

TRADITIONAL TREATMENT OF ULCER THROCUH MEDICINAL PLANTS IN RURAL UTTAR PRADESH, INDIA

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ABSTRACT: *The paper deals with some important medicinal plants growing in Aligarh, Sitapur and Hardoi districts of Uttar Pradesh province used for the treatment of Gastric, petic and Callous ulcers. 26 species belonging to 17 families are reported along with doses and mode of administration.*

Keywords: *Herbal medicine, Ulcer, Uttar Pradesh*

INTRODUCTION

The province of Uttar Pradesh is one of the biggest state in India and situated between 24°-32° North latitude and 77°-85° East longitude, is the homeland of Tharu, Gujar and Bhuxa tribes who are living in a primitive life Apart from the tribe most of the population (about 80 percent) living in villages and hamlets. All these people practice traditional agriculture and depend mostly on surrounding plant wealth of their day to day need of food, fuel, shelter and medicine. A few ethnobotanical studies have reported some plant species from this region (1-5), However, adequate attention has not so far been focused on the plants used for the treatment of ulcer.

2. STUDY AREA

The study area were confined to the three districts of Uttar Pradesh. The district Hardoi and Sitapur occupied central while Aligarh Western region of the Uttar Pradesh Province, (Fig 1) In 1991 census the total population of all three district was about 3 million. The official language are Devangiri and English. But inhabitants of these district

still maintain their solidarieteis with their own dialect called “Dehatees” food habits, socio-religious taboos, fables and totems.

The study area ranges from 26°-28° north latitude and 76°-80° 49 East longitude. Temperature varies from 2°C -47°C with 3 seasons, a long winter season carrying about six month (from October 15 to mid of March) with dense fogs, summer season (from April to June) with storm, rainy season (July to September).

3. METHODOIOGY

The study was performed during 1986-1993. Information was collected during field excursion though interviews with herbalists (traditional practioners) and elderly person whose knowledge was widely accepted. Only those plants used to cure ulcer atleast in three district were retained in this study. More than 5-10 informants for each plant species were interviewed at different places of study area. The plant species were then collected and identified, Recorded information was compared with

pharmacographia of India[7] Medicinal plants of India[8] Indigenous drug of India[9] and other important medicinal plant literatures [10-12] The Voucher specimens of all recorded plant were deposited in the Herbarium of Botany department, Aligarh Muslim University Aligarh-202002, for future reference.

4. RESULTS

The plants are listed in alphabetical order of their botanical names followed by local names, family (in parenthesis) locality, Voucher Specimen Number (VSN) Plant parts used and preparation of drugs along with doses and duration.

Abrus precatorius Linn., Ghungchi (Papilionaceae), Hardoi, VSN 31410, 66 leaves & seeds (a) Seed paste is applied for dressing over callous ulcer, (b) Fresh leaves paste along with the leaves of *Azadirachta indica* is also used for dressing, (c) About 50 g fresh leaves boiled in 2 λ of water until its quantity becomes half. 3 ml decoction 3 times a day in peptic ulcer for a week.

Ageratum conyzoides Linn., Ajgandh (Asteraceae), Hardoi, VSN 31559, leaves (a) 50-100g leaves boiled in 1 λ of water for 15 minutes then filtered. 25-50ml decoction 3 times a day for peptic ulcer (b) leaves paste used for dressing in callous ulcer.

Argemone mexicana Linn., Pili Katili (Papaveraceae), Aligarh, VSN 31217, leaves, roots & seeds, (a) fresh leaves juice and root pasts used for dressing in callous ulcer (b) 20g seeds boiled in 1 λ of water for ½ h, decoction is used for washing the callous ulcer.

Bidens pilosa Linn. Gumra (Asteraceae), Sitapur, VSN 31529, leaves. About 20g leaves mixed with 2-3 leaves of

clerodendrum viscosum and *Azadirachta indica* and fine paste is prepared, used for dressing in callous ulcer until the disease is cured.

Calotropis procera (Willd.) dryand ex W.Ait., Madar (Asclepiadaceae), Aligarh, VSN 31541, Leaves, (a) Shade dried leaves powder dusted daily on callous ulcer for one week (b) 2-5 leaves boiled in 1 λ of water, decoction used for washing purpose.

Cannabis sativa Linn., Bhang (Cannabinaceae) Sitapur, VSN 31666, whole plant. One female plant with some fruits boiled in 1 λ of water, 5-10 ml decoction 4 times a day for peptic ulcer.

Catnaranthus roseus (Linn.) G.Don, Sadabahar (Apocynaceae), Aligarh, VSN 31310. flower & leaves, (a) Light warm flower paste used for dressing once in a day for callous ulcer (b) 100g fresh leaves boiled in 1 λ of water for 15 minutes. 10 -15 ml decoction 3 times a day for peptic ulcer.

Cassia tora Linn., Panwar (Casealpiniaceae) Sitapur, VSN 31665, Seeds. 100g roasted seeds boiled in 1 λ of water for 1/2h. 10-15 ml decoction 2 times a day in peptic ulcer.

Chenopodium ambrosioides. Linn., Janglibathua (Chenopodiaceae), Aligarh, VSN 31267, leaves & seeds, (a) Paste of 50g leaves and 10g seeds used for dressing in callous ulcer, (b) 100g leaves boiled with 1 λ of water for 15 minutes, 2-3 ml decoction 4 times a day in peptic ulcer.

Chenopodium ambrosioides. Linn., janglibathua (Chenopodiaceae), Aligarh, VSN 31267, leaves & seeds, (a) Paste of 50g leaves and 10g seeds used for dressing in callous ulcer, (b) 100g leaves boiled with

1l of water for 15minutes, 2-3 ml decoction 4 times a days in peptic ulcer.

Clerodendrum viscosm Vent., Tikkarhar (Verbenaceae), Sitapur, VSN 31055, leaves. Leaves paste missed with mustard oil (*Brassica Campertris*) used for dressing in callous ulcer.

Convolvulus arvensis Linn., Hiran-Khuri, (Convolvulaceae), Hardoi, VSN. 31476, roots. 100g roots boiled in 1l of water, 5-10ml decoction 3 times a day in peptic ulcer until the disease is cured.

Datura stramonium Linn. Dhatura (Solanaceae), Hardoi, VSN 31540, leaves & fruits, (a) Shade dried fruits powder dusted over callous ulcer. (b)Leaves paste is also used for dressing.

Euphorbia hirta Linn., Dhodhi (Euphorbiaceae), Aligarh, VSN 31001, whole plant, (a) About 50 g fresh plant grounded and solution prepared in 500 ml water then filtered. 5-10 ml solution mixed with sugar (just to develop taste) used once in day for one month before break fast in peptic ulcer, (b) Paste from fresh leaves dressed over callous ulcer.

Ficus racemosa Linn., Goolar (Moraceae), Sitapur, VSN 31365, fruits & bark.(a) 100g fresh bark boiled in 1L of water for ½ h., 50-60 ml decoction 3 times in peptic ulcer, (b) 5-10 fresh fruits are also eaten before break fast in peptic ulcer.

Glycyrrhiza glabra Linn., Mulethi (Papilionaceae) Sitapur, VSN 31506, Rhizome. 100g rhizome boiled in 2l of water until its quantity reduced about 200ml 2-3 ml decoction 4 times a day for gastric ulcer.

Grangea maderaspatana (Linn.) Poir; Nagdoun (Asteraceae), Sitapur, VSN 31514, leaves. 200g leaves mixed with 50g *Zingiber officinale* and 20 seeds of *Piper nigrum* with 100 sugar, 2-3g mixture 2 times in a day for peptic and gastric ulcer.

Malva sylvestris Linn., Nari (Malvaceae), Hardoi, VSN 31682, Flowers. 100g dried flowers boiled in 1L of water for ½ h. 5-10 ml decoction 2 times a day for gastric and peptic ulcers.

Nerium indicum Mill., Kaner (Apocynaceae), Sitapur, VSN 31682, roots (a) 100g dried roots and 150g shoot boiled in 2l of water for 1½h., decoction used for washing callous ulcer, (b) Leaves paste is also used for dressing.

Papaver samniferum Linn., Posta (Papaveraceae), Sitapur VSN 31521, latex & fruits (a) 30g fresh latex boiled in 1L of water for ½ h. Warm solution used for washing callous ulcer once in a day until disease cured (b) riped capsule paste with 5-10 seeds of *Piper nigrum*, is also used for dressing.

Polygonum barbatum Linn., Nali (papilionaceae), Hardoi, VSN 31756, leaves & roots, (a) 100g dried roots and 150g shoot boiled in 2l of water for 1h;., decoction used for washing callous ulcer, (b) Leaves paste is also used for dressing.

Rauvolfia serpentine Benth. Ex Kurz., Sarpgandha (Apocynaceae), Sitapur, VSN 31572, Leaves & flowers 1-2 g leaves powder soaked in 100ml water used 3 times a day for gastric ulcer,(b) flower paste is applied for dressing over callous ulcer.

Rauvolfia tetraphylla Linn., Sarpgandha (Apocynaceae), Aligarh, VSN 120, roots (a) Fresh roots paste used for dressing in callous

ulcer, (b) 2 g root Powder 3 times a day in peptic & gastric ulcers.

Tamarindus indica Linn., Imli (Caesalpiniaceae) Sitapur, VSN 31255, leaves, 200g leaves boiled in 2l of water until its quantity becomes 2/3 2-5 ml decoction 2 times a day for 10 day in gastric ulcer.

Terminalia tamentasa Wt. & Am., Asna (Combretaceae), Aligarh, VSN 31941, bark 200g bark grounded into fine powder, 2-3g powder 2 times a days for peptic ulcer.

Woodfordia fruticosa (Linn.) Kurz, Deoti (Lythraceae), Aligarh, VSN 31233, flower. 200g fresh flower boiled in 1l of water for ½ h. The boiled solution used for washing callous until the disease cured.

5. DISCUSSION

As a result of an effort to document the traditional uses of plants among the people residing in remote areas of Aligarh, Hardoi and sitapur district of Uttar Pradesh. 26 species from 17 families used for the treatment of ulcer were recorded many of these records particularly those concerning to *Bidens pilosum* Vent., *Cassia tora* Linn., *clerodendrum viscosum* Vent., *Cassia tora* Linn., *Euphorbia hirta* Linn., *Ficus racemosa* Linn., *Tephrosia purpurea* (Linn.) Pers are new to the literature of Indian medicinal plants some reported recipes liable to produce side effect should be Maheswari J.K. Sing JP, J. Econ Taxon. Bot. 5, 251-259 (1984).

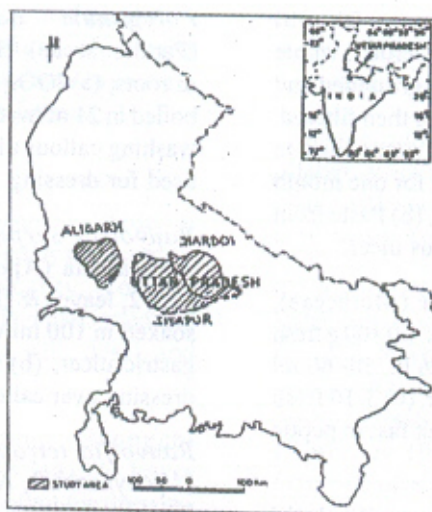


Fig.1. STUDY AREA: HARDOI, ALIGARH, SITAPUR DISTRICTS, UTTAR PRADESH

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