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ETHNOMEDICINAL USES OF SOME SELECTED PLANTS OF S.V.CAMPUS, KADI, GUJARAT

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ABSTRACT:
Gujarat is divided into 4 regions: North Gujarat, South Gujarat, Central Gujarat, Saurashtra. Kadi is situated at 23°3' north latitude and 72°3' east longitude. Sarva Vidyalaya Kelvani Mandal has been established in the year 1919, by a Philanthropist Pujya Chhaganbha. The basic principle preached by him “KAR BHALA HOGA BHALA” has been the driving force for the growth of the education activities managed by the trust. We studied total 14 plant species (12 dicotyledons and 2 monocotyledons) belonging to 14 genera and 11 families are reported.

KEY WORDS: Ethnomedicinal, Plants

INTRODUCTION:
Human beings have been using plants for a long time and research workers are constantly bringing to light additional information on the relationship between plants and man. The subject of man, plants and his environment is Ethnobotany. The field approach of the study of ethnobotany plays vital role because of the opportunity of direct contact that can be established with the authentic information on the use of plants, both wild and cultivated from the people.

From history and as presently practiced in the remote parts of every area of the world, the people depend on the plants around them and through this; they acquire knowledge of economic and medicinal properties of many plants by trial and error. Ethnic people have deep belief in the traditional system of medicine for remedies and rely exclusively on their own herbal cures. In the same vein, traditional agriculture plays a crucial role in the life of people, who depend mostly on surrounding plant

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communities for their day to day needs. Over the centuries, the people living close to the forest have experimented and made use of several plants. Importance of traditional and folk medicine in the treatment of various human ailments is well recognized amongst these people. Modern knowledge in biotechnology can use these biological assets of the ethnic gains for better health and nutrition and for sustainable development of human society.

**MATERIAL and METHODS:**

In the present study, the medicinal properties and uses of some selected plants of S.V. Campus, Kadi, Gujarat are documented. Altogether 14 plant species (12 dicotyledons and 2 monocotyledons) belonging to 14 genera and 11 families are reported. The information collected was compared with published literature. Information about medicinal uses and properties was gathered from old and knowledgeable people of the surrounding areas of S.V. Campus, Kadi. The species names covered in this paper are arranged in alphabetical order while valid scientific names are followed by family and local names.

**ENUMERATION:**

*Abrus precatorius* L. (Fabaceae, Chanothi)

**Medicinal properties:** Leucoderma, coughs, colds, rheumatism, stomachache, swelling, mouth ulcers, scabies.

**Medicinal Uses:**

**Root :**

Decoction of root is given for coughs and colds.

Paste of root is applied on leucodermatic spots.

The fresh root juice or leaf juice mixed with some edible oil and then is applied on painful part to relieve pain and reduce swellings of rheumatism.

Roots are considered to be useful in snake bite.

**Leaves :**

Fresh leaf juice dropped in to the eye in cataract.

Paste of leaves applied on head to prevent baldness.
The leaves are chewed to relieve stomachache.

The leaves are used externally for relieving local pains in swelling.

The fresh leaves are sweet and chewed for treatment of mouth ulcers.

Decoction of leaves are useful in rheumatism, scabies and skin diseases.

**Seed:**

Pulp of the seed is given with milk in sexual debility it is increase sexual power.

Bruised seeds have been used criminally for poisoning cattle and for homicidal purposes.

Seeds administered in affections of nervous system and their paste applied locally in sciatica, stiffness of shoulder joints and paralysis.

Seeds are poisonous.

**Adhatoda vasica** (L.)Nees. (Achanthaceae, Ardusi)

**Medicinal properties:** Asthma, coughs and colds, broanchitis.

**Medicinal Uses:**

**Leaves:**

Powder of leaves is used as a febrifuge in fever of malaria.

Decoction of the leaves makes a good application for scabies and other skin diseases.

Dried leaves are smoked as cigarettes with much relief in asthma.

The leaves are very efficacious as a remedy in all sorts of coughs and colds, broanchitis and asthma.

Crushed leaves with water given internally to the female on the post delivery treatment.

Paste of leaves is given in T.B. treatment.

Poultice of leaves externally is used for fresh wound, on rheumatic joints and inflammatory swellings in neuralgia, headache and bleeding from the nose.

**Aloe barbadensis** Mill. (Liliaceae, Kuvarpathu)
Medicinal properties: Scabies, boils, mastitis, ringworm, bleeding piles, leprosy, wounds.

Medicinal Uses:
Leaves: Pulp of leaves is applied on scabies, boils, mastitis, ringworm, bleeding piles and leprosy.
The leaf is given orally to cure stomach trouble.
Juice of leaves is used in liver diseases and eye troubles.
Inner fleshy part of leaf is applied on wounds due to burning.
Leaf is warmed and bandaged on abdomen to remove old stool (faces) and to cure constipation.

Asparagus racemosus Willd. (Liliaceae, Satavari)
Medicinal properties: Dysentery, tuberculosis, leucorrhoea, dyspepsia.
Medicinal Uses:
Root:
Powdered of root is employed in dysentery, acidity, colic, tuberculosis, leucorrhoea, peptic ulcers and burning micturition.
Dried root powder is given internally with milk to the nourishing mother for milk production hence used as lactagogue.
Root juice is mixed with honey and for dyspepsia.
Paste of root is mixed with seed powder of ‘jira’ (Cuminum cyminum) and given orally with warm water to cure cold fever.

Azadirachta indica A. Juss. (Meliaceae, Limdo)
Medicinal properties: Malaria, jaundice, colic, toxiemia, leucorrhoea, menorrhagia, gonorrhoea, anaemia, stomachache, scabies, wounds, ringworm, eczema, boils, leprosy, achne.
Medicinal Uses:
Root:
Decoction of root is taken internally in malaria and jaundice.
Juice of root is given in toxiema.

Bark:
Barks used in skin troubles and boils.
Decoction of inner bark paste is used in fever, malaria, diarrhoea, gonorrhoea, anaemia, stomachache, anorexia, liver disorders, colic, toxiemia, leucorrhoea, menorrhagia and vomiting.
Paste of inner bark is applied on wounds, tumor and abcess.
The bark is tonic and useful in liver complaints and jaundice.

Leaves:
The juice of the leaves is useful in biliousness and cures snake bite.
Paste of leaves is applied on scabies, wounds, ringworm, eczema, boils, leprosy, ache, plague, leucoderma, stomatitis.
Juice of leaves is given internally in piles, skin diseases, jaundice, intestinal worms, chicken pox, menorrhagia, fever, anaemia, cough, calculi, acidity, malaria, in burning micturation, bronchitis, diabetes, pneumonia and dysentery.
Decoction of leaves is employed for eczema and ulcer.
Dried leaves powdered is given orally to the children to cure intestinal worms.

Flower:
Fresh flower is given as tonic in despepsia, general debility and as a stimulant tonic and stomachic.
Decoction of flower is given in toxiemia, piles, malaria, rheumatism and other many diseases.

Fruit:
Decoction of fruit is used in piles and skin diseases.

Seed:
Pulp of seed is employed in piles, intestinal worms, leprosy and urinary diseases.
Seed powdered are given in piles, fever, leprosy, decrease sex desire, worms and bleeding diarrhoea.
Seed oil is applied on rheumatism, eczema, scabies, toothache, spermatorrhoea and burns.
Decoction of seed oil is given in gonorrhoea, syphilis, asthma, T.B., piles and toxiemia.
**Boerhavia diffusa** L. (Nyctaginaceae, Satodi)

*Medicinal properties:* Ophthalmia, swelling, scanty urine, eye wounds.

*Medicinal Uses:*

**Root:**
Paste of root is applied on any swelling and also scorpion sting.

Infusion of root is given mixed with rice water in caser snakebite.

Decoction of root is given internally is scanty urine.

**Leaves:**
Decoction of leaves are used in ophthalmia and for eye wounds, muscular pain and purify the blood and hasten delivery and good for dropsy.

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**Catharanthus roseus** (L.) G. Don. (Apocynaceae, Barmasi)

*Medicinal properties:* Diabetes

*Medicinal Uses:*

**Leaves:**
Juice of leaves is applied on wasp sting.

The leaves are used in diabetes.

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**Cissus quadrangulare** L. (Vitaceae, Hadsankal)

*Medicinal properties:* dysentery, bone fracture, swelling, scurvy.

*Medicinal Uses:*

**Root:**
The decoction of root is useful in dysentery and bone fracture.

**Stem:**
Paste of stem is applied on bone fracture as a plaster.

Decoction of stem is given in swelling.

Juice of stem is prescribed in scurvy and ear complaints.
Gymnema sylvestre (Retz.) Schult. (Asclepiadaceae, Madhunasini)

Medicinal properties: Diabetes, stomatitis.

Medicinal Uses:

Leaves:
Juice of leaves is given in fever, stomatitis and coughs.
Leaves are chewed paralyses for few hours the sense of taste for sweet and bitter substances.
Leaves are used in diabetes.

Leptadenia reticulata (Retz.) W. & A. (Asclepiadaceae, Dodi)

Medicinal properties: Eye-sight, night blindness, diabetes, ringworm.

Medicinal Uses:

Leaves:
Leaves are chewed in diabetes.
Paste of fresh leaves is applied on ringworm.

Fruit:
Unripe fruit is applied in better eye-sight and night blindness.
Raw young fruits are edible.

Ocimum sanctum L. (Lamiaceae, Tulsi)

Medicinal properties: Malaria fever, ringworm, leprosy, itches, scabies, wounds, cold and cough.

Medicinal Uses:

Root:
Decoction of root is given orally mixed with’ sunth’ (Zingiber officinale) and given in Malaria fever.

Leaves:
Paste of leaves is applied on scorpion sting, insect bite, animal bite, ringworm, leprosy, itches, scabies and wounds.

Fresh leaves chewed for relief in cold and cough.

**Terminalia arjuna (Roxb.) W. & A. (Combretaceae, Arjun sadad)**

**Medicinal properties:** Dysentery, wounds.

**Medicinal Uses:**

**Bark :**
Decoction of bark is tonic, useful in dysentery.

**Leaves :**
Fresh leaves juice dropped into the ear to earache.
Decoction of leaves is given in wounds.

**Tinospora cordifolia** (Willd.) Miers. (Menispermaceae, Galo)

**Medicinal properties:** Dysentery, diarrhea, colic complaints, menorrhagia, anaemia, leucorrhoea, diabetes, jaundice.

**Medicinal Uses:**

**Roots :**
Decoction is given snake bite, colic complaints and used for animal heat.
Root is given in dysentery and diarrhoea.

**Stem :**
Stem decoction is useful in asthma, cough, stominal weakness, dyspepsia, torpidity on liver, anorexia, bleeding piles, menorrhagia, anaemia, leucorrhoea, diabetes.
A garland made of small pieces of the stem in tribal races and then hung around the neck to cure jaundice.
Stem is useful in stomach diseases & tonic.

**Leaves :**
Leaves is useful in antipyretic, headache, fever, piles.
Leaf paste is applied on boils.

**Tylophora indica** (Burm. f.) Merill (Asclepiadaceae, Damvel)

**Medicinal properties:** Asthma, cough, bronchitis.
Medicinal Uses:

Bark:
Infusion of root bark is mixed with water and given to cure asthma.

Leaves:
Leaves are chewed to cure asthma.

**DISCUSSION and CONCLUSION:**

Cultivation of medicinal plants is an important way to make sustainable use of medicinal plants. During the survey, it is found that the knowledge of the plants and their uses is limited to a few old knowledgeable people which is transferred from one generation to another.

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