

**A COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW OF VISHAGHNA GANA (ANTI-  
POISONOUS DRUGS)- UNEXPLORED DIMENSION OF ANTIDOTE  
W.S.R. TO BRIHATRAYEE**

**Dr. Narendra Kumar Singh<sup>\*1</sup>, Dr. Saroj Gautam<sup>2</sup> and Dr. Abdur Rahaman<sup>3</sup>**

<sup>1</sup>Associate Professor, Department of Agada Tantra Vyavhar Ayurved Evum Vidhi Vaidyak, Aligarh Ayurvedic Medical College and ACN Hospital, Aligarh, Uttar Pradesh, India.

<sup>2</sup>Associate Professor, Department of Sanskrit Samhita Evum Maulik Siddhant, Aligarh Ayurvedic Medical College and ACN Hospital, Aligarh, Uttar Pradesh, India.

<sup>3</sup>Assistant Professor, Department of Dravyaguna Vigyan, Aligarh Ayurvedic Medical College and ACN Hospital, Aligarh, Uttar Pradesh, India.

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**\*Corresponding Author**

**Dr. Narendra Kumar  
Singh**

Associate Professor,  
Department of Agada Tantra  
Vyavhar Ayurved Evum  
Vidhi Vaidyak, Aligarh  
Ayurvedic Medical College  
and ACN Hospital, Aligarh,  
Uttar Pradesh, India.

**ABSTRACT**

Any substance that, when consumed, inhaled, or absorbed through the skin, has the potential to kill or severely harm an organ is considered a poison (Visha). According to Ayurveda, "Vishaadajananaatvaat Cha Vishamityabhideeyate" is the term used to describe Visha, the substance that results in Vishad (ill effects).<sup>[1]</sup> The Ayurvedic branch that addresses toxicological issues is called Agada Tantra. To stop Visha's (the poison) effects, antidotes and anti-poisonous drugs are necessary. Ayurveda is a traditional Indian science with Ashtangas (eight branches). Agadtantra is a special branch among these eight that deals with toxicity and its management. The discovery of new medicines has a huge potential thanks to empirical information about medicinal plants, which is essential in primary healthcare. In Ayurveda samhitas and texts, there are several references to Vishaghna Dravya (Anti Poisonous). Many categories and groups are used to list several plants, animal products, and minerals. For example, Vishaghna Gana in Charak Samhita, Aragwadhadi Gana, Anjanadi Gana, Patoladi Gana, etc. in Sushruta Samhita, and similarly Astanga hridayam also has comparable groups of medications.

**KEYWORDS:** Poison, Visha, Vishaghna, Anti-toxic, Agada.

## INTRODUCTION

A toxin is a substance produced naturally by plants, animals, and microorganisms that impairs another organism's ability to function normally. Yet, the term "toxin" is used to describe any substance that is thought to be harmful to health in alternative medicine and by lifestyle writers. These could include the poisons listed in Ayurvedic texts such as Sthavara Visha (poison of plant origin), Jangama Visha (poison of animal origin), Dhatu Visha (poisonous metals and minerals), dooshivisha (cumulative poison), Gara Visha (artificial poison), etc.<sup>[2]</sup> Visha is the dravya (matter) that causes vishada (sorrow).<sup>[3]</sup> Gada is the substance that perturbs the senses and organs; visha is the substance that results in vishada; and agada is the substance that counteracts gada.<sup>[4]</sup> Vishaghnas are those who act against harmful substances. Agada One of the eight primary clinical disciplines of Ayurveda, Tantra focuses primarily on toxicological issues.<sup>[5]</sup> Agada Tantra addresses poisoning caused by poisonous animal bites and other forms of poisons.

## 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. The Vishaghna Mahakashaya is examined in all of its facets.
2. Vishaghna Mahakashaya's indications and therapeutic uses, which are particularly discussed in the ayurvedic texts Charaka Samhita, Sushruta Samhita, and Astangahridayam, were investigated.
3. All logically sound ayurveda and modern references for Vishaghna Mahakashaya have been gathered from numerous textbooks, ayurvedic core texts, research articles, and the internet.
4. After compiling these materials, we made every effort to correlate them in order to provide the best justification for their vishaghna activity.

## OBSERVATION AND RESULTS

The following are the principal Ayurvedic references for vishaghna medicines:

1. Shatvirechanashataasritya adhyaya, Charaka sutrasthana 4th chapter.
2. Dravya sangrhaniya adhyaya, chapter 38 of the Sushruta sutrasthana.
3. Chapter 15 of the Ashtangahridayasutrasthana, Shodhanadigana sangraha.

**Drugs classified as vishaghna**

1. The Vishaghna Gana contains the following plants: Haridra (*Curcuma longa*), Manjistha (*Rubia cordifolia*), Suvaha (*Pluchea lanceolata*), Sukshma ela (*Elettaria cardamom*), Palindi (*Operculina turpethum*), Chandan (*Santalum album*), Katak (*Strychnos potatorum*), Shirish (*Albizia leb* (*Cordia dichotoma*)).
2. These medications have antioxidant and hepatoprotective properties. Vishaghna, Shothaghna, Raktashodhaka, and Tridosha Shamak are among the twelve dravya.<sup>[8]</sup>
3. Aragvadhadi gana- *Aragvadha*, *Madanphal* (*Randia spinosa*), *Patha* (*Cissampelos pareira*), *Saireyaka* (*Barleria prionitis*), *Moorva* (*Sansevieria zeylanica*), *Indrayava* (seeds of kutaja), *Saptaparni* (*Alstonia scholaris*), *Nimba* (*Azadirachta indica*), *Guduchi* (*Tinospora cordifolia*), *Patola* (*Trichosanthes dioica*), *Chirayata* (*Swerti Chirayata*), *karela* (bittergourd). These drugs alleviate kapha dosha and visha. These are also useful for *Prameha* (diabetes), *Kustha* (skin disorders), *Jvara* (fever), *Vaman* (vomiting), and *Kandu* (itching).<sup>[9]</sup>
4. Lodhradi gana- *Lodhra* (*Symplocos racemosa*), *Palash* (*Butea monosperma*), *Ashoka* (*Saraca Asoka*), *Shyonaka* (*Oroxylum indicum*), *Katphala* (*Myrica Esculenta*), *Kadamba* (*Anthocephalus indicus*), *Bharangi* (*Clerodendrum serrate*), *Shallaki* (*Boswellia serrata*). These drugs are useful for destroying kapha dosha, *meda* (fat), genital disorders, wound healing and anti poisonous.<sup>[10]</sup>
5. Eladi gana-*Ela* (*Elettaria cardamomum*), *Tagara* (*Vetiveria wallichii*), *Kustha* (*Saussurea lappa*), *Tvaka* (*Cinnamomum zeylanicum*), *Dalchini* (*Cinnamomum*), *Nagakesara* (*Mesua Ferrea*), *padmakesara* (*Nelumbo nucifera*), *Kesara* (*Crocus sativus*), *Usira* (*Vetiveria zizanioides*), *Devdaru* (*Cedrus deodara*), *Harenu* (*Pisum sativum*), *Priyangu* (*Callicarpa macrophylla*), *Guggulu* (*Commiphora wightii*)
6. These drugs are useful in vata and kapha disorders, provide good complexion, useful in itching, boils, eczema apart from being antipoisinous.<sup>[11]</sup>
7. Patoladi gana- *Patola* (*Trichosanthes dioica*), *Chandan* (*Santalum album*), *Raktachandan* (*Pterocarpus santalinus*), *Guduchi* (*Tinospora cordifolia*), *moorva* (*Marsdenia tenacissima*), *Katurohini* (*Picrorhiza kurroa*), *Patha* (*Cissampelos pareira*). These drugs are helpful in pitta and kapha conditions, itching, vomiting and increased appetite, heal wounds apart from being anti-toxic.<sup>[12]</sup>
8. Shyamadi gana- *Nisoth* and *Trivrit* (*Oerculina turpethum*), *Danti* (*Baliospermum montanum*), *Kalmegha* (*Andrographis paniculata*), *Tilvaka* (*Viburnum coriaceum*), *Sehunda* (*Euphorbia neriifolia*), *Svarnakshiri* (*Argemone Mexicana*). These drugs are

- helpful in poisonous conditions and abdominal disorders like *gulma*, *adhmana*, *malabheda* etc.<sup>[12]</sup>
9. Anjanadi gana- *Nagakesara*, *Priyangu*, *Usira*, *Kamalkesara*, *Yashtimadhu* (*Glycyrrhiza glabra*). These are useful in raktapitta disease, burning sensation and poisonous conditions.<sup>[14]</sup>
  10. Trapuadi gana - *Vanga* (tin), *Sheesha* (lead), *Tamra*(copper), *Swarna* (Gold), *Krishna loha* (iron). These are useful in *garavisha* (Artificial poison), worm infestation, poison, thirst, heart disease and *pandu* (anemia).<sup>[15]</sup>
  11. Utpaladi gana- These contain various varieties of lotus and *Yastimadhu*. Useful in conditions like thirst, raktapitta, burning sensations, fainting, vomiting and poison.<sup>[16]</sup>
  12. Eksara gana yoga- *Bakuchi* (*Psoralea corylifolia*), *Katabhi* (*Cardiospermum halicacabum*), *Sindhuvara*, *Choraka* (*Angelica glauca*), *Varuna* (*Crataeva nurvala*), *Kustha* (*Saussurea lappa*), *Sarpagandha*, *Arka* (*Calotropis procera*), *Shyama*, *Patha*, *Vidanga* (*Embelia ribes*), *Ashmantaka* (*Ficus rumphii*), Mango, black earth etc.<sup>[17]</sup>
  13. Sarivadi gana- *Sariva* (*Hemidesmus indicus*), *Usira*, *Kasmarya* (*Gmelina arborea*), *madhuka* (*Madhuca longifolia*), *Parushaka* (*Grewia asiatica*), *Yashtimadhu*. Useful in burning sensation, bleeding disorders, thirst and fever conditions.<sup>[18]</sup> Similarly, there is also mention of Anjanadi Gana, *Aragvadhadi gana*, *Arkadi gana*, *Lodhradi gana* and *Eladi Gana*.<sup>[18]</sup>
  14. Bhavaprakash nighantu- Out of 676 drugs mentioned in *Bhavaprakash Nighantu* there are 136 single drugs which are identified as vishaghna dravya. Among them 13 drugs belong to *Haritakyadi varga*, 22 drugs belong to *Karpooradi varga*, 33 drugs belong to *Guduchyadi varga*,<sup>[15]</sup> drugs belong to *Pushpa varga*, 13 drugs belong to *Vatadi varga*, 3 drugs belong to *Amradiphalala varga* and 17 drugs belong to *Dhatvadi varga*, 3 drugs from *Dhanyaka varga*, 6 drugs belong to *Shaka varga*, 1 drug belongs to *Maansa varga*, 1 drug from *Vari varga*, 1 drug from *Takra varga*, 4 drugs belongs to *Ghrit varga*, 1 from *mutra varga*, 1 drug was from *Taila varga* and other one was from *Madhu varga*, 1 from *Ikshu varga* and remaining varga were devoid of vishaghna dravya.<sup>[19]</sup>
  15. Dravya guna by PV Sharma- *Shirisha*, *Nirvisha* (*Delphinium denudatum*), *Chilhint* (*Cocculus hirsutus*) and *Ankola* (*Alangium salvifolium*) are the four drugs in vishaghna category.<sup>[20]</sup>

## DISCUSSION

Guna of Vishaghna drugs: characteristics.<sup>[21]</sup>

The following adjectives describe the following people: Guru (heavy), Snigdha (unctuous), Prasanna (not too swift), Pichhila (slimy), Sheeta (cool), Madhura (sweet), Mridu (soft), Sthira (immobile), Shlakshna (smooth), and Bahala/Sandra (dense). The ten visha qualities—Laghu (light), Ruksha (rough), Ashukari (rapid acting), Vyavayi (soon absorbable), Teekshna (sharp), Vikasi (depressant), Sukshma (subtle), Ushna (hot), Vishada (non-slimy), and Anirdesh rasa—are the opposite of the 10 vishaghna traits.<sup>[22]</sup> The qualities of visha are directly opposed to those of ojas. According to Ayurveda, Ojas is the sum total of the seven Dhatus and stands for Bala, or biological strength, which includes immune strength. Ojas is thought to provide immunity from disease as well as resistance to the body's deterioration and degradation. In actuality, Ojas is affected by Visha (ultimate essence of the body). By virtue of their characteristics, these vishaghna medications counteract the visha by (raising ojas), (strengthening), etc. These substances boost ojas, support the heart, safeguard the dhatus, reduce vata and pitta, stop the Visha Vegas, and cleanse the blood.<sup>[23]</sup>

## CONCLUSION

While there is sufficient argument against the use of Poisonous Ayurvedic medications (visha, upvisha, metals and minerals, and animal products), credence to the vishaghna drugs is not given. There is an antidote for every poison that can be found on the planet. Simply put, we are unable to profit off people's ignorance. On the basis of Ayurvedic principles, the mode of action of vishaghna medicines is explored. There is a lot of poison in the environment, manifesting itself in different ways such as pollution, epidemics, etc. To combat the world's most pressing problems, we have access to vast natural resources of anti-toxic medications.

These Vishaghna medications make up the majority of the agada formulations that are recommended for toxic instances. On contemporary metrics, the majority of these medications are discovered to have antioxidant, hepatoprotective, and nephroprotective qualities. Although several of the medications mentioned above have undergone research, both experimental and clinical trials are still necessary for all of these medications.

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