

Studies on Medicinal Plants Used by Tribal Communities in District Singrauli of Madhya Pradesh

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Abstract- Singrauli district of Madhya Pradesh is inhabited by number of tribal communities residing in remote villages and forests. These tribal people depend on medicinal plant wealth for the treatment of various human diseases. For present study authors have visited different sites and recorded 24 plant species used by the tribes for various disease controls.

Index Terns- Medicinal plants, tribals, Sonkhan, Singrauli.

I. INTRODUCTION

India is one of the few countries of the world having a large primitive tribal population. In the recent years a remarkable interest and trend has been setup world wide for the ethno-botanical studies. Most of the studies are associated with the study of plants used by the aboriginal tribes in different parts of country. Tribes mostly live in the forests, hills, plateaus and naturally isolated regions. These tribes follow a distinct life style identified as tribal culture. Due to their long association with the forests, these people have acquired valuable information with regard to the medicinal and other use of plants. Tribal people have full faith and confidence in their way of treatment. The district Singrauli is inhabited by number of tribes namely baigas, gonds, dhaikars, kols, bhurtiyas, khairwars, agarias, and patharis etc. these tribal people use local plants in medicine. They prepare paste, powder, pills, aqueous extract, decoction and other herbal preparations for single plants or in combination with other plants for the treatment of various disease and ailments.

II. LOCATION OF STUDY AREA

Singrauli is located between latitude $24^{\circ} 00'$ - $24^{\circ} 15'$ N and longitude $82^{\circ} 15'$ - $82^{\circ} 45'$ E. It is spread over an area 5672 sq. km. The landscape dotted with hills, mountains, plateaus, waterfalls and rivers. The forest cover of district is 2430 sq. km. (41.50 %) of total reported area.

III. METHODOLOGY

The present study is based on the information gathered about medicinal plants from tribal peoples of villages Sonkhan and other near areas in Chitrangi tehsil. The information about medicinal uses of plants was obtained from local people, inhabitants, hakims and field workers. Immediately after collection the specimen were identified with the helps of floras (Duthie, 1994; Hooker 1872-1897 and chopra et al 1980). The collected and identified specimens have been deposited in the herbarium in Botany Department S.G.S. Govt. Autonomous P.G. College Sidhi (M.P.).

IV. RESULTS

Some of medicinal plants used by tribal people of village Sonkhan and other near areas for the treatment of various disease are mentioned below :

1. *Aegle marmelos correa* (rutaceae) Bel: The pulp of the ripe fruits are useful in the disorders of the stomach.
2. *Calatropis procera* R. Br; (Asclapediaceae) Aak: The latex of the stem is used in rheumatism and leprosy.
3. *Ricinus communis* Linn (Euphorbiaceae) Arandi: Oil obtained from seed is highly purgative
4. *Azarieticha indica* Linn. (Meliaceae) Neem: Leaves and stems are Insecticidal, carminative, expectorant, antihelmintic.
5. *Alstonia scholaries*, R. Br; (Apocynaceae) Chatium Barks of plants used in malaria, dysentery and snake bite and their milky juice is applied to ulcers.
6. *Asperagus racemosus* Willd. (Liliaceae) Satawar: The tuberous roots are powdered and mixed in water and given to woman for strength and vigour
7. *Aristolochia indica* Linn (Poaceae) Isharmul: The powdered roots are given in honey for leucoderma and juive of leaces for snake bites.
8. *Bryonopsis laciniosa* Linn (Cucurbitaceae) Shivlingee: The plants are used in bilious attacks and also in fever with flatulence.
9. *Cyperus rotundus* Linn (Cyperaceae) Motha: The tuberous roots are used in disorders of stomach and disorders of bowels.
10. *Fumaria indica* Linn (Famariaceae) Pit papara : The powder of dried plants are very usefull to purify blood in skin diseases.
11. *Gravia asiatica* Linn (Tiliaceae) Phalsa : The leaf paste is used as application to postural eruptions and their fruits in stomach and cooling diseases.
12. *Holarrhena antidysenterica* Linn (Apocynaceae) Kurchi: The bar decoction is rubbed over the body in dropsy and their seed powder is used externally as well internally for fever and intestine warms.
13. *Moringa oleifera* Linn (Moringaceae) Munga: The paste of root bark is applied on boils for suppression as well as suppuration and root decoction is taken orally in scorpion bite.
14. *Martynia annua* Linn (Pedaliaceae) Bichu : The leaves of plants are given in epilepsy, applied to tuberous glands of neck and their juice are used as gargel for sore throat.
15. *Nyctanthes arbortristis* Linn (Oleaceae) Harsinghar : The leaves of plants are useful in fever and rheumatism.
16. *Operculine turpethum* Linn (Convolvulaceae) Nisoth : The powdered roots are given in scorpion sting and snake bite.
17. *Rauwolfia serpentina* Benth. (Apocynaceae) Sarpghandha: The powdered roots are given in reduction of blood pressure , remedy in painful affections of the bowels leaves juices are used for removal of opacities of cornea of eyes.
18. *Scherebera swietenoides* Roxb. (Oleaceae) Ghanta: The decoction of stem bark is used to cure mental depression.
19. *Tinospora cordifolia* Miers (Menispermaceae) Guruch: The aquous extraction of stem is given to cure nocturnal emissions and plant paste is also applied to bone fractures.
20. *Teramnus Labialis* Spreng (Fabaceae) Mashaparni: The fruits of plants are used in nerve diseases, paralysis.
21. *Tamarindus indica* Linn. (caesalpiniaaceae) Iml: The leave juice is applied on eyes to cure inflammation.
22. *Gymenema sylvestre* R. br; (Asclapediaceae) merasingi: The leaves of plants are used in diabetes, chewed to cure glycosurea.
23. *Venda Tesellata* Roxb. Hook (Orchidaceae) Bandh, Rasna: The warm leaf juice is used to cure boils inside the ear and put in ear for internal ear ache.
24. *Woodfordia fruiticosa* Linn (Lytheraceae) Dhawai: The stem paste is used for healing of cut and wounds

V. DISCUSSION

The present investigation included information on 24 plant species belonging to 20 angiospermic families. These are employed to treat different disease of human being. The common form of dosages are decoction, infusion, powder, extract, juice, paste, latex prepared by using various underground and aerial plant parts. Mostly single plant species is employed for these applications except in few cases more than one species had been employed for the treatment of ailments. It is a fact that backward people use ethno-medicines due to affordable cast or even free of cost. Also they are readily available in their vicinity. The traditions passed orally represent community supported autonomous healthcare management system. This runs parallel to modern system. The claimed therapeutic values of these species however, invite for modern laboratory studies to establish their efficacy and safety. These also need preservation because of obvious forces of deforestation acculturation.

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