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RESEARCH ARTICLE

ETHNOMEDICINAL USE OF PLANT AS A REMOTE CONTROL IN RURAL AREAS  
OF MAHUR AND NANDED

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ABSTRACT

Ethnobotanical studies were carried out in rural area of Nanded and Mahur. During survey, the tribal and the rural communities were interviewed to record the information regarding their life style, tradition, culture and medicinal uses of plant species as a remote control of various diseases. Out of this number of plants used by the tribal for treatment of various ailments. 22 plants are used to treat, family planning, quick delivery, abortifacient. The local names, locality and collection along with parts used and mode of administration for treatment of family planning, quick delivery and abortifacient are presented here by referring Avurvedic literature.

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INTRODUCTION

In India villages are many and more than 80% population live in villages. Which are far away from roads and cities. Their problems are different rural people have their health problems. Many a time emergency comes due to snakebite, accidents, delay in delivery etc. Delay in delivery is a very common and difficult and dangerous problem in villages. Many a time if proper treatment and care not given then both mother and child die. India is rich in traditional knowledge. Traditional knowledge in India deals with various aspects and the problems of villagers. They treat the patient by giving the medicines orally or by applying on body or given in blood or inhaled. Generally the rural areas are accepted by various plants from that many plants are used as a Ethnomedicinal plants.

These plants are known to local inhabitants and by using these plants they easily cure diseases apart from this also have the wonderful knowledge of remote control. Modern science is using remote controls now at the end of 20<sup>th</sup> Century. But the ancient traditional people knew this principle and various plants. Animals or chemical substances and their products were used as the remote control to cure the diseases this knowledge is of much value and hence authors tried to collect, preserve and evaluate the same scientific base.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

During our survey for many years in villages we listen some methods of treatments which are quite surprising and can not be believed. According to them simply by bearing or holding the plants or plant parts we can cure the disease. This created an interest and interviews such people.

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Frequent field trips were conducted to different rural areas of Mahur forest. During Jan. 2004 to Dec.2006 we took interviews, noted down and recorded their knowledge collected the plants and their local names then brought to the laboratory studied and found the Botanical names and family Then also by referring ancient literature i.e.. Vedas and Ayurveda and seen the description given and the uses given compared to the traditional knowledge. The evaluated and found the scientific base

### Study Area

Nanded district lies between 19.09 N and 77.27 E. Area of Nanded District is 1.006.81 Km<sup>2</sup> (389 sq.m.) Where population of Nanded District is 28.68 Lakhs and it is situated on the edges of 'Godawari' River and Mahur forest range of Nanded district is situated near to the Vidarb region of Maharashtra and Adilabad district of Andhra Pradesh situated between 19°49' to 19°83' North altitude and 77°55' to 77°91' East longitude. This area is rich in valuable medicinal plant species. The people of tribes such as Andh, Gond, Naikede, Pradhan and Kolam inhabit this area. The tribal mostly reside in the inner hilly region old men and women were consulted through repeated queries to collect traditional and local information on various uses of plants in the life and economy of tribal and rural people. Voucher specimens of these plant species were collected identified and preserved herbarium. The ethnomedicinal uses on the plants reported by the tribal were compared with the available scientific literature (Jain 1991, Kirtikar and Basu 1991, Chopra et al., 1992).

### OBSERVATIONS

1) **Plants are used as a remote control for not having abortion.** Mostly ladies develop the abortion tendency. For this villagers use the plant as remote control. In the village Daheli Dist. Nanded Mr.Madawi Nagorao Ramrao gives *Datura* roots. *Datura metel* Linn Specially the root of black *Datura* is used. The root is given and tied up to 9 months after 9 months roots are removed and abortion is avoided after the removal of root delivery will occur.

Precaution - If the root is not removed immediately after 9 months then it will be

dangerous will not take and child will die ultimately mother will die.

- 2) It is also noticed that after uses of anti rheumatic pain plaster on the body where rheumatic pain occurs continuously for 7 days the skin gets affected. Therefore again another type of massaging is used to cure affected skin the plants used as a remote control are *L. Datura*, *Sesamum orientale* L., *Riccinus communis* L., *Datura fastuosa* L. and *Allium sativum* L. with a trace of salt are fried on frying pan with mustard oil. All the plant material is mixed thoroughly with oil on the frying pan and allowed to cool down. The filtrate of the above preparations is then mixed with 25 g of camphor and is used for massaging on affected skin for 9 days continuously. Again for purification of blood the patient is asked to eat three leaves of *Aegle marmelos* (bel) with water thrice a day for 3 days. Baba Khadeshwari Kasthinath at Daheli Dist. Nanded utilizes this method.
- 3) **Plants as an Contraceptives (Remote control)**
  - i) *Avena sativa* L. (Poaceae) 'oats' Placenta of Indian elephant roasted, mixed with powder of 'Jo' and given in the dose of 20 g. Once a day for 3 days after menses. GUPTA D.B. at Mahur Dist. Nanded utilizes it.
  - ii) *Butea monosperma* (Lam.) Taub. (Fabaceae) 'Dhak' Flame of the forest. Pauri Garhwal (U.P.), Singh 4373. Seeds roasted powdered and mixed with asafoetida in equal quantities. 9gm of this is given with cow's milk early morning from the 1<sup>st</sup> day of menses for 3 day consecutive days. Also utilized by Gupta S.M. at Mahur Dist. Nanded.
  - iii) *Ficus religiosa* L. (Moraceae) 'Pipal' Singh 987. 15-20 receptacles taken with local liquor just before one week of menses. Utilized by Gupta S.M. at Mahur Dist. Nanded.
- 4) **Plants used for quick delivery** – In delivery both mother and child are in danger and even they may loose their lives in this. Traditional people use the root of *Apamarg Achyranthus asper* (Aghada) in delay in delivery. We observed the use of this root in the village Loni. Patil D.H. at Loni Tal. Kinwat Dist. Nanded has

given the above root. The authors in presence of a Doctor used the same in hospital in delay in delivery and observed that the results are positive. The root of *Achyranthus aspera* is kept in the hairs or buchada or tied in hip. The contraction increase as soon as the root is tied precaution.

**Precaution:** The root is to be removed immediately after delivery otherwise the uterus will come out. In veda and Ayurveda this property is mentioned as *Shighra Prasavkarak* or *Santan stambhan niwarak* see *Atharav ved* – 4-17-67, *Nighantu Ratnakar* Vol. 1, P ,8, *Banaushadhi*, *Visheshank* Vol. 6 – 171. So, here the root of utkatyar Rhizome of *Gloriosa supreba* is used in villages.

- 5) **Plants are used as a remote control for removing the insect larvae from wounds.** In village Gokunda Tq. Kinwat Dist.Nanded. Mrs. Rangade V. R. used the plants like unahali, sharpunkhi, *Argemone mexicana* (papaveraceae) and *Tephrosea purpuria* L. are used as a remote control for removing the insect larvae from the wounds of the animals. The plants are uprooted with uttering the name of the suffenina animal and throw it away or tie in the horns of the animal and wait wonderfully the insect larvae are removed and the wound is cured.
- 6) **Plants as Abortifacient :-**
  - i) *Carica papaya* L. (Caricaceae) ‘Papaya’ Singh 3626. Latex of unripe fruit is dried and given in the dose of 5g. With cows milk twice daily for 10 days. The dried milky juice is also used as suppository to bring about abortion of 2-3 months pregnancy. Mrs.vachalabai Rangade at Village Gokunda Dist. Nanded utilizes it.
  - ii) *Soymida febrifuga* A. Juss (Meliaceae) ‘Rohan’ Indian red wood. Sigh 2460. Decoction of 500 g. stem bark mixed with 19 sulphur powder and coal mixture drunk once daily for 3 days; the same recipe used to resume menses. Utilized by Khan T.D. at Kinwat Dist. Nanded. In the above cases also plant acts as a remote control.
- 7) **Plants as Anti fertility agents:-**
  - i) *Bombax ceiba* L. (Bombaceae) ‘Semal’ Singh 2080. Epicarp of 5-6 dried capsules mixed with galls of *Pistaicia chinthesis* Bunge spp

*integerrima* (stewart) Rech. In equal quantities and ground 5 g. powder mixed with ripe banana fruit and given two times a day for 7 consecutive days induces sterility in man utilized by Kasthinath Baba Khadeshwari at Daheli Dist. Nanded.

- ii) *Cuscuta reflexa* Roxb. (Cuscutaceae) ‘Amberbel’ (Uttarpradesh) Singh 1109. Juice of whole plant given to women once only, after menses; claims to make the women barren for ever utilized by Rangade V.R. at village Gokunda Dist. Nanded.

## DISCUSSION

The present work reveals that the rural people and rural communities of Nanded and Mahur have sound knowledge of the use of medicinal plants available in the region. 22 plants species are recorded as a remote control used for family planning, quick delivery, Abortifacient, Review of pertinent literature revealed that ethnomedicinal claims are all new. Traditional knowledge is ahead of modern science. The ancient people knew the idea of Prabhav and the work done by it. In Veda and Ayurveda this properly and capacity are explained the use of plants as a remote control to cure diseases is scientific and useful for the welfare of the human. This can save medicines expenditure and operations etc.

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