



ETHNOMEDICINAL USES OF SOME PLANTS USED BY GOND TRIBE OF DINDORI DISTRICT, MADHYA PRADESH

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Abstract

The paper provided ethnomedicinal uses of 37 plants belonging to 35 genera and 25 families used for curing various diseases by the Gond tribe of district Dindori, Madhya Pradesh. Ethnomedicinal survey was conducted in the remote villages in district Dindori, during the period of January 2013 to January 2014. The plant species have been arranged alphabetically with their family, local name and ethnomedicinal uses.

Key words : Ethnomedicine, Gond tribe, Medicinal plants, Madhya Pradesh.

Introduction

Dindori district is situated at a height of about 1100 metres above mean sea level (MAMSL) on the Maikal plateau between 22°57' N latitude and 81°41' E longitude. Dindori district comes under the eastern part of Madhya Pradesh touching the Chhattisgarh state. The district is bounded on the North by Umaria district, on the East by Shahdol district, on the South by Bilaspur (Chhattisgarh) and Kaverdha (Chhattisgarh), and West by Mandla district (Fig. 1). The holy river 'Narmada' passes through the district Dindori. The Gond are one of the oldest primitive tribe of Madhya Pradesh based on pre-agricultural technology. They reside in the forest covered by hilly tracks area in district Dindori. The area has been categorised as Central India sub-tropical forest endowed with various forest as natural resources. The Gond tribes still practice on herbal medicines. Hence, the use of herbs to treatment of various health disorders is being done at a very low cost. A number of valuable research papers on ethno-medicinal plants of the district Dindori have been published by various researchers (Ahirwar & Singh, 2011), (Soni *et al.*, 2012), (Parna *et al.*, 2014), (Parna & Ahirwar, 2015), (Ahirwar & Kapale, 2014) and (Mudaiya *et al.*, 2016). However, the vast storage of ethno-medicinal information of these study areas has not been fully documented. In the present paper, an attempt has

been made to present indigenous knowledge and uses of wild ethnomedicinal plants, which are used by Gond tribes for treatment of various ailment diseases.

Materials and Methods

The ethnobotanical study was carried in seven villages, namely Raitwar, Khannat, Medakhar, Barnai, Bundela, Kirangi and Rusa, (Karanjiya block) of district Dindori from January 2013 to January 2014. The method adopted for collection of data was interview with Gond tribals, local medicine men (*Vaidyas*) and one to one discussion about therapeutic uses of local plants in the treatment of various diseases. A questionnaire was prepared to gather data for this purpose. The herbarium specimens were prepared by following the standard method (Jain & Rao, 1976). Plants used by the tribal were identified with the help of Flora of Madhya Pradesh (Mudgal *et al.*, 1997), (Singh *et al.*, 2001) and (Verma & Balakrishnan, 1993) and identification was confirmed by consulting the herbaria of Botanical Survey of India, Central Regional Centre, Allahabad (BSA). These voucher specimens are prepared and deposited in the herbarium of Department of Botany, Pandit S.N. Shukla University, Shahdol, Madhya Pradesh. The plants are arranged alphabetically according to their botanical name followed by family, local name and mode of administration for different diseases as given in the (Table 1).

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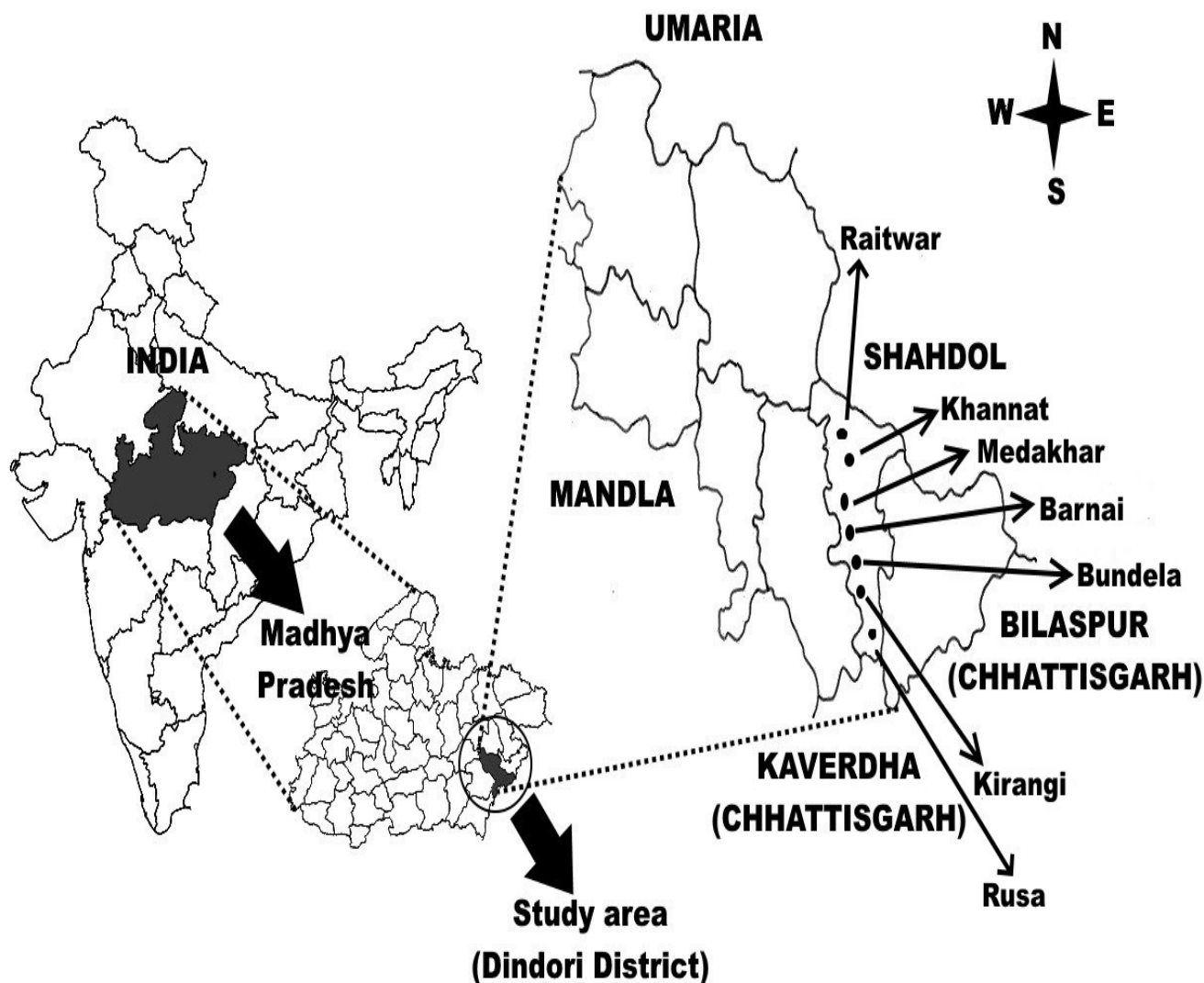


Fig. 1: Location map of study area district Dindori, Madhya Pradesh

Results and discussion

The ethnobotanical research reports 37 plant species belonging to 35 genera and 25 families used for curing various diseases by the Gond tribes. The representing plants are mostly used to cure various diseases viz. skin diseases, stomach disorder, fever, piles, sore throat, respiratory diseases, haematuria, diabetes, jaundice, insanity, diarrhoea, spermatorrhoea, scorpion bite, eye-diseases, rheumatism, leucorrhoea and gynaecological problems. The presence of such a large number of medicinal plants indicates that the area has a very rich diversity of medicinal plant species and is a site for different indigenous knowledge. The present ethno-medicinal information provided in this paper, is compared with well-known Indian medicinal literature (Chopra, *et al.*, 1956), (Gupta, *et al.*, 2010), (Jain, 1991, 1963) and (Kirtikar & Basu, 1998) The result of the present study

continues to play a vital role in the healthcare system of the tribal people and paves the way for the development of many new drugs.

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Table 1: Ethnomedicinal uses of plants by Gond tribe of district Dindori, Madhya Pradesh.

S.No.	Botanical name/Voucher No.	Family	Local name	Uses
1	<i>Abrus precatorius</i> L. GTD-84	Leguminosae	Ghumchi	Two spoonful of seed paste (red variety) is given orally once daily before breakfast for 3 days to cure menstrual disorder.
2	<i>Abutilon indicum</i> (L.) Sweet GTD-94	Malvaceae	Kanghi	Leaves are boiled in coconut oil and the oil is externally applied on head once daily for one week to cure cold and scabies on the head.
3	<i>Acacia nilotica</i> (L.) Delile GTD-69	Leguminosae	Bamoor	Fresh leaf paste (20 gm) is externally applied on anus daily in the morning after bath for 15 days to cure piles.
4	<i>Achyranthes aspera</i> L. GTD-99	Amaranthaceae	Lathjira	Root paste is externally applied on affected area immediately after scorpion sting.
5	<i>Alpinia calcarata</i> (Haw.) Roscoe GTD-86	Zingiberaceae	Kulanjan	Root in small pieces, chewed once in a day for 4 times to cure sore throat.
6	<i>Andrographis paniculata</i> (Burm. f.) Nees GTD-61	Acanthaceae	Chirayta	Decoction of the whole plant (15 ml) is given orally thrice in a day for 7 days to cure respiratory disorder.
7	<i>Asparagus racemosus</i> Willd. GTD-22	Asparagaceae	Satavar	Fresh tuber juice (15 ml) mixed with a cup of cow's milk is given orally twice in a day for 10 days to cure haematuria.
8	<i>Azadirachta indica</i> A. Juss. GTD-83	Meliaceae	Neem	Leaf juice (10 ml) mixed with a cup of water is given orally once in a day before breakfast for 7 days to prevent miscarriage.
9	<i>Bauhinia variegata</i> L. GTD-09	Leguminosae	Kachnar	A spoonful of sun dried flower bud powder mixed with a cup of water is given orally twice in a day for 21 days to cure piles.
10	<i>Boerhavia diffusa</i> L. GTD-20	Nyctaginaceae	Punarnava	Root decoction (10 ml) mixed with a cup of water is given thrice in a day for 7 days to cure jaundice.
11	<i>Bryonia laciniosa</i> L. GTD-10	Cucurbitaceae	Shivlingi	A teaspoonful crushed seed with a glass of water is given orally once in the morning before breakfast for 3 months to cure sterility in women.
12	<i>Buchanania lanzan</i> Spreng. GTD-87	Anacardiaceae	Chironji	Leaf juice (15 ml) mixed a cup of water taken twice in a day for 2 days to prevent dysentery.
13	<i>Butea monosperma</i> (Lam.) Taub. GTD-82	Leguminosae	Chheula	Flowers are boiled in water and the water is used to take bath for 3 days to cure mild fever among children.
14	<i>Cordia macleodii</i> Hook. f. & Thomson GTD-100	Boraginaceae	Dahiman	Seed paste (20 gm) is given orally with added sugar lump (<i>Misri</i>) 10 gm once in a day in the morning before breakfast for 40 days to get relief from insanity.
15	<i>Curculigo orchitoides</i> Gaertn. GTD-95	Hypoxidaceae	Kali musali	Decoction of fresh rhizome (10 ml) mixed with a cup of water is given orally twice in a day for 7 days to cure leucorrhoea.
16	<i>Cuscuta reflexa</i> Roxb. GTD-13	Convolvulaceae	Amerbel	Stem paste (20 gm) with 2-3 seeds of black pepper powder (<i>Piper nigrum</i> L.) is mixed and the paste is given orally once in the morning on empty stomach for 3 days to cure jaundice.

Table 1 contd....

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SNo.	Botanical name/Voucher No.	Family	Local name	Uses
17	<i>Cynodon dactylon</i> (L.) Pers. GTD-15	Poaceae	Doobi	Whole plant juice (30 ml) mixed with a glass of cow's milk is given orally once at the bedtime for 3 days to cure bleeding during pregnancy.
18	<i>Cyperus rotundus</i> L. GTD-40	Cyperaceae	Nagarmotha	Rhizome extract (5 ml) with one teaspoonful of honey is to take orally thrice daily for 3 days to cure diarrhoea.
19	<i>Ferula foetida</i> St.- Lag. GTD-108	Apiaceae	Heeng	Oleo-gum-resin (5 gm) (It's obtained from the rhizome and root of the plant) is mixed with a cup of lukewarm water and applied on the stomach of the child, twice in a day for 3 days to cure flatulence.
20	<i>Ficus benghalensis</i> L. GTD-11	Moraceae	Bargad	A spongy sugar-cake (<i>Batasa</i>) filled with latex (4 drops) is eaten once in a day in the morning after breakfast for 20 days to cure spermatorrhea.
21	<i>Ficus racemosa</i> L. GTD-17	Moraceae	Dumer	Flower buds (7 buds at a time) which is ground well and mixed with a glass of cow's milk is consumed after dinner for 4 months to cure infertility in women.
22	<i>Gloriosa superba</i> L. GTD-64	Colchicaceae	Kalihari	Fresh root paste (20 gm) and 3 fruits of black pepper (<i>Piper nigrum</i> L.) are mixed in a glass of lukewarm goat's milk and it is given orally once at the bedtime for 3 days of pregnancy, which can be up to 3 months, for abortifacient.
23	<i>Hedychium coronarium</i> J. Koeing GTD-130	Zingiberaceae	Gulbakavali	Two drops of flower <i>arrack</i> is dripped into human eyes thrice in a day for 15 days to prevent cataract (<i>Motiabind</i>).
24	<i>Helicteres isora</i> L. GTD-96	Malvaceae	Marorphali	Seed powder (5 gm) mixed in a glass of water is given orally twice in a day for 3 days in case of gastroenteritis.
25	<i>Ipomoea pes-tigridis</i> L. GTD-129	Convolvulaceae	Panchpatiya	Leaf paste is externally applied on the affected area just after scorpion bite. Meanwhile, two spoonful is given orally with a cup of water.
26	<i>Jatropha curcas</i> L. GTD-25	Euphorbiaceae	Bhakrenda	Latex of stem is externally applied on wounds twice in a day for 5 days to cure wounds of animals.
27	<i>Kigelia pinnata</i> (Jacq.) DC. GTD-39	Bignoniaceae	Balamkhira	Fruit juice (5 ml) is mixed in a cup of water and it is given orally twice in a day for 3 days to cure stomach disorder.
28	<i>Madhuca longifolia</i> (J. Koeing ex L.) J. F. Macbr. GTD-06	Sapotaceae	Mahua	Decoction of bark (10 ml), mixed with a glass of water, is given orally twice in a day for 3 days to cure stomachache.
29	<i>Mucuna pruriens</i> (L.) DC. GTD-102	Leguminosae	Kevanch	A teaspoonful of sun-dried powder, mixed with a glass of water, is given orally once daily for 7 days to remove intestinal worms.
30	<i>Nyctanthes arbor-tristis</i> L. GTD-104	Oleaceae	Harsingar	Leaf juice (5 ml) mixed with a cup of water is given orally twice in a day for 20 days as a cure for excessive thirst and loss of weight caused by diabetes.

Table 1 contd....

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S No.	Botanical name/Voucher No.	Family	Local name	Uses
31	<i>Plumbago zeylanica</i> L. GTD-92	Plumbaginaceae	Chitrak	A teaspoonful of sun dried root powder is diluted in a cup of boiled water to make a paste and the paste is externally applied twice in a day on affected area for 3 months to cure leukoderma.
32	<i>Pongamia pinnata</i> (L.) Pierre GTD-56	Leguminosae	Karanj	Seed oil is applied twice in a day for one month on the affected area to cure rheumatism.
33	<i>Pterocarpus marsupium</i> Roxb. GTD-72	Leguminosae	Beeja	A cup of filtrate, which is filtered from the water used for soaking its bark for a night, is consumed on empty stomach once in a day for 3 months to cure diabetes.
34	<i>Ricinus communis</i> L. GTD-128	Euphorbiaceae	Rendi	Leaves are boiled in water and the water is used for bathing once in a day for one month to cure scabies.
35	<i>Terminalia arjuna</i> (Roxb. ex DC.) Wight & Arn. GTD-52	Combretaceae	Arjun	Leaf juice (5 ml) mixed with a cup of water is given orally twice in a day for 15 days to cure wart.
36	<i>Terminalia bellirica</i> (Gaertn.) Roxb. GTD-36	Combretaceae	Bahera	Fruit decoction (100 ml) is given orally once daily in the morning before breakfast for a week to cure piles.
37	<i>Ziziphus nummularia</i> (Burm. f.) Wight & Arn. GTD-126	Rhamnaceae	Jharberi	A teaspoonful of root paste (10 ml), mixed with a cup of water, is given orally for easy delivery.

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