

A REVIEW OF THE SYNONYMS AND RASAPANCHAKA OF ARAGVADHA (*CASSIA FISTULA* LINN.) FROM VARIOUS NIGHANTU

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Article Received on
19 December 2023,

Revised on 09 Jan. 2024,
Accepted on 29 Jan. 2024

DOI: 10.20959/wjpr20243-31274



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ABSTRACT

Ayurveda is a eternal science and has been supposed to be originated almost 5000 years ago. From the beginning of the human civilization, he used the most abundantly available of materials as medicaments to cure the diseases at that time. As the civilizations propagated various uses of the same materials have been certified as per their long term time tested use. In that materials, the most accessible were the plants. So, when a single plant has been used for curing different diseases by the human species of different geographical regions, different names of the same plants have been attributed depending on their morphology, habitat, flowering patterns, fruits, disease curing ability and so on. This led to the formation of synonyms of the same plants in different perspectives. In this review work I have tried to elaborately discuss on those different synonyms by thorough literary research o various *nighantu* and simultaneously the *rasapanchaka* will also be reviewed. This research work will help the readers and scholars to overcome the

confusion of similar synonyms of different plants and help in proper identification of the authentic sample of the *Aragvadha* (*Cassia fistula* Linn.)

KEYWORDS: *Aragvadha*, *Nighantu*, *Rasapanchaka*.

INTRODUCTION

Ayurveda is the mother of all medical sciences and provides the basic theory of medicine i.e. prevention and then cure of the diseases. Aragvadha (*Cassia fistula* Linn.) have been mentioned by Acharya Charak in Charak Samhita, Sutrasthana chapter 3 i.e. Aaragwadhiya adhyaya. This plant has also been described as *agraya dravya* in Charaka Samhita Sutrasthana 25th Chapter i.e. Yajjahapurushiya Adhyaya as the best *mild purgative drug*. Besides this, Aragvadha has various uses in Kustha and Kandu which are closely related to each other as most of the Kusthas are associated with Kandu.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The present literary research work on *Aragvadha* (*Cassia tora* Linn.) will be done by elaborated study of the below mentioned nighantu and an attempt has been made to compile all the synonyms and rasapanchaka mentioned in different nighantu. The following under mentioned nighantoo have been studied for the present work.

- 1) Dhanavantari Nighantu (DN) (10th - 13th Cent.)
- 2) Madanapala Nighantu (MPN) (14th Cent. A.D.)
- 3) Kaiyadeva Nighantu (KDN) (15th Cent. A.D.)
- 4) Bhavaprakash Nighantu (BPN) (16th Cent. A.D.)
- 5) Raja Nighantu (RN) (17th Cent. A.D.)
- 6) Shaligrama Nighantu (SGN) (19th Cent. A.D.)
- 7) Priya Nighantu (PN) (20th Cent. A.D.)
- 8) Shankar Nighantu (SN) (20th Cent. A.D.)
- 9) Nighantu Adarsha (NA) (20th Cent. A.D.)

RESULTS



Sanskrit synonyms of the drug Aragvadha (*Cassia fistula* Linn.) mentioned in various nighantu are being described in tabular form.

Synonyms

Sl. No.	Synonyms	DN	BPN	MPN	KDN	SGN	RN	PN	SN	NA
1	आरग्वध	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
2	दीर्घफल	+	+	+	+	+	+	—	—	+
3	व्याधिहा	+	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4	चतुरङ्गुलः	+	+	+	+	+	+	—	—	+
5	आरेवत	+	+	—	+	+	+	—	—	+
6	कर्णी	+	—	+	—	—	—	—	—	—
7	कर्णिकार	+	+	+	+	+	+	—	—	+
8	रेचन	+	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
9	अमलतास	—	+	—	+	—	—	—	+	+
10	राजवृक्ष	—	+	+	+	+	—	—	—	+
11	व्याधिघात	—	+	+	+	+	+	—	—	+
12	शम्पाक	—	+	+	+	+	—	—	—	+
13	कृतमाल	—	+	+	+	+	—	—	—	+
14	सुवर्णक	—	+	—	—	+	—	—	—	—
15	स्वर्णाङ्ग	—	+	—	—	+	—	—	—	—
16	स्वर्णफल	—	+	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
17	प्रगह	—	—	+	—	—	—	—	—	+
18	आरोग्यशिम्बी	—	—	+	—	+	—	—	—	—
19	स्वर्णाट	—	—	+	—	—	—	—	—	—
20	कुण्डली	—	—	+	—	+	—	—	—	—
21	हिमपुष्पा	—	—	+	—	+	+	—	—	—
22	कोलिख्यात	—	—	+	—	—	—	—	—	—
23	नृपद्रुम	—	—	+	—	+	+	—	—	—
24	स्वर्णशेफालिका	—	—	+	—	—	—	—	—	—
25	शयावा	—	—	+	—	+	—	—	—	—
26	कुष्ठसूदन	—	—	+	—	—	+	—	—	—
27	स्वर्णस्थापला	—	—	+	—	—	—	—	—	—
28	पित्तला	—	—	+	—	—	—	—	—	—
29	सुवर्णद्रुम	—	—	+	—	—	—	—	—	—

30	गिरिमाल	–	–	–	+	–	–	–	–	–
31	सियरलाठी	–	–	–	+	–	–	–	–	–
32	कुष्ठधन	–	–	–	+	+	–	–	–	–
33	सारफल	–	–	–	+	+	–	–	–	–
34	पर्णी	–	–	–	+	–	–	–	–	–
35	अपघात	–	–	–	+	–	–	–	–	–
36	कल्पद्रु	–	–	–	+	–	–	–	–	–
37	स्वर्णद्रु	–	–	–	+	–	–	–	–	–
38	मन्थान	–	–	–	–	+	+	–	–	–
39	रोचन	–	–	–	+	+	+	–	–	–
40	प्रमेह	–	–	–	–	+	–	–	–	–
41	हीमपुष्प	–	–	–	–	+	–	–	–	–
42	राजतरु	–	–	–	–	+	+	–	–	–
43	कण्डूधन	–	–	–	–	+	+	–	–	–
44	महाकार्णिका	–	–	–	–	+	+	–	–	–
45	ज्वरान्तक	–	–	–	–	+	–	–	–	–
46	अरुज	–	–	–	–	+	–	–	–	–
47	स्वर्णपुष्प	–	–	–	–	+	–	–	–	–
4	कर्णाभरणक	–	–	–	–	+	+	–	–	–
49	महाराजद्रुम	–	–	–	–	+	–	–	–	–
50	स्वर्णभूषण	–	–	–	–	+	–	–	–	–
51	व्यथान्तक	–	–	–	–	+	–	–	–	–
52	आमहा	–	–	–	–	+	–	–	–	–
53	स्वर्णस्थली	–	–	–	–	+	–	–	–	–
54	शेफालिक	–	–	–	–	+	–	–	–	–
55	नक्तमाल	–	–	–	–	+	–	–	–	–
56	स्वर्णवृक्ष	–	–	–	–	+	–	–	–	–
57	द्रुमोत्पल	–	–	–	–	+	–	–	–	–

N.B. : Here; "+" sign denotes "mentioned" and "--" denotes "not mentioned"

RASAPANCHAKA

Guna: Guna of the drug Aragvadha (*Cassia fistula* Linn.) mentioned in various nighantus, in tabular form.

S. No.	Guna(गुण)	DN	MPN	KDN	BPN	RN	SGN	PN	SN	NA
1.	गुरु	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2.	लघु	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3.	शीत	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4.	उष्ण	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5	स्निग्ध	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6	रुक्ष	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
7	मन्द	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
8	तीक्ष्ण	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
9	पिच्छिल	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10	विषद	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
11	स्थूल	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
12	सूक्ष्म	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
13	मृदु	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
14	कठिन	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15	श्लक्ष्ण	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
16	खर	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
17	स्थिर	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
18	सर	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
19	सान्द्र	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20	द्रव	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
21	सुगन्ध	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
22	दुर्गन्ध	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
23	कर्कस	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
24	हीन	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	+	—

Rasa: Guna of the drug Aragvadhha (*Cassia fistula* Linn.) mentioned in various nighantu, in tabular form.

S.No.	Rasa (रस)	DN	BPN	MPN	KDN	SGN	RN	PN	SN	NA
1	मधुर	—	+	+	+	+	+	—	+	+
2	अम्ल	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3	लवण	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4	कटु	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5	तिक्त	+	—	—	+	—	—	—	—	+

6	कषाय	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
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Vipaka: Vipaka of the drug Aragvadha (*Cassia fistula* Linn.) mentioned in various nighantu, in tabular form.

S.No.	Vipaka(विपाक)	DN	BPN	MPN	KDN	SGN	RN	PN	SN	NA
1	मधुर	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	+
2	अम्ल	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3	लवण	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4	कटु	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5	तिक्त	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6	कषाय	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Virya: Virya of the drug Aragvadha (*Cassia fistula* Linn.) mentioned in various nighantoo, in tabular form.

S. No.	(वीर्य)	DN	BPN	MPN	KDN	SGN	RN	PN	SN	NA
1	उष्ण	+	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2	शीत	—	+	+	+	+	—	—	—	+

DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

The present review have been done with the aim to compile the various synonyms of the drug Aragvadha (*Cassia fistula* Linn.) as well as its rasapanchaka (Ayurvedic properties) mentioned in different nighantus by an elaborated literary research, so that if the drug is found in any text with its synonyms then it can be easily interpreted and understood. The synonyms mentioned herein describes about its qualities as well as physical appearance and sometimes its therapeutic actions like Vyadhighat(which destroys diseases), Arogyashimbi (the pod which cures), Kusthasudana (which cures skin diseases) etc. It is seen that Aragvadha as a synonym have been described by most of the nighantu except Priya Nighantu (PN) and Shankar Nighantu (SN). while Shaligram Nighantu (SGN), Kaiyadeva Nighantu (KDN) have tried to mention its most of the synonyms. Chaturangula and Arevata synonyms are mentioned by almost all the nighantu except Shankar Nighantu (SN) and Priya Nighantu (PN). Priya Nighantu (PN) have overlooked most of the synonyms. Raja Nighantu (RN) and Shaligram Nighantu mentioned '*Karnabharanaka*' as its synonym. Bhavaprakash Nighantu (BPN) selectively mentioned most of the important synonyms of Aragvadha (*Cassia fistula* Linn.) like *Chaturanhula*, *Dirghaphala*, *Arevata*, *Amalatasa*, *Rajavriksha*, *Shampaka*,

Kritamala, etc. Nighantu Adarsha (NA) exclusively mentioned synonyms like *Pragaha*. And lastly the Dhanavantari Nighantu (DN) has only mentioned its synonyms as *Rechana*. Hence it is clear from the above discussion that *Aragvadha* as a synonym has been mentioned by almost all the nighantus and thereafter *Sita guna* has only been mentioned by *Raja Nighantu*, *Shankar Nighantu* and *Nighantu Adarsha* and *Guru guna* have been mentioned by all except *Raja Nighantu* and *Priya Nighantu*. Its *Ushna Virya* have been described only by *Dhanavantary Nighantu*.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The authors are indebted to Prof.(Dr.) Mradu Gupta, MD(Ay.), Ph.D.; Ex-Principal and Head, Dept. of Dravyaguna Vigyana, Institute of Post Graduate Ayurvedic Education & Research, Kolkata.

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