

Documentation of Traditional Ethnomedicinal Plants Used by Tribals from Painganga Forest Range in Umarkhed Region of Yavatmal District of Maharashtra State

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Abstract- Painganga forest is a rich store house of medicinal plants. Tribals in Painganga forest have great faith in effectiveness of medicinal plants. The present study was carried out to explore traditional medicinal knowledge of plants of Painganga forest in Yavatmal district. This information were based on exhaustive survey, interviews during the year 2014 -15 in the tribal inhabited area. The present study was carried out to explore traditional medicinal knowledge of plants of Painganga forest of Umarkhed taluka. It was found that 20 different plants belonging to 15 families are used to treat various diseases.

Index Terms- Traditional knowledge, Medicinal plants, Painganga forest.

I. INTRODUCTION

Man has depended on plants from time immemorial. Our knowledge of the intimate relationship between early man and plants has come to us mainly through surviving traditions. This relationship between not forms the core of the multifaceted science "Ethnobotany". Ethnobotanical studies have attracted much attention, not only due to its great academic or historical importance, but also due to many economic applications. India is one of the 17 mega biodiversity countries in the world. It has 45000 plant species, out of which 15000- 20000 plants have medicinal values. In India, plants have used for medicinal purpose since ancient time, as mentioned in Ayurveda. Medicinal plants have served as the main source of medicine in India. Medicinal plants are used for preventive, primitive and curative purposes. Medicinal plants have been preliminary selected on the basic local traditional knowledge. The traditional knowledge of herbs is famous among the indigenous and local people. The traditional healers are the main source of information of medicinal importance of plants. The rural people have traditional indigenous knowledge about the use of medicinal plants to cure various diseases. Traditional indigenous knowledge comprises practices based on observations.

During the last few decades, there has been an increasing interest in the study of medicinal plants and there indigenous uses of different parts of world. Medicinal plants have been used for research in both systematic and advanced field of plant sciences. Documentation of such indigenous knowledge is essential for conservation and utilization of biological resources. Painganga forest is located in eastern (vidarbha) region of the

Maharashtra. It is located between 19° 36' to 19° 7' North latitudes and 77° 42' to 77° 7' East longitudes. The total forest area in Umarkhed tehsil is 487 sq/km. which is 39-33% of the geographical area of the tehsil. This region is rich in diverse flora and suitable for ethnobotanical exploration. Keeping in mind, the medicinal importance of plants among local people, the present study was undertaken to study Ethnobotany of Painganga forest, district Yavatmal.

II. MATERIALS AND METHODS

The study area, Painganga forest is situated in the taluka Umarkhed, Yavatmal district, Maharashtra. Ethnomedicinal data was collected according to the methodology suggested by Jain (1996, 2001). Ethnobotanical survey was conducted during the period of 2014-15. Local healers called vaid, gunias, native people, old persons, using medicinal plants for curing various diseases were interviewed for documenting the information in their local area. The collected specimens were identified taxonomically with the help of floras by taxonomy experts in department of botany, B.P. Science College, Digras, District Yavatmal, Maharashtra. Data was tabulated with plant name, family, local name, part used and folk use (Bhogaokar and Kadam, 2006; Kanthale and Biradar, 2010).

III. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

In the present study 20 plants species belonging to 15 families were reported after undertaking the survey and having conversation with elder persons of various age groups. It was found that dominated medicinal plants of this region are main source of primary health cure. Majority of the elder persons have sound knowledge of medicinal plants and use in their daily life. These plants are used in the forms of juice, decoction, powder, paste and whole plant extract. The medicinal plants are mainly used for the treatment of mouth ulcer, body pain, cough, bronchitis, piles, asthma, dysentery, constipation, headache, stomach, leucoderma, gum problem, wound healing, ring worm, vomiting, muscular pain, tooth ache, snake bite, urinary burning, nose bleeding.

IV. CONCLUSION

The present study shows that Painganga forest region is rich with valuable medicinal flora & people are enriched with folk traditional knowledge about these plants. Though this knowledge is passing orally from one generation to another but it has not been documented yet. So documentation of this

knowledge is necessary for safeguarding this valuable information for the well being of future generation the present study will provide new incentive to the traditional system of healthcare and also will be helpful for researcher and pharmaceutical industries to find out the other use of plants which would be helpful to modern healthcare system.

Table 1: Systematic enumeration of plants used as ethnomedicine by tribals of Painganga region of Umardhed, Yavatmal district

S.N.	Botanical Name	Vernacular Name	Family	Plant Part of Use
1	<i>Annona squamosa</i> (L)	Sitaphal	Annonaceae	Leaf and seed
2	<i>Capparis grandis</i> (L)	Pachunda	Capparaceae	Leaf, fruit
3	<i>Casearia tomentosa</i> (Roxb)	Chila	Flacourtiaceae	Root bark
4	<i>Bombax ceiba</i> (L)	Katesawar	Bombacaceae	Root
5	<i>Ceiba pentandra</i> (L)	Pandhari sewar	Bombacaceae	Root bark, flower
6	<i>Alanthus excelsa</i> (Roxb)	Maharuk	Simaroubaceae	Whole plant
7	<i>Schleichera oleosa</i> (Lour)	Lac tree	Sapindaceae	Bark
8	<i>Buchnanan lanzan</i> (Spreng)	Char	Anacardiaceae	Whole plant
9	<i>Butea monosperma</i> (Lamk)	Palas	Fabaceae	Root bark, flower
10	<i>Ougenia oojenensis</i> (Roxb)	Tiwas	Fabaceae	Bark
11	<i>Bauhinia racemosa</i> (Lam)	Apta	Caesalpiniaceae	Root, bark
12	<i>Albizia lebbek</i> (L)	Siris	Mimosaceae	Whole plant
13	<i>Pithecellobium dulce</i> (Roxb)	Firangi chinch	Mimosaceae	Bark, leaf, fruit
14	<i>Terminalia elliptica</i> (Roxb)	Ain	Combretaceae	Bark
15	<i>Gardenia resinifera</i> (Roth)	Dikamali	Rubiaceae	Gum from stem
16	<i>Ixora parviflora</i> (Vahl)	Lonkhand	Rubiaceae	Bark, root, fruit, wood
17	<i>Diospyros melanocylon</i> (Roxb)	Tembhurne	Ebenaceae	Bark, fruit, flower
18	<i>Carissa carandus</i> (L)	Karvanda	Apocynaceae	Root, leaves, fruit
19	<i>Cordia ghataf</i> (Forsk) Lamk	Gondani	Ehretiaceae	Leaf
20	<i>Gmelina arborea</i> (L)	Chiman sag	Verbenaceae	Seeds

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