



SOME ETHNOMEDICINAL IMPORTANT PLANTS OF AATMESHVAR PEAK, JUNAGADH

ABSTRACT

This paper investigates the wealth of medicinal plants used by the Rabari tribe of Junagadh. Rabari have traditionally settled in Junagadh district of Gujarat region of India. The present study has resulted in the documentation of 47 medicinal species used by the rabari. These medicinal plant species were distributed across 29 families and 47 genera. Euphorbiaceae was the most dominant family (5 species, 5genera) of medicinal plants, followed by asteraceas, amaranthaceae, ceasalpiniaceae and fabaceae. For curing ailments, the use of aboveground plant parts was higher (87.75%) than the belowground plant parts in the indreshvar to aatmeshvar. Of the aboveground plant parts, leaf was used in the majority of cases (16 species), followed by whole plant. Different belowground plant forms as root, rhizome, bulb and pseudo-bulb were used by rabari as a medicine. About 33 types of ailments were cured by assign these 47 medicinal plant species. The results of this study are further discussed in the changing social-economic contexts.

KEY WORDS: *Rabari tribe, aatmeshvar, indigenous uses, ethno medicinal*

INTRODUCTION

Ethno botany (from ethnology, study of culture, and 'botany' –study of plants) is the scientific study of the Relationships that exist between people and plants. Eth- No botanists aim to reliably document and describe of plants: focusing, primarily. On how plants are used, Managed and perceived across human societies (e.g. as Foods; as medicines; in divination; in cosmetics; in dyeing; as textiles; in constructions; as tools as currency; as Clothing; in; literature; in rituals; and in social life). **Ethno medicine**:-It is a sub-field of medical anthropology and deals with the study of traditional medicines: not only those that have relevant written sources (e.g. Traditional Ayurveda Chinese Medicine), but especially those, whose knowledge and practices have been orally transmitted over the centuries.

In the scientific arena, ethno medical studies are genera- ally characterized by a strong anthropological approach, more than a bio-medical one. The focus of these studies is then the perception and context of use of traditional medicines, and not their bio-evaluation (Fabricant and Farnsworth, 2001).

The junagadh district is surrounded by Rajkot District (North), Porbandar District (North-West), and Amreli District (East). To the South and West is the Arabian Sea. Junagadh Situated at foot of mountain GIRNAR has novel Past and interesting present. Junagadh is situated right at

The base of the temple-studded Girnar Hill. The Girnar hill is rich in biodiversity and largely untouched by develop- the base of the temple-studded Girnar Hill. The Girnar hill because of its cultural and religious importance. Junagadh located at 21.52*N 70.47*E.it has an average elevationof 106 meters(351 feet). Aatmeshvar mount came after 4100 step Bhavnath.

Girnar is one of the holiest places in Gujarat; satiated near Junagadh. Girnar (also known as "GirnarHil") is a collection of mountains (aatmeshvar, Ambaji. Dataray, est of these rises to 945 meters (3600 feet), the highest peak (Gorakhhnath peck) in Gujarat. The five peaks of Girnar are stone path –climbs from peak to peak to peak. There are exactly 9,999 steps from the trailhead (Bhavnath) to the last temple on the highest peak.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Beginning of the 20th century the field of ethno botany shift from the raw compilation of data to a greater met- and conceptual reorientation. This is also the beginning of ethno botany. Today the field of ethno botany requires a variety of skills: botanical training for the identification and preservation of plant specimens; anthropological training cultural concepts around the perception of plants; indigenous training, at least enough to transcribe local terminologies and understand native morphology, syntax, and semantics. Native healers are often reluctant to accurately share their knowledge to outsiders (Schulze's and Reis, 1995).

Botanical Documentation and preservation

The identity of spontaneously described plants found in the Aatmeshwar Peak was confirmed by reference to fresh plant material collected and to voucher specimens of known identity. The plants were collected and their identity established with the aid of treatises and standard regional flora.

The botanical nomenclature followed that of Flora of Gujarat India series. Analysis specimens are deposited in the herbarium of Bahuddin Science College, Junagadh

Results and discussion

During present course of investigations. A total of 47 species used by the Rabari group of villages were documented and listed alphabetically with their local vernacular names. Families and their uses these medicinal plant species were distributed across 27 families and 47 genera (Table 1). In terms of number of medicinal plant species, Euphorbiaceae was the most dominant family (5 genera) of medicinal plants, followed by Asteraceae, Celastraceae, Fabaceae, Asclepiadaceae, Convolvulaceae, Malvaceae, Momelaceae, Capparaceae, Liliaceae, Portulicaceae, Rutaceae, Salvadoraceae, Sepidaceae, and Scrophulariaceae (Table 2). The invention of maximum number of uses of Euphorbiaceae and Asteraceae by healthy Therabari tribe demonstrates the dominance of Euphorbiaceae and Asteraceae around the Aatmeshwar mount.

Different parts of medicinal plant species were used by the Rabari as a medicine. For curing ailments, the use of aboveground plant parts was higher (87.75%) than the belowground plant parts. Of the above ground plant parts, leaf was used in the majority of cases (16 species 34.04%), followed by whole plant. Different belowground plant forms such as root, tuber, rhizome, bulb and pseudo bulb were also used by the Rabari as a source of curing ailments (Table 1). These 47 medicinal plant species were used in curing about 33 types of which the highest numbers of plant species (26 species) were used for the treatment of piles. About 13 medicinal plant species were used in curing cough and cold, and 6 medicinal plant species were used for healing asthma (Table 1).

The present inventory of 47 medicinal plant species as used by the Rabari is one of its kinds in terms of the highest number of species recorded so far used by a single tribe of the Girnar- Junagadh area. Hence, a need for detailed investigations of ethno botanical knowledge held by each tribal community in western India is required before **such valuable knowledge vanishes, in spite of the rich wealth of bio-resources and potential, deployment in Gujarat mainly in Gujarat mainly in terms. Ethno medicinal knowledge is also** important from a humanitarian point of view in that in long run as this knowledge may help to identify important medicinal plants that can help in curing and healthcare around the world, attempts should be made to share the benefits arising from such knowledge with its holders. The present inventory of medicinal plants used by the Rabari opens new avenues to scrutinize such a rich natural resource for further analysis in order to develop the potential of herbal medicine.

The Rabari tribe mainly subsists on animal husbandry. Domestic and semi domestic cattle's also play an important role in maintaining the economic status of the Rabari. Possessing a large number of domestic animals is an indication of the prosperity of their respective owners. A number of wild edible fruits and

vegetables are also collected by the Rabari from the nearby forested areas to supplement the domestic nutritional requirements

CONCLUSION

This article primarily focused on the rabari concerning medicinal flora of the aatmeshwer holy hill. We have documented relatively high consensus among the Rabaris, informant concerning medicinal plant. The rabaris healthy lifestyle is supported by the daily intake of milk and plants as part of their diet to maintain good amongst the Rabaris is which they are dependent on modern medicine like vaccinations for polio, small pox and treatment for tuberculosis, which his provided by the government holy hills during shivratri and other functions attending the native flora, which is the source of the rabaris' medicine. The migration of the younger generation of rabaris from their precious knowledge. We have documented some aboriginal to repository of knowledge of rabari tribe here in order to protect it within our research program. This research sheds some light on a traditional culture that believes that a lifestyle is founded on a healthy environment.

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Table 1: Ethno medicinal plant used by Rabari Tribe: -

no	Botanical Name	Family	Local name	Ethno-medicinal uses
1	Abutilon indicum L	Malvaceae	Khapat	The seed powder is taken orally in piles. Juice of leaves is given in coughs.
2	Acalyphaindica L	Euphorbiaceae	Dadro	Bronchitis and
3	Achyranthesaspera L	Amaranthaccae	Anghedo	Asthma. Juice of leaves is employed in piles. cough calcu
4	Aglemarmelos	Rutaceae	Bili	Asthma jaundice and drops in earaches. paste of Leaves applied locally on piles and fruit pulp
5	Aervalanata L	Amaranthaceae	GorakhGanjo	is given internally. Decoction of plant is given in bronchitis asthma
6	Aloe barbadensis Mill	Liliaceae	Kunvar	cough and calculi
7	Argemone Mexicana L	Papaveraceae	Darudi	Pulp of leaf is applied on external and internal piles Yellow milky juice is applied on leprosy

8	Azadirachtaindica A juss	Maliaceae	Limdo	and Eczema.
9	Boerhaviadiffusa L	Nictaginaceae	Satodi	Paste of leaves seeds is applied on bleeding piles. Deco nation of root is given in rheumation. swelling and anemia
10	Caesalpinia crista L Calatropis gigantean	Ceasalpiniaceae	Kanchka	
11	Ail Capparisdeciduas	Asclepiadaceae	Moto Ankado	Roasted leaves are applied as a paste on piles
12	(Forsk)	Capparaceae	Kerdo	Latex applied piles . Decoctions of moot and prickles of unripe fruits are given during piles Pulp of ripe pod in water is given to avoid constipation and allow loose stool during piles
13	Cassia fistula L	Ceasalpiniaceae	Gannalo	
14	Chrozopharaprostrat enDaiz	Euphorbiaceae	Okharad	Ash of plant with honey is given in bronchitis and coughs
15	Commelinabenghalensis	Commelinaceae	Shishmulyu	Past e of leaves is applied on boils swellings erysipelas and burns infusion of fruits is given in diabetes
16	Corchorusaestans L	Tiliaceae	Chhunchh	fever di
17	Crotalaricmedicaginea Lam	Fabaceae	Ranmethi	arrhenamndstomotitis
18	Curcuma amadaRoxb	Zingiberaceae	AmbaHaldar	Decoction of seeds is given in toxemaiarheumatism
19	Derisindica Lam	Fabaceae	Karanj	Paste of rhizome is warmed and applied on piles
20	DigeraMuriacata L	Amaranthaceae	Kanjari	Paste of leaves is applied on bleeding piles leaves are used as vegetable in calculi constipation and dysuria
21	Echinoptaechinatus Roxba	Asteraceae	Utkanto	
No	Botanical Name	Family	Local name	Ethno medicinal Uses
23	Emblicaofficinalis Gaerth	Euphorbiaceae	Ambala	Decoction of root is given in diabetes piles.
24	Euphorbia hirta L	Euphorbiaceae	Dudheli	Cough and jaundice. Powder of fruit is given during piles. Decoction of plants is given in asthma colic
25	Evolivulusaisinoides L	Convolvulaceae	Kali shankha vali	coughs, bronchitis and spermatorrhoes Decoction of whole plants is given in loss of memory
26	Mengiferaindica L	Anacardiaceae	Ambo	asthma and bronchitis Roosted seeds are powdered and mix with cownurine

27	Merremiaemarginata brum	Convolvulaceae	Undarkani	And applied on piles. Decoction of plants is given in Toxemia. Calculi and anemia Pulp of seeds is given internally during piles.
28	Munusopseiengi L	Sepotaceae	Borsail	
29	Moringaoleifera Lam	Moringaceae	Sargavio	
30	Ocimumamericanum sima	Lamiaceae	Takmaria	Decoction of bark is given to cure piles. Juice of Leaves is dropped into ear in earache seeds
31	Pergulariadaemia (Forsk)	Asclepiadaceae	Chamardudheli	are given in erysipelas. Leaves are eaten to control bleeding during piles.
No	Botanical Name	Family	Local name	Ethno medicinal Uses
32	physalis minima l.	Solanaceae	popata	fruits are employed in constipation, dropsya and anorexia.
33	polyanthusfraternus webs.	Euphordiaceae	bhonyamli	Whole plant is employed in bronchitis, fevers Jaundice and diabetes.
34	polygalaerioptera dc.	Polygalaceae	bhonyasan	paste of plant is applied on swelling and decoc- tion given in fevers.
35	portulacaquadritiq a l.	Portulicaceae	luni	whole plant is used as vegetables in erysipelas
36	salvadorapersica l.	Salvadoraceae	piludi (mithizar)	scurvy and dysuria Pest of leaves applied on piles.
37	sapindduslurifoliusvahl.	Sapindaceae	aritha	bark powder is given internally during piles
38	sidacordatabrum.f.	Malvaceae	bhonyabala	decotion of root is given in asthma, gonorrhoea, rheumatism and bronchitis
39	solanunnigrum l.	solanaceae	piludi	fruits are employein , jaundic coughs and
40	tamarindusindica l.	ceasalpiniaceae	ambali	Piles. bark powder and flowers are given during piles.
41	tephrosiapurpurea pers.	fabaceae	sarpankho	decoction of leaves is given during bleeding
42	terntinaliachebularetz.	combretaceae	harde	Piles. fruit powder along with buttermilk is given dur- ing piles.
43	Trianthemaportulacast	aizoaceae	satodo	paste of pant is applied on boils, swelling and

	nan			Burns, the decoction is given in calculi.
44	Itridexportumbens l.	asteraceae	Pardesibha ngaro	Juice of leaves is applied on cuts and wounds.
45	triumfettarotundifolia lam..	tiliaceae	zipto	Paste of laves is applied on cuts and wounds. infusion of leaves is given in coughs, insomnia fevers, and diarrhea.
	vernoniaconyzoides dc.			
46		asteraceae	sahdevi	
47	Zingider officinalis rose.	Zingiberaceae	adu	

Table: 2: Dominant families of Medicinal plants used by the Rabari in terms of number of species occupied.

Family	Genera	Species
Euphorbiaceae	5	5
Asteraceae	4	4
Amarathceae	3	3
Fabaceae	3	3
Asciopidaceae	2	2
Convolvaceae	2	2
Malvaceae	2	2
Solanaeae	2	2
Tiliaceae	2	2
Zinzibareceae	2	2

Table.3 Patterns in use of medicinal plant parts: -

Aboveground plant	Number of sp.	Belowground plant	Number of sp.
Parts used		Parts used	
Whole plant	10	Root	4
Leaf	15	Rhizome	
Bark	4		2
Latex	2		
Flower	4		
Fruit	1		
Seed	5		
Total	41	Total	6

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