

## EVALUATION OF VISHAGHNA MAHAKASHAYA OF CHARAK SAMHITA: A LITERARY REVIEW

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### ABSTRACT

The most popular work of Ayurvedic literature, the *Charaksamhita*, contains a description of *vishaghnamahakashaya* in its *shadvirechanshatashreeya* chapter. *Mahakashaya* is a collection of ten useful medications. According to both Ayurvedic and modern science, each medicine in *Vishaghnamahakashaya* has broad-spectrum pharmacological characteristics. Every drug in *Vishaghnamahakashaya* is the main component of numerous traditional medicines. and *agad* preparation (an anti-poisoned ayurvedic preparation), which has a variety of medicinal applications. Detoxification and the word "*vishaghna*" both have the similar meanings. In addition to denature hazardous substances, *Vishaghna Mahakashaya Dravya* also neutralises them at the cellular level, aiding in their elimination from

the body. This remedy functions on both a macro and micro level. Aside from being powerful against snake-scorpion stings, *garvisha*, *dushivisha*, and other plant-based poisons, these drugs are also efficient against *garvishas*. *Vishaghna Mahakashaya* is the 16th *gana* of the 50 *mahakashaya gana* described in fourth chapter of *Sutra sthan of Charak Samhita* and include *haridra*, *manjistha*, *suveha*, *sukshmella*, *palindi*, *Chandan*, *katak*, *sirish*, *shinduwar*, *sleshmatak* ten ingredients. Together, these ten plants have a greater impact. Additionally, they work well on their own. The 10 characteristics of poisonous substances are *lagu*, *ruksha*, *aashu*, *vishad*, *vyavayi*, *tikshna*, *vikaashi*, *sookshma*, *ushna*, and *anirdeshyarasa*.

**KEYWORDS:** *vishaghnamahakashaya*, Therapeutic Properties, Detoxification, *garvisha*, *dushivisha*.

## INTRODUCTION

The terms *Danshtra Chikitsa*, *Agad Tantra*, and *Vishagarvairodhik Prasaman* are interchangeable. *Danshtra chikitsa*, the sixth branch of Ayurveda, focuses mostly on agada, or medicine having anti-poisonous properties. The word "visha" refers to the *dravya* that creates *vishaad*, or sadness or depression. The 10 characteristics of poisonous substances are *lagu*, *ruksha*, *asu*, *vishad*, *vyavayi*, *tikshna*, *vikaashi*, *sookshma*, *ushna*, and *anirdeshyarasa*. *Vishghnas* are medications that counteract the toxicity of drugs. Ten *vishghna* medications are part of the *vishaghna mahakashaya*, which *Acharya Charak* described. It consists of the following plants: *haridra* (*Curcuma longa*), *manjishtha* (*Rubia cordifolia*), *Suvaha* (*Pluchea lanceolata*), *sukshama ela* (*Elettaria cardamomum*), *paalindi* (*Operculina turpethum*), *chandana* (*Santalum album*), *kataka* (*Strychnos potatorum*), *shirisha* (*Albizia le* (*Cordia dichotoma*)).

देहं प्रविश्य यद् द्रव्यं दूषयित्वा रसादिकान्। स्वास्थ्यप्राणहरं च स्यात् तद् द्रव्यं विषमुच्यते॥'

Poison is called that which destroys health and life by quickly getting attached to the chemical metals of the body and contaminating them.

- अमृतार्थं समुद्रे तु मध्यमाने सुरासुरैः । जज्ञे प्रागमृतोत्पत्तेः पुरुषो घोरदर्शनः ॥४॥ दीप्ततेजाश्चतुर्दंष्ट्रो हरिकेशोऽनलेक्षणः । जगद्विषण्णं तं दृष्ट्वा तेनासौ विषसंज्ञितः ॥५॥

First generation of poison - When the gods and demons were churning the sea to get nectar, then before the nectar came out, a man with a fierce appearance was born, the glory of that man was very bright, he had four big teeth, his hair was He was of green color, his eyes were as bright as fire, seeing such a man, all the present beings were filled with sadness (sorrow), hence he was named *Vish*.

\* लघु रुक्षमाशु विशदं व्यवायि तीक्ष्णं विकासि सूक्ष्मं च। उष्णमनिर्देश्यरसं दशगुणमुक्तं विषं ॥ २४ ॥

## Qualities of poison

– *Laghu*, *ruksh*, *ashu*, *vishad*, *vyvayi*, *teekshna*, *vikasi*, *sooksh*, *ushna*, *avyakt ras* these ten qualities are present in all types of poisons.

\* रौक्ष्याद्वातमशैत्यात्पित्तं सौक्ष्म्यादसृक् प्रकोपयति । कफमव्यक्तरसत्वादन्नरसाचानुवर्तते शीघ्रं ॥

२५ ॥ शीघ्रं व्यवयिभावादाशु व्याप्नोति केवलं देहम् । तीक्ष्णत्वानमर्मघ्नं प्राणघ्नं तद्विकासित्वात् ॥

२६ ॥ दुरुपक्रमं लघुत्वाद्वैशद्यात् स्यादसक्तगतिदोषं । दोषस्थानप्रकृतीः प्राप्यान्यतमं ह्युदीरयति

॥२७॥

**Tab. no. 1: Vishaghna Mahakashaya dravya.**

| S.no | Dravya               | Botanical name               | Family          | Part used                        |
|------|----------------------|------------------------------|-----------------|----------------------------------|
| 1.   | Haridra              | <i>Curcuma longa</i>         | Zingiberaceae   | Rhizome                          |
| 2.   | Manjishtha           | <i>Rubia cordifolia</i>      | Rubiaceae)      | Root                             |
| 3.   | Suvaha (Rasna)       | <i>Pluchea lanceolata</i>    | Compositae      | Root, leaf whole plant           |
| 4.   | Ela                  | <i>Elettaria Cardamomum</i>  | Zingiberaceae   | Fruit and Seed                   |
| 5.   | Palindi (nisoeth)    | <i>Operculina terpeethum</i> | Convolvulaceae) | Root                             |
| 6.   | Chandan              | <i>Santalum album</i>        | Santalaceae     | Wood                             |
| 7.   | Katak(nirmali)       | <i>Strychnos potatorum</i>   | Loganiaceae     | Seeds                            |
| 8.   | Shirisha             | <i>Albizia lebeck</i>        | Leguminosae     | Bark                             |
| 9.   | Sindhuvaar(nirgundi) | <i>Vitex negundo</i>         | Verbenaceae     | Leaves, roots, seeds and flowers |
| 10.  | Shleshmatak(lashoda) | <i>Cordia dichotoma</i>      | Boraginaceae    | Fruit                            |

**Tab. no. 2: ayurvedic properties and chemical composition of drug.**

| s.no. | Dravya            | Ras panchak   | Chemical composition  |
|-------|-------------------|---|---|
| 1.    | Haridra           | Rasa-Tikta, Katu; Guna-Ruksha; Virya-ushna; Vipaka- Katu Kaphavatahara  | Curcumin, turmeric oil, an essential oil a lactone  |
| 2.    | Manjishtha        | Rasa-Madhur, Tikta, Katu; Guna-Guru; Virya-ushna; Vipaka- Katu Kaphaghna  | Alizarin, Pseudoparapurins, Rubiadin along with its glucosides, lucidine, Asperuloside, purpurin and manjisthin |
| 3.    | Suvaha (Rasna)    | Rasa-Tikta; Guna-Guru; Virya-ushna; Vipaka- Katu Vatakapha shamaka  | Protein, quercetine, iso-rhamnetin and pluchine.  |
| 4.    | Ela               | Rasa-katu, Madhura; Guna-Laghu, Snigdha, Sugandhi, Sukshma; Virya-Shita; Vipaka-Madhur Kaphavataghna              | Cineol, terpineol, terpinene, limonene, subinone and terpineol in the form of formic and acetic acids.          |
| 5.    | Palindi (Nisoeth) | Rasa-Katu, Tikta, Madhura, Kashaya; Guna-Guru, Ruksha, Teekshna; Virya-ushna; Vipaka-Katu Pitta Kapha Sanshodhana | Turpethin   |
| 6.    | Chandan           | Rasa-Tikta, Madhura; Guna-Laghu, Ruksha; Virya-Sheeta; Vipaka- Katu Kaphapittashamaka                             | Santalol, sesquiterpenhydrocarbons-alpha-, beta-, epibeta-santalene   |

|     |                      |   |  |
|-----|----------------------|---|--|
|     |                      |   | and alpha-and betacurcumene and beta-farnesene                 |
| 7.  | Katak(Nirmali)       | Rasa-Madhura, Kashaya, Tikta; Guna-Laghu; Virya-Shita; Vipaka- Madhur Vatakaphashamaka                  | brucine in little quantity                                     |
| 8.  | Shirisha             | Rasa-Madhura, Tikta, Kashaya; Guna-Laghu; Virya-ushna; Vipaka- Katu Tridoshaghna                        | Saponins and Tannins   |
| 9.  | Sindhuvaar(Nirgundi) | Rasa-Tikta Tikta; Guna-Laghu, Ruksha; Virya-ushna; Vipaka- Katu Kaphvatshamaka                          | Organic acid, malic acid, traces of an alkaloid, essential oil |
| 10. | Shleshmatak(Lashoda) | Rasa-Madhura; Guna-Snigdha, Guru, Pichchila; Virya-ushna; Vipaka- Katu Vaatapittashamaka, Kaphavardhaka | Tannin   |

Tab. no. 3: classification of vishaghna dravya according to aacharya.

| S.no. | Dravya               | Ayurvedic classification of drugs.                                     |                 |                     |
|-------|----------------------|--|-----------------|---------------------|
|       |                      | Charak   | P.V.sharma      | Bhavprakash         |
| 1.    | Haridra              | Kusthagana<br>Lekhaniya Kandugana<br>Vishagana,<br>Shirovirechana      | Kushthaghna     | Haritkyadi<br>Varg  |
| 2.    | Manjishtha           | Vishaghna Jvarahara<br>Varnya  | Raktaprasadana  | Haritkyadi<br>varg  |
| 3.    | Suvaha (Rasna)       | Vayasthapana   | Vedanasthapana  | Haritkyadi<br>varg  |
| 4.    | Ela                  | Shwasahara<br>Angamrdaprashamana<br>Shirovirechan                      | Dahaprashamana  | Karpooradi<br>varg  |
| 5.    | Palindi (Nisoth)     | Bhedaniya  | Sukha Virechana | Guduchyadi<br>varg  |
| 6.    | Chandan              | Dahaprashamana<br>Trishnanigrahana<br>Varnya<br>Kandughna<br>Vishaghna | Dahaprashamana  | Karpooradi<br>varg  |
| 7.    | Katak(Nirmali)       | Vishaghna  | Chakshusya      | Amradiphala<br>varg |
| 8.    | Shirisha             | Vishaghna<br>Vednasthapana<br>Shirovirechana                           | Vishaghna       | Vatadi varg         |
| 9.    | Sindhuvaar(Nirgundi) | Vishaghna<br>Krimighna   | Vedanasthapana  | Guduchyadi<br>varg  |
| 10.   | Shleshmatak(Lashoda) | Vishagna   | Snehopaga       | Amradiphala<br>varg |

## AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

1. To study ayurvedic and contemporary view of *Vishaghna Mahakashaya*.
2. To study pharmacological and detoxifying properties of *Vishaghna Mahakashaya*.
3. To compile matter of *Vishaghna Mahakashaya* for as prescribing formulation.

## MATERIAL AND METHODS

1. Logically useful all ayurvedic and contemporary references regarding *Vishaghna Mahakashaya* are collected from ayurvedic fundamental books and various textbooks, research article and through internet.
2. Indication and therapeutic use drug of *Vishaghna Mahakashaya* were studied which is described especially in ayurvedic text.

## DISCUSSION

Most of the *Vishaghna Mahakashaya* drugs contain *Vishaghna*-like properties. For instance, *Shirisha* (*Charak Samhita-Bhava Praksh*) *Nighantu Kaideva Nighantu*, *Shleshmatak* (*Bhava praksh Nighantu*, *Suvaha* (*Bhava praksh Nighantu*), *Chandan* (*Bhava praksh Nighantu*), and *Manjishtha* (*Bhav Prakash Nighantu*, *Dhanwantari*) *Nighantu* By neutralising the toxin, denature the toxin, and aiding in the discharge of the toxin from the body at the cellular level, *Vishaghna Mahakashaya Dravya* exhibits the antitoxic function.

## CONCLUSION

This compiled critical review work leads to the conclusion that *vishaghnamahakashya* is an easily accessible multiherbal potent preparation for prescribing drugs as well as various research methods, such as to treat of all types of poisoning, *Gara visha*, *Dushi visha*, Snake bite, Scorpion bite, rat bite, Sting, Chronic cumulative biochemical toxicity, drug toxicity (ADRS/ Side effect), and substance abuse toxicity. With the use of toxicological research, we can now support the statements made by Ayurveda science in the context of the present.

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