



SCREENING OF VISHAGHNA (ANTITOXIC) PLANTS IN AYURVEDA

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ABSTRACT

The aim of present work is to present here the plants having *Visaghna*(Anti-toxic) effect. A search was carried out from different classical literature and total number of 90 plants has been identified having *Visaghna* properties, which are not clear about the indications. A list of text consulted with description of plants concerned has been enumerated with Sanskrit and botanical names with family for easy identification. Efforts have been made to have an idea about the plants with *visaghna* properties in Ayurveda for multidimensional research work in future.

Keywords: *Ayurveda, Visaghna, antitoxic plants.*

INTRODUCTION

The science of Ayurveda begins from the concepts of detoxifying theory regarded as *Agadatantra* having similar concept adopted in modern system of medicine. Not only the toxic is confined to venom itself rather the toxicity is of prime concern which is observed in different plants, metals, water, air everywhere. It is defined as a substance which can stop or damage with either abnormally or in reverse way to the biological mechanisms. After a series of experimentation anywhere has identified the presence toxic substances, its origin, way of propagation, condition of aggravation and demolition, limit of effect with possible noticeable sign and symptoms and ultimately possible solution of prevention and management. The entire concept has been simulated to *vishvigyan* or *Agadatantra* (Toxicology) in Ayurveda [1].

The Toxicology is a very vast and potent subject not only in the view of medical science but also it has got impact in our daily life. Toxicology is not also confined to any particular object or matter but also it is concerned to every aspect in our daily life even things which are essential for our life may be toxic in terms of condition like water, air, drug, cosmetics etc. It is essential to have proper knowledge about these.

Agadatantra is well established branch in Ayurveda. *Vrihatrayee* has mentioned the details which have been gradually transcended to next generations. The theme is so developed that every human being is having some sort of toxic in the body which should be examined before treatment by the physician. *Maharsi Susruta* has elaborated particularly the diagnostic criteria of a man free from toxic as:-

“Prasannadosham prakutisthadhatuam
Annabhikamam samamutrajihwam,
Prasannatmedriyamanachestam
Vaidyovagachhetagadamnaranam.

In this version *susruta* has clearly mentioned that, a person can be diagnosed as free from *visha* detoxified when these symptoms are observed like the restoration of the deranged *dosas* and of the vital principles (*dhatu*s of the bodies) to their normal state, a neutral craving for food and drink, the normal colour and condition of the tongue and of the urine and the normal state and functions of the mind and of the sense organs. In a poisoned patient would indicate the full and complete elimination of the poison from his system [2].

Moreover, the authors of *Vrihatrayee* have described a lot about medicinal plants for management of various toxic conditions and the authors of further

generations have also added few plant materials with their medicinal toxicidal potencies. It is interesting to observe that few plants have been identified with toxicidal/antitoxic effect in additions to these healing proportions, but place or area of applications or administrations is not clear except mentioning as “*Vishaghna*”. Those plants so identified and collected from different texts are enumerated here [3,4].

From the above table it is observed that several plant drugs have been described as *Vishaghana* without any specifications or not properly understood.

Maharsisusruta and *charak* have described certain single/multiple antidote preparations/ formulations in *kalpasthana* like *kharagada*, *sirisodiagoda*, *visariAgada*, *mahagada*, *Ajitagada*, *tarksyagada*, *rusabhagada*, *sanjivanaAgada*, *mahasugandhiAgada* etc. Which are

specifically indicated for certain poison conditions may be acute or chronic even in *dushivisha* conditions, several drugs have also been incorporated both from plant origin, minerals or metallic ones. It is also seen that few of plants drugs described in above table have been incorporated in those items apart from the several plants which are not incorporated though having reference of *vishaghana*.

Time has come to explore the plant kingdom but it is a matter of great regret that a lot of species have been endangered and Instinet which are expected to have been used for human diseases. Similarly, a lot of species are also going to be instinct in near future due to lack of proper conservation and documentation. Several plants of the above lists are of same condition [5-11].

Sl.No	DRUG with Visaghna properties	REFERENCES Latin Name with Family	Available texts												
			CharakSamhita	SusrutaSamhita	AstangaHridaya	BhabaprakahNighantu	SarangdharSahmita	Kaidevnighantu	DhanawantariNighantu	Raj Nighantu	P. V Sharma	Chakradutta	NighantuSamgraha	AyurvediyaDravyavigyan	SidhaBhesajamanimala
1	MadhukaParni	B.N- <i>Centella asiatica</i> Fam.-Umbeliferae				√									
2	Aindri	B.N- <i>Bacopa monnieri</i> Fam.-Scrophulariaceae								√					
3	Jatamansi	B.N- <i>Nordostachys</i> Fam- Valerianaceae										√			
4	Choraka	B.N- <i>Angelica glaucaedgew</i> Fam-Umbelliferae				√			√						
5	Sarpagandha	B.N- <i>Rauwolfia serpentine</i> Fam-Apocynaceae		√						√					
6	Raasna	B.N- <i>Pluchea lanceota</i> Fam-Compositae				√									
7	Kadamba	B.N- <i>Anthocephalus indicus</i> Fam.-Rubiaceae							√						
8	Padmaka	B.N- <i>Prunus cerasoides</i> Fam.Rojaceae							√						
9	Jalavetasa	B.n- <i>Salix tetrasperma</i> Fam.-Salicaceae			√										
10	Suchi	B.N- <i>Atropa belladona</i> Fam.-Solanaceae							√						
11	Tagar	B.N- <i>Valeriana wallichii</i> Fam.-Valeriance						√							
12	Muchukunda	B.N-Pterospermamum Fam.-Sterculiaceae				√									
13	Bhujapatra	B.N- <i>Betula utilis</i> Fam.-Ranunculaceae				√									
14	Priyaranga	B.N- <i>Thalictrum foliolosum</i> FAM- Ranunculaceae								√					

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58	Sunisannaka	B.N-Marsilia minuta Fam.-Marsiliaceae								✓				
59	Daruharidra	B.N-Berberis aristata Fam.-Berberidaceae				✓								
60	DugdhaPheni	B.N-Taraxacum officinale Fam.-Compositae							✓					
61	Sara Punkha	B.N-Tephorsia purpurea Fam.-Nymphaeaceae				✓								
62	Kamala	B.N-Nelumbo nucifera Fam.- Nymphaeaceae				✓								
63	Iswari	B.N-Aristolochia indica Fam.-Aristolochiaceae				✓								
64	Malati	B.N-Jasminum sambac Fam.-Oleaceae				✓								
65	Patha	B.N-Cissampelos pareira Fam.- menispermaceae				✓		✓						
66	Bhumyamalaki	B.N-Phyllanthus urinaria Fam.-Euphorbiaceae						✓						
67	Bandala	B.N-Dendrobythoe falcata Fam.- Loranthaceae				✓		✓						
68	Shala	B.N-Shorea robusta Fam.- Dipterocarpaceae						✓						
69	Bimbi	B.N-Vernonia cineria Fam.- Compositae						✓						
70	Trayamana	B.N-Gentiana kurroo Fam.-Gentianaceae				✓								
71	Tulasi	B.N-Ocimum sanctum Fam.-Labiatae	✓	✓										
72	Kunayana	B.N-Cinchona officinalis Fam.-Rubiaceae								✓				
73	Chandan	B.N- Santalum album Fam.-Santalaceae				✓								
74	Raktachandan	B.N-Pterocarpus santalinus Fam.-Leguminosae				✓								
75	Champaka	B.N-Michelia champaka Fam.-Magnoliaceae						✓						
76	Shaileya	B.N-Parmelia perlata Fam.-Parmeliaceae				✓								
77	Brihatela	B.N-Amomum subulatum Fam.-Zingiberaceae				✓								
78	Samudranarikela	B.N- Lodoicea maldivica Fam.-Palmae								✓				
79	Guduchi	B.N-Tinospora cordifolia Fam.-Menispermaceae						✓						

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80	Gunja	B.N- <i>Abrus precatorius</i> Fam.-Leguminosae						√							
81	Shirisa	B.N- <i>Albizzia lebbak</i> Fam.- Leguminosae				√									
82	Nirvisha	B.N- <i>Pelphinium denudatum</i> Fam.-Ranunculaceae							√						
83	Ankola	B.N- <i>Alangium salvifolium</i> Fam.-Alangiaceae				√									
84	Priyangu	B.N- <i>Callicarpam acrophylla</i> Fam.-Verbenaceae				√									
85	Nagakeshar	B.N- <i>Mesua ferrea</i> Fam.-Guttiferae				√									
86	Sariva	B.N- <i>Hemidesmus indicus</i> Fam.- Asclepiadaceae				√									
87	Manjistha	B.N- <i>Rubia cordifolia</i> Fam.- Rubiaceae				√		√							
88	Shalaparni	B.N <i>Desmodium gengentium</i> Fam.- Leguminosae				√									
89	Pilu	B.N- <i>Salvadora persica</i> Fam.-Salvadoraceae	√												

CONCLUSION

Plants are there, some of them have already been lost. The medicinal potency are also explored and documented in the classics and few of them have also been explored through modern system of investigation. It is high time to see the efficiency and specifically the antitoxic effect on the disease where it is supposed to be administered.

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