

**KURANTAKA (BARLERIA PRIONITIS LINN) IN VEDIC AND SAMHITA KAAL; LITERATURE REVIEW****Dr. Shardul Pathak\*<sup>1</sup> and Dr. Vivek Gokhale<sup>2</sup>**

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**ABSTRACT**

*Kurantaka* is mentioned as one of type of *Saireyaka*. Two Varieties of *Saireyaka* are mentioned in *Varunadi gana* from *Ashtang hrudhya*.. *Rakta pushpa Saireyaka* i.e *Kurabaka* and *Peeta pushpa* i.e. *Kurantaka* according to commentary of *Arundatta* on *Ashtang hrudhya*. *Varunadi gana* reference contains *Kurabaka* (*Barleria cristata* linn) and *Kurantaka* (*Barleria prionitis* linn) varieties. *Kurantaka* (*Barleria prionitis* linn) is easily available throughout India hence chosen for study. Synonyms of *Kurantaka* are *Peet Saireyaka*, *Peet sahachar*. *Peet sahachar* is well know in formulation of *Sahacharadi Tila* which is widely used in *Vaata vyadhis* for various purposes like *Basti*, *Nasya*, *Bahya* or *abhyantara Snehana*. In current study references of

*Kurantaka* collected from *Samhita's* like *Ashtang Hrudhya*, *Charak Samhita*, *Sushruta Samhita*, *Bhavprakash Samhita*, *Sharandhar samhita*, *Yog ratnakar*, *Bhaishajya ratnavali*, *Kashyap samhita*.

**KEYWORDS:** *Kurantaka*, *Barleria Prionitis*, *Peeta Sahachar*, *Samhita's*.

**INTRODUCTION**

Due to its novel healing method, Ayurveda, a naturebased system of medicine, has recently gained popularity around the world.

Mother Nature has bestowed us in order to help us live a diseasefree and healthy life. The Indian traditional medical systems have a wealth of therapeutic herbs, with one of them being

the most commonly employed. *Kurantaka* is mentioned as one of type of *Saireyaka*. Two Varieties of *Saireyaka* are mentioned in *Varunadi gana* from *Ashtang hrudhya*.. *Rakta pushpa Saireyaka* i.e *Kurabaka* and *Peeta pushpa* i.e. *Kurantaka* according to commentary of *Arundatta* on *Ashtang hrudhya*.<sup>[1]</sup>

*Varunadi gana* reference contains *Kurabaka* (*Barleria cristata* linn) and *Kurantaka* (*Barleria prionitis* linn)<sup>[3,15,16]</sup> varieties. *Kurantaka* (*Barleria prionitis* linn) is easily available throughout India hence chosen for study.<sup>[13]</sup> About morphology of *Kurantaka* i.e. *Barleria prionitis* It's a much branched, prickly shrub upto 3 m in height. It is Found throughout the hotter parts of India. Flowers of *Barleria prionitis* are yellow in colour and sessile in shape.

Synonyms of *Kurantaka* are *Peet Saireyaka*, *Peet sahachar*. *Peet sahachar* is well know in formulation of *Sahacharadi Tila* which is widely used in *Vaata vyadhis* for various purposes like *Basti*, *Nasya*, *Bahya* or *abhyantara Snehana*. In current study references of *Kurantaka* collected from *Samhita's* like *Ashtang Hrudhya*, *Charak Samhita*, *Sushruta Samhita*, *Bhavprakash Samhita*, *Sharandhar samhita*, *Yog ratnakar*, *Bhaishajya ratnavali*, *Kashyap samhita*.

### Vedic Kala

Nearly 162 plants are explained with their properties and uses in four Vedas collectively. But reference regarding *Kurantaka* or its synonyms are not found in list of *Vedic* drugs.<sup>[18]</sup>

### Samhita kala

#### Ashtang Hrudhya<sup>[1]</sup>

*Saireyaka yugma* is mentioned in *Varunadi gana* in *Ashtang Hrudhya* *Shodhanadigana* samraha adhya. *Arundatta* in *Sarvangasundar* commentary mentions *Saireyakab* yugma as *Kurabaka* (*Rakta*), *Kurantaka* (*Peeta*). *Kurantak* also mentioned in *Visarpa* for external application, Application to eyes after *Arma shastra karma*. Total four references of *Kurantaka* are found in *Ashtang Hrudhya* are mentioned below.

**Table 1: Ashtang Hrudhya references.**

S N.	Adhaya	With "Name"	Single (S)/ Combination (C)	Formulation	Used as
1.	As.H.Su. 15/11	Saireyaka Yugma-	C	Varunadi Gana	Kapha Meda Niyachati
2.	As.H.Chi.18/15	Kurantaka	C	Mishra drvya for external Application as Lepa	Visarpa
3.	As.H.Utt.11/22	Kurantaka Pushpa	C	Mishra Kwath for External application for sechaan on eyes	After Arma Shastra karma
4.	As.H.Utt.24/35	Kurantaka	C	Tail -Nasya	for Palitya

**Abbreviation:** As.H – Ashtang Hrudhya Samhita, Su- Sutra sthan, Chi – Chikitsa sthan, Utt- Uttar sthan

### Charak samhita<sup>[19]</sup>

In *Visarpa chikitsa* in *lepa dravya's*, Chakrapani mentions *Kurantak* as *Amlatana*. Whereas *Sahachar* as *Zhinti* (*Neela Sahachar*) in *Vyadhitroopiya adhya* (Cha.Vi./21) – *Trimarmiya adhya* (Cha. Chi 26/264) and *Saireya* also mentioned as *Zhinti* (*Neel a Sahachar*) in *Sweda adhya* (cha.Su.14/31). In *Charak Samhita* with name *Kurantaka* one reference, with name *Sahachar* (*Zhinti*) thirteen references, with name *Saireya* (*Zhinti*) one reference is found.

**Table 2: Charak samhita references.**

S.N.	Adhaya	With "Name"	Tika	Single (S)/ Combination(C)	Specification/ Formulation	Used in
1	C.Chi. 21	Kurantaka	Kurantaka Amlanaak	C	Mishra ghruta Kalka dravya	Visarpa

**Abbreviation:** C- Charak Samhita, Chi – Chikitsa sthan

### Sushrut samhita<sup>[14]</sup>

In *Dravya sangrahaniya*, Daldhan mentions *Kurantaka* as *Peeta pushpa* in *Araghwadhadi gana* commentary whereas *Shachar dwaya* mentioned as *Rakta and Neel* in *Varunadi gana* commentary. About ten references found about *Rakat or Neel Sahachar* in *Vaat vikaar*, *Bhagna chikitsa*, *Mudhagarbha chikitsa*, *Palitya chikitsa* etc. and two references found about *Peeta pushpa* (*Kurantaka*) in *Araghwadhadi gana* and *Pushpa varga*.

**Table 3: Sushrut samhita references.**

S.N	Adhaya	With "Name"	Tika	Single (S) / Combination (C)	Formulation	Used in
1	S.Su. 38/6	Kurantaka	Kurantaka-Peeta pushpa	C	Araghvadhadi gana	Sleshma Meha kushtha
2	S.Su. 46/288	Kurantaka	Kurantaka-Sahachar pushpam	C	Pushpa varga	--

**Abbreviation:** S- Sushrut Samhita, Su – Sutra sthan

### **Bhavprakash samhita<sup>[3]</sup>**

Bhavprakash mentions Sahachar is Kurantaka (Mishra prakaran 6/108). Sahachar is mentioned in Ardra dravya vishesh, as a Kalka dravya in Anuvasan tail, In Jwara Adhikaran in Sandhik Sannipataj jwara awastha, In Vaat vyadhi as Kwath dravya in Mahanarayan tail, In Aam vaat, In Ashmari chikita, In yoni rooga. Total twelve references found in Bhavprakash samhita.

**Table 4: Bhavprakash samhita references.**

Sr.N.	Adhaya	With Name	Single (S)/ Combination (C)	Speciation/ Formulation	Vyadhi/ Used in
1.	Bha.Pra. Purva. 6/108	Sahachar	----	Ardra dravya vishesh	--
2.	Bha.Pra. Purva. 5/ 130	Sahachar	C	Anuvasan tail (Kalkadravya)	Sarva vaat vikaar
3.	Bha.Pra.Madhyam 1/662	Sahachar	C	Kwath	Sandhik sannipaata
4.	Bha.Pra.Madhyam 24/85	Kurantaka	C	Maash tail (Kalka dravya)	Avabahuka hara
5.	Bha.Pra.Madhyam 24/294-325	Sahachar	C	Maha-narayan tail. (Kwath dravya)	Balya, Vrushya, Bruhana, Rasayana, Yonidosha hara
6.	Bha.Pra.Madhyam 26/130	Sahachar	C	Madhya-rasnadi Kwath (Kwath dravya)	Aamjanya shool, Kaati shool, Uru shool
7.	Bha.Pra.Madhyam 26/130	Sahachar	C	Maha-rasnadi Kwath (Kwath dravya) anupaan shunthi churna	Vaat Rakta, Urusthambha, Arsha, Vishvachi
8.	Bha.Pra. Uttar 37/19	Kurunta	C	Virtaradi gana	Ashmari, sharkara, Mutrakrucho
9.	Bha.Pra. Uttar 37/23	Kurunta	C	Siddha Ghruta (Kalka dravya)	Pitta ashmari
10.	Bha.Pra. Uttar 70/28	Kurantaka moola	C	With anupaan of Cows milk	Garbha prada

11.	<i>Bha.Pra. Uttar</i> 70/53	<i>Dvi-Sahachar</i> (Sweeta-Peeta)	C	<i>Siddha ghruta</i> (Kalka dravya)	<i>Yoni prashaaman roog</i>
12.	<i>Bha.Pra. Uttar</i> 70/152	<i>Sahachar</i>	C	<i>Kwath</i> (Kwath dravya) with madhu	<i>Sootika roog shaman</i>

**Abbreviation:** *Bha.Pra* – Bhav Prakash Samhita, *Purva-* Purva khanda, *Madhyam* - Madhyam khanda *Uttar* – Uttar khanda

### ***Sharandhar Samhita*<sup>[19]</sup>**

*Sahachar* means *Kurantaka* mentioned by *Aadhamaal* in his commentary *deepika* on *sharandhar samhita*. (Reference *Sha.Samhita. Madhyam khanda adhya* 2/88) and also confirms same by mentioning *Kurantaka* as *Sahachar* (*Sha.Samhita. Madhyam khanda adhya* 9/124). Hence all references of *Sahachar* are included from *Sharandhar samhita* for compilation. *Kurantaka* is in following references.

**Table 5: *Sharandhar Samhita*.**

Sr. No	Sthan-Reference	With Name	Single (S)/ Combination (C)	Speciation/ Formulation	Vyadhi/ Used in
1	<i>Sha.Sam. Pratham</i> 1/45	<i>Sahachar</i>	--	<i>Adra dravya vishesh</i>	--
2	<i>Sha.Sam. Madhyam.</i> 2/88	<i>Sahachar</i> means <i>Kurantaka</i> mentioned by <i>Adhmalla</i>	C	<i>Maharasnadi Kwath</i>	<i>Sarvavaat roog, Sarvanga kampa</i>
3	<i>Sha.Sam. Madhyam</i> 2/92	<i>Saireyaka –Traya</i>	C	<i>Varunadi Kwath</i>	<i>Kapha medohara</i>
4	<i>Sha.Sam. Madhyam</i> 9/84	<i>Dvii-Sahachar</i>	C	<i>Laghu phala ghruta</i> (Kalka dravya)	<i>Yoni dosha hara, pidit chalet yoni shool</i>
5	<i>Sha.Sam. Madhyam</i> 9/124	<i>Kurantaka</i>	C	<i>Mashadi tail</i> (Kalka dravya)	<i>Shakha kampa, ardhang shosha</i>
6	<i>Sha.Sam. Madhyam</i> 9/133	<i>Kurantaka</i>	C	<i>Shatavari taila</i> (Kalka dravya)	<i>Yoni shool nashan, Anga shool.</i>
7	<i>Sha.Sam. Madhyam</i> 9/139	<i>Kurantaka</i>	C	<i>Neel ikadya tail- External application</i>	<i>Kesh shirikaran, Aakal patan</i>
8	<i>Sha.Sam. Madhyam</i>	<i>Kurantaka</i>	C	<i>Agninaama ras</i>	<i>Shwas-kaas</i>

	12/ 156				
9	<i>Sha.Sam. Madhyam</i> 12/ 160	<i>Kurantaka</i>	C	Loha-rasayan	Kapha-maruta, Shwas,Kaas

**Abbreviation** - *Sha.Sam* - *Sharandhar Samhita*, *Pratham- Pratham khanda*, *Madhyam-Madhyam khanda*

### Yog-ratnakar<sup>[20]</sup>

In Yoga ratnakara following references are found, *Shadashiti gugglu* mentioned in *Vaat vyadhi* mentions *Medoshita vata* in *phalashruti*.

**Table 6: Yog-ratnakar references.**

S. N	Reference	With Name	Single (S) / combination (C)	Formulation	Uses
1.	<i>Pu.Vaat vyadhi chiki</i>	<i>Kurantak</i>	C	<i>Mashadi tail for Basti, Nasya (Kalka dravya)</i>	<i>Avabahuk</i>
2.	<i>Pu.Vaat vyadhi chikisa</i>	<i>Saireya</i>	C	<i>Shadashiti gugglu</i>	<i>Medosthita vata, Sira-snayu sandhi ashti vaat</i>
3.	<i>Utt.Jwara chikitsa</i>	<i>Kurantaka moola</i>	C	<i>Kurantakadi leha (Pradhaan dravya)</i>	<i>Visham jwar chikitsa</i>
4.	<i>Utt.Mutraghaat chikitsa</i>	<i>Sahachar dvyva(PeeaNeela)</i>	C	<i>Virtarvadi Kwath</i>	<i>Sharkara, Ashmari, Krucchra</i>
5.	<i>Utt.Kustha chikitsa</i>	<i>Kurantaka</i>	C	<i>Bhallatak avaleha (As Kwath dravya)</i>	<i>Swetra, Udumber, dadru,Kaas, Shwas,arsha</i>
6.	<i>Utt.Danta roog chikitsa</i>	<i>Koranta Chaal</i>	C	<i>Jatipatryadi churna</i>	<i>Mukhadaurgandhya, danta vyatha, Krumi vyapad</i>
7.	<i>Utt.Yoni vyapad chikitsa</i>	<i>Koranta mool</i>	C	<i>Mishra churna with dugdha anupaan</i>	<i>Garbhapada dhruvam</i>
8.	<i>Utt. Yoni vyapad chikitsa</i>	<i>Dvi Sahachar (Peeta-Neela )</i>	C	<i>Triphaladi ghruta (Kalka dravya)</i>	<i>Yoni roog prashaman</i>

**Abbreviation** – *Pu-* *Purvardha*, *Utt-* *Uttarardha*

### Bhaishajya ratnavali<sup>[21]</sup>

In *Bhaishajya ratnavali* following references are found.

**Table 7: Bhaishajya ratnavali refernces.**

S.N.	Adhaya	With Name	Single (S) / Combination (C)	Formulation/ Speciation	Uses
1	Sootika roog chikitsa 69/07	Peet kurantak mool	S	Parushit Kwath, Adra kalka	Sootika roog
2	Sootika roog 69/11	Sahachar (Peet zhinti)	C	Sahachar adi Kwath (Pradhan dravya)	Jwar, shool, Sootika

**Kashyap samhita<sup>[22]</sup>**

No reference found about about *Kurantaka* in *kashyap samhita* however ther varities of *Sahachar* like *Neela* and *Rakta* mentioned in *Baalgraha chikitsa* and *dhatiri chikitsa*.

**DISCUSSION**

Nearly 162 plants are explained with their properties and uses in four Vedas collectively. But reference regarding *Kurantaka* or its synonyms are not found in list of *Vedic drugs*.<sup>[18]</sup> *Saireyaka yugma* is mentioned in *Varunadi gana* in *Ashtang Hrudhya Shodhanadigana samraha adhya*. *Arundatta* in *Sarvangasundar* commentary mentions *Saireyakab yugma* as *Kurabaka (Rakta)*, *Kurantaka (Peeta)*. *Kurantak* also mentioned in *Visarpa* for external application, Application to eyes after *Arma shastra karma*.

In *Visarpa chikitsa* in *lepa dravya's*, *Chakrapani* mentions *Kurantak* as *Amlatana*. Whereas *Sahachar* as *Zhinti (Neela Sahachar)* in *Vyadhitroopiya adhya (Cha.Vi./21)* – *Trimarmiya adhya (Cha. Chi 26/264)* and *Saireya* also mentioned as *Zhinti (Neel a Sahachar)* in *Sweda adhya (cha.Su.14/31)*. No direct reference of *Peeta* variety found.

In *Sushrut Samhita Dravya sangrahaniya aadhya*, *Daldhan* mentions *Kurantaka* as *Peeta pushpa* in *Araghwadhadi gana* commentary. *Peeta* variety also mentioned in *Pushpa varga*.

*Bhavprakash* mentions *Sahachar* is *Kurantaka (Mishra prakaran 6/108)*. *Sahachar* is mentioned in *Ardra dravya vishesh*, as a *Kalka dravya in Anuvasan tail*, In *Jwara Adhikaran in Sandhik Sannipataj jwara awastha*, In *Vaat vyadhi* as *Kwath dravya in Mahanarayan tail*, In *Aam vaat*, In *Ashmari chikita*, In *yonir rooga*. Total twelve references found in *Bhavprakash samhita*.

In *Yoga Ratnakara* following references are found, *Shadashiti gugglu* mentioned in *Vaat vyadhi* mentions *Medoshita vata in phalashruti*.



In *Bhashajya Ratnavali* it's mentioned in *Sootika roga* as well as *sootika jwara* and it's complications, to be used in *Sahacharadi Kwath* form.

No reference found about about *Kurantaka* in *kashyap samhita* however their varieties of *Sahachar* like *Neela* and *Rakta* mentioned in *Baalgraha chikitsa* and *dhatriti chikitsa*.

## CONCLUSION

Various references of *Kurantaka* found in Samhita kaal highlighting importance of this Dravya. As *Kuranataka* (*Barleria Prionitis* Linn.) available throughout India should be used widely in Clinical practice.

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