

A REVIEW OF THE SYNONYMS AND RASAPANCHAKA OF KHADIRA (ACACIA CATECHU WILLD.) FROM VARIOUS NIGHANTUS

Dr. Suresh Kumar Jaiswara*¹ and Prof. (Dr). Shyamalendu Mukhopadhyay²

*¹Lecturer, J.B.Roy State Ayurvedic Medical College and Hospital, Kolkata, West Bengal,
India.

²Professor and Head Dept. of Dravyaguna Vigyana; J.B. Roy State Ayurvedic Medical
College and Hospital, Kolkata, West Bengal, India.

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*Corresponding Author

Dr. Suresh Kumar
Jaiswara

Lecturer, J.B.Roy State
Ayurvedic Medical College
and Hospital, Kolkata, West
Bengal, India.

ABSTRACT

From the beginning of human civilization there is also origin of various ailments which lead humans to strive for the discovery of that very thing which will protect them from these morbid and limiting condition for the living. In course of such discoveries, the most accessible product which was abundantly available was the plants their products their bye-products, metals and minerals. These ailments not only caused problems in their daily lives but some of them are so worst that they permanently developed a social stigma in the society and the person suffering from such ailments were socially boycotted. One of these ailments is *skin diseases i.e. dermatological problems*. Various plant-based medicines are available for skin diseases, one of them is *Khadira (Acacia catechu Willd.)*. Acharya Charaka in Chapter 25th of Charaka Samhita Sutrasthana i.e. Yajjahapurushiya Addhyaya has described its *Agrayakarma i.e. first order action as Kushthagnanam*

i.e. which cures kushtha (all kind of skin disease including *leprosy*. Here in this review work a elaborate discussion about the different synonyms along with its *rasapanchaka* will be done by thorough study of the various *nighantus* written during different time period. This study will be helpful in clarifying the obscure knowledge at some points by elaborate discussion of various synonyms and provide a proper identification base of the plants so that its adulteration and quality control can be protected and maintained.

KEYWORDS: *Khadira, Nighantu, Rasapanchaka, Kustha, Leprosy.*

INTRODUCTION

Ayurveda is the oldest sciences of medicine and primarily deals about preventive aspect of the body from the diseases and then talks about curative aspect of the diseases. Here the plant *Khadira* (*Acacia catechu* Willd.) have been mentioned by Acharya Charak in Charak Samhita at various places the management of in kushtha, kandu and dental diseases. The incidence of skin diseases like eczema is 2-3% of all the medical problems seen in practice & about 30% of all the dermatological problems. *Khadira* twig have been used by villagers from the ages as toothbrush in the morning due to its highly beneficial effect on gum. Further being astringent in nature it have antimicrobial actions and strengthening properties to the teeth and gum.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

In my present work I have tried to bring an extensive literary research work to mention the various synonyms and rasapanchaka of the *Khadira* (*Acacia catechu* Willd.) by studying the following nighantus mentioned herein. This will help in understanding the various synonyms to overcome the confusion in similar synonyms.

- 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



Sankrita synonyms of the drug Khadira (*Acacia catechu* Willd.) mentioned in various nighantus, in tabular form.

Synonyms

S.no.	Synonyms	DN	MPN	KDN	BPN	RN	SGN	PN	SN	NA
1	खदिर	+	+	—	+	+	+	+	+	+
2	दन्तधावनं	+	—	—	+	+	—	—	—	—
3	याज्ञिक	+	—	—	—	+	+	—	—	—
4	रक्तसार	+	—	—	+	+	+	—	—	—
5	कण्टकी	+	+	—	+	+	+	—	—	+
6	बहुशल्य	+	—	+	—	+	+	—	—	—
7	जिहमशल्य	+	—	—	+	+	+	—	—	—
8	बालपत्र	+	—	+	—	+	+	—	—	—
9	कुष्ठघ्न	+	—	—	+	+	+	—	—	+
10	गायत्री	+	—	+	—	--	+	—	—	—
11	मेदोघ्न	+	+	—	+	+	+	—	—	+
12	गलरोगनुत्	+	—	—	—	+	+	—	+	—
13	सारद्रुम	+	—	—	—	+	+	—	—	—
14	बालतनय	+	—	—	—	+	+	—	—	—

Here; "+" sign denotes "mentioned" and "--" denotes "not mentioned"

RASAPANCHAKA

Guna: Guna of the drug Khadira (*Acacia catechu* Willd.) mentioned in various nighantus, in tabular form.

S.no.	Guna(गुण)	DN	MPN	KDN	BPN	RN	SGN	PN	SN	NA
1.	रुक्ष	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	—	+
2.	लघु	+	+	+	+	—	+	+	—	—
3.	शीत	+	+	+	+	+	+	—	+	—
4.	मन्द	—	—	+	—	—	—	+	—	—
5	स्निग्ध	—	—	+	—	—	—	+	—	—
6	पिच्छिल	—	—	—	—	+	—	—	—	—
7	शलक्षण	+	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
8	कर्कस	—	—	+	—	+	—	—	—	—
9	स्थिर	—	—	+	+	—	+	—	—	—

10	हीन	–	+	–	–	–	+	–	–	–
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Rasa: Guna of the drug Khadira (*Acacia catechu* Willd.) mentioned in various nighantus, in tabular form.

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

Vipaka: Vipaka of the drug Khadira (*Acacia catechu* Willd.) mentioned in various nighantus, in tabular form.

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

Virya: Virya of the drug Khadira (*Acacia catechu* Willd.) mentioned in various nighantus, in tabular form.

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

DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

The present literary review have been done with a purpose to compile the various synonyms of the drug Khadira (*Acacia catechu* Willd.) as well as its rasapanchaka (Ayurvedic properties) mentioned in different nighantus. It has been observed that Khadira (*Acacia catechu* Willd.) has various synonyms having various explanations depending on their morphology, therapeutic actions like Khadira (which brings about the strength to the teeth), Yajnika (Its wood is used in holy rituals), Raktasara (Its heartwood is red in colour),

Balapatra (Pinnately compound leaves), Kushthagha (cures skin ailments), Galaroganuta (cures throat problems) etc. It is seen that only Bhavaprakash Nighantu (BPN) has mentioned most of the synonyms while Kaiyadeva Nighantu (KDN), Priya Nighantu (PN) and Shankar Nighantu (SN) have overlooked most of the synonyms. Khadira (*Acacia catechu* Willd.) as synonym have been mentioned by all nighantoo except Kaiyadeva Nighantu (KDN). Its virya as Sita have been mentioned by all the nighantus except Shankar Nighantu. *Hence it is clear from the above discussion that Khadira (Acacia catechu Willd.) as a synonym has been mentioned by almost all the nighantus. Its rasa as katu, tikta and Kasaya have been mentioned by most of the nighantus. Its guna like laghu ruksha and sita have been mentioned by most of the nighantus. I hope this work will be helpful to the scholars and researchers in future.*

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