure leprosy and blood diseases.
- Its juice is used to treat gout, eczema, hydrophobia, wounds and cuts.
- Leaves are used to cure diarrhea and bleeding disorders.
- The flowers are useful in treating gonorrhoea and blood diseases.



6. *Ficus religiosa* Linn.

Family: Moraceae

Local name: Pipal

Vernacular name: English- Pipul, Hindi- Pipal; Sanskrit- Bodhi Vriksha; Bengali- Aswatha; Gujarati- Piplo; Marathi- Pimpal.

Medicinal uses

- Decoction of its root is used to cure fever after delivery.
- Its bark is used for treating vaginal and urinogenital disorders.
- Stem bark is used to cure diabetes, diarrhea and leucorrhoea.
- Leaf juice with honey is used for diarrhea, asthma, cough, and toothache, earache, migraine and gastric problem.



7. *Leptadenia phrotechnica*

(Forsk) Decne.

Family: Asclepiadaceae

Local name: Khimp

Vernacular name: Hindi- Kheenp; Sanskrit- Jivanti.

Medicinal uses

- The plant is traditionally used to treat inflammation, rheumatism, asthma and tumors.
- It is also useful in treating cough, fever and diabetes.
- The plant sap is used to cure eczema, small pox and other skin diseases.
- Juice of aerial parts has the properties to treat renal dysfunction, & kidney stone.



8. *Prosopis cineraria* (Linn.) Druce

Family: Fabaceae

Local name: Khejari

Vernacular name: English- Mesquite; Hindi- Shami; Sanskrit- Sami; Bengali- Shaiigacha; Gujarati- Khijado; Marathi- Shemi.

Medicinal uses

- The plant is used to cure leprosy, bronchitis, asthma, leucoderma piles and muscular tremors.
- The bark is used in curing rheumatism, dysentery and diarrhea.
- The gum is nutritive and is used at the time of delivery by pregnant lady.
- Decoction of young pod is used for curing pneumonia.



9. *Salvadora persica* Linn.

Family: Salvadoraceae

Local name: Pilu

Vernacular names: English-Mustard tree; Hindi- Chhota pilu, Sanskrit- Pilu; Bengali- Jal; Gujarati- Khari Jal; Marathi- Pilva.

Medicinal Uses

- Root decoction is useful against gonorrhoea and extract is used to relieve pain caused due to spleen problem.
- Leaf poultice is used to treat piles and reduces pain in tumors.
- Fruits are useful in seminal weakness and used as antidote against poison.
- Seeds are used as liver tonic.



10. *Xanthium strumarium* Linn

Family: Asteraceae

Local name: Gadario

Vernacular Name: Hidni – Chota gokhuru; Sanskrit- Sarparshi; Gujarati- Godrian; Marathi- Ghagara.

Medicinal Uses

- The plant is used in chronic malaria, leuceria & hydrophobia.
- Roots are used on boils, ulcers and also used for cancer.
- Leaves are used in herpes, malaria and ring worm.
- Its fruit's juice is used in treating small pox.



It has been proven from present study that study area is much rich in medicinal plant wealth. Due to grazing pressure and over exploitation by human activities the existence

of wealth of herbal medicinal plants of the area is under threat. So, the efforts should be made to conserve the floral wealth of the area.

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