

ETHNOBOTANY OF *THE ACACIA SENEGAL****Dr. Teena Agrawal**

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Corresponding Author*Dr. Teena Agrawal**Assistant Professor,
Banasthali University, Niwai.**ABSTRACT**

Plants are the reservoirs of the great metabolites, they are the subject of the great utilization from the centuries, in the different civilization in the world they utilise the plants for the various purposes, from the Chinese's, ayurvedic and the siddha and the unani, medicines they are used for the curing of these many diseases. In this review article we are presenting some of the aspects of the tree entitled as *the Acacia Senegal* of the Mimosideae family. The tree is the large and the deciduous and the morphology of the tree is the typical leguminosaceae

types, all the plant parts whether they are the roots, stem, leaves and the fruits and the pods are of the subjects of the great utilization. The plant is endemic of the India and the tropical part of the world, IUCN categorizes the tree as the rare.

KEYWORDS: Ethnobotany, medicinal values, Ayurvedic, IUCN categories.**INTRODUCTION**

Traditional medicines are the medicines which are generally called as the folk medicines, they are the result of the experiences of the civilization from the long times exposure of these plants. The belief system and the assemblage of the experiences passes from one generation to the another by the means of the talking and the continuous observation of the young generation of the uses of the plants by the old ones in the civilizations.

In Asia and the Africa still today 80 percent of the population relies on the herbal medicines for the treatment of their diseases. They are simple, easy to use and they are less toxic, in comparison to the chemical medicines which are costly and they are very toxic in some conditions in majority of the world these herbal drugs are utilised for the treatment of their many kinds of the diseases. Traditional medicines include the siddha medicines, unani

medicines, ayurvedic medicines, Chinese's medicines, ancient Iranian medicines, traditional Korean medicines.

WHO report says that in the majority of the world peoples relies on the traditional medicines for the treatment of them any diseases. Here in this review article we are presenting some of the aspects of the tree entitled as the *Acacia Senegal*, it is the deciduous tree, the tree is typical of the leguminosaceae family, the leaves are peripinnate and the pinnane are of the short sizes, the plant part such as the roots, stem, leaves and the fruits and the seeds are of the great medicinal values. They have been utilised by the tribal peoples.

The plant is commonly known as the gum acacia, the plant is the very rich sources of the gum which is commercially used for the formation of the many commercial substances. there are many species of the *Acacia* which are used for the harvesting of the gum from the stem and the bark of the tree, but commercially the gum is extracted from the *Acacia Senegal*, the gum is harvested commercially from the Sudan, however historically it was cultivated in the Arabs and the south west Asia.^{[3][4][5][8][10]}

Arabic gum is the mixture of the polysaccharides and the proteins. The gum is the sources of the Arabinose and the galactoses. the gum of the tree of the pharmaceutical uses.^{[3][4][5]}

Botanical description

The height of the tree is about the 20 meters. The girth of the tree is about the 1-5 meters, the bark is dark brown and gray and blackish, the plant is galbervacaent, soon it convert it in to the dark colour bark, the braches have the prickles' and the leaves are the tripinnate, the base of the leaves are pulvenous, the morphology and the anatomy of the leaves are the typical leguminous kinds types, the pods are the straight and the slightly curved.^{[3][4][5][8][10]}

The tree is habited to the tropical and the subtropical part of the world, the soil is typically loamy kind's type and the temperature and the rainfall of the soil are suited to the typical temperature as well as the tropical climate.^{[3][4][5][8][10]}

Uses of the tree

The tree is used as demulcent; the gum is used for the internal paste in the mucosa. Sometime the paste of the bark is used for the paste in the burns as well as the wounds in the leprosy. The paste of the tree is used in the cold, cough, caterraheh, diahrahaea, dysentery, expectorant, gonorrhoea, hemorraghea, sore throat and the disorders of the urinary tract.^{[3][4][5]}

Seeds of the tree are also of the great uses, they are dried and used as the vegetables, the dried seeds of the *Acacia Senegal* are the primary sources of the panchkut, which is the dish prepared in the jodhpur.

The leaves and the stem and the another plant part are used and eaten by the cattle's such as the sheep, goats and the camael.

The wood is the extremely of the commercial values, they are used as the fuel and the wood for the construction of the many furniture and the other things of house and the industry.

The plant is very valuable and they are used in the soil binding and in the nitrogen fixation. They are of the good soil improver and they are also used as the soil improver.^{[1][2]}

Phytochemistry of the *Acacia Senegal*

Several workers in India as well in the other part of the world has investigated the phytochemistry of the *Acacia Senegal* and they elucidated the some of the great and the wonderful results. some of the phytochemical work are elucidated as.

Phytochemical and the antimicrobial role of the *Acacia Senegal* roots as well as the heart wood of the tree was investigated by the Renuka jain et al., of the university of Rajasthan. They isolated some of the unique as well as the common compounds, theses are enlisted as, they isolated the four waxy compounds, three steroids, three triterpenoids, a new quinic acid diesters, a cyclohexitol, Compound eicosanyl 3-O-feruloylquininate 10 have been isolated first time by the group.^[14]

Phytochemical screening, antibacterial and toxicological, activity of the *Acacia Senegal* has been worked out by the Okoro S.O. et al., 2012 in the Bayero university of the Nigeria.^[15]

They investigated the stem bark of the *Acacia Senegal*, they worked on the antibacterial as well as the physiochemical as well as the toxicological aspects of the *Acacia Senegal*. By the conventional method they found the presences of the tannins, saponins and the sterols. By the agar diffusion method they worked on the some of the nine pathogens and found that the bark is very effective to the pathogens.^[15]

Another significant phytochemical work has been done by the Shikah batra et al., of the pharmacy group of the jodhpur zone and they elucidated, some of the results are as follows,

they work on the stem bark and found that the stem bark phytochemicals have the potential of the antidiabetic nature. Phytochemistry shows the presence of the flavonoids in the stem bark.^[17]

Phytochemical as well as the spectroanalytical work on the *Acacia Senegal* has been done by the Suleiman et al., 2017. group in the Nigeria.^[16]

Structure analysis of the gum of the *Acacia Senegal* was done by the William P A et al, the gum is of the great commercial values and it is used for the treatment of the many diseases.^[16]

CONCLUSION

Overall this is the short review of the *Acacia Senegal* presenting some of the aspects of the botany as well as the phytochemistry of the *Acacia Senegal*. The tree is very valuable from the commercial point of view. The gum of the tree is extracted and it is used industrially for the many kinds of the purposes.

However by the review of the literature it has been speculated that the tree has been less worked out and the detailed phytochemical as well as the pharmacological work are needed for the exact elucidation of the phytochemical of the tree as well there many other partial significances in the nature.

From thousands of the years the tree is used for the many purposes but the more work are needed for the evaluation of the significance of the tree.

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