

**KURANTAKA (*BARLERIA PRIONITIS* LINN) A DRUG REVIEW FROM  
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Article Received on  
11 August 2021,

Revised on 01 Sept. 2021,  
Accepted on 22 Sept. 2021

DOI: 10.20959/wjpr202112-21883

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**ABSTRACT**

The term *Nighantu* depends on the term *Nigama*. The historical underpinnings of *Nigama* is, which brings out the incredibly covered or secret significance of words in fundamental way. The *Nighantu* writing is one of the significant angles in the investigation of Ayurveda and uniquely in the subject of *Dravyaguna Vijnana*. The *Nighantu* writing is likewise pretty much as old as Ayurveda. Much significance has not been given to the investigation of *Nighantu*. As *Niganthu's* have all details of *Guna, karma, Rasa virya vipak* as well as synonym information in them it becomes very easy to study medicinal plant in detail. So in current study references of *Kurantaka (Barleria Prionitis Linn.)* collected from various *Niganthu's*. *Kurantaka* is mentioned as

one of type of *Saireyaka*. Four Varieties of *Saireyaka Rakta, Peeta, Neela, Sweta* are mentioned in *Niganthu's*. *Peeta Saireyaka* as *Kurantaka* mentioned in *Bhavprakash Nighantum, Dhanvantari Nighant, Kaiyadeva Nighantu, Madanpal Nighantu, Nighantu shesha, Raj Nighantu* etc. *Kurantaka (Barleria prionitis linn)* is easily available throughout India hence chosen for study.

**KEYWORDS:** *Nighantu, Kurantaka, Peeta Saireyaka, Barleria prionitis linn.*

## Abbreviations

Literary part
A.M= ABHIDHAN MANGIRI
A.N=ASHTANG NIGHANU
A. R. M. = ABHIDHAN RATNMALA
B.N = BHAVAPRAKASH NIGHANTU
D. N. = DHANVANTARI NIGHANTU
K. S. = KASYAPA SAMHITA
K. N. = KAIDEV NIGHANTU
M. N. = MADANPAL NIGHANTU
N. R. = NIGHANTU RATANAKAR
N. A. = NIGHANTU ADARSA
N.S.= NIGHANTU SHESHA
NA.S=NAAM SAMGRAHA
PVS. =PRIYAVAT SHARMA
P.R.M=PARYAYA RATNAMALA
R. N. = RAJ NIGHANTU
S.C.=SHABDA CHANDRIKA
S A. S. = SARANGDHARA SAMHITA
S. N. = SALIGRAM NIGHANTU
SO. N. = SODHAL NIGHANTU

## INTRODUCTION

The term *Nighantu* depends on the term *Nigama*. The historical underpinnings of *Nigama* is, which brings out the incredibly covered or secret significance of words in fundamental way. This custom was likewise embraced by the Ayurvedic researchers to explain the specialized words uniquely in the field of *Dravyaguna*. Prior *Nighantus* were restricted to clarify the equivalents as it were. After a few time the portrayal of properties, activity and signs are additionally remembered for the *Nighantu* alongside equivalent words. The *Nighantu* writing is one of the significant angles in the investigation of Ayurveda and uniquely in the subject of *Dravyaguna Vijnana*. The *Nighantu* writing is likewise pretty much as old as Ayurveda. Much significance has not been given to the investigation of *Nighantu*. The drugs were given the portrayal of properties, activities also, their employments. In obvious sense the *Nighantu* implies assortment of words, equivalents and the names of the therapeutic substances.

As *Niganthu's* have all details of *Guna*, *karma*, *Rasa virya vipak* as well as synonym information in them it becomes very easy to study medicinal plant in detail. So in current study references of *Kurantaka* (*Barleria Prionitis* Linn.) collected from various *Niganthu's*.

*Kurantaka* is mentioned as one of type of *Saireyaka*. Four Varieties of *Saireyaka Rakta*, *Peeta*, *Neela*, *Sweta* are mentioned in *Niganthu's*.

*Peeta Saireyaka* as *Kurantaka* mentioned in *Bhavprakash Nighantum*<sup>[1]</sup>, *Dhanvantari Nighantu*<sup>[2]</sup>, *Kaiyadeva Nighantu*<sup>[3]</sup>, *Madanpal Nighantu*<sup>[4]</sup>, *Nighantu shisha*<sup>[18]</sup>, *Raj Nighantu*<sup>[6]</sup> etc.

*Kurantaka* (*Barleria prionitis* linn) is easily available throughout India hence chosen for study.<sup>[27]</sup>

### ***Niganthu kala***

#### ***Abhidhaan manjiri***<sup>[11]</sup>

No direct reference of found about *peet* verity *Sahachar / Kurantaka*, although *Sahachar* synonyms and *Shweta, Neela* verity mentioned.

#### ***Abhidhaan ratnamala***<sup>[12]</sup>

*Nighantu* mentions about *Peeta Saireyaka* as *Kurantaka* in *Tikita skandha*, other two varieties of *Saireyaka* also mentioned *Neela* and *Aruna*.

#### ***Ashtang Nighantu***<sup>[13]</sup>

No direct reference of *Kurantaka / Peeta Saireyaka* is found, it mentions about *Neela* verity of *Saireyaka*.

#### ***Bhavprakash Niganthu***<sup>[3]</sup>

*Bhavprakash* mentions *Kurantaka* should be always taken in wet form is *Aushadh graham* rules, And in *Kurantaka* is name given to *Peeta Saireyaka* and other varieties of *Saireyaka* like *Sweta, Rakta, Neela* are also mentioned by *Bhavprakash*. It is said to have *madhur-tika rasa* and *ushna veerya, Guna Snidha* and *kesharanjaan* is also *karma* mentioned by *Bhavprakash*.

#### ***Chamatkaar Nighantu***<sup>[14]</sup>

No reference found about *Saireyaka/sahachar/Kurantaka* in *Chamatkaar Nighantu*.

#### ***Dravyaguna Samgraha***<sup>[15]</sup>

No reference found in Chakrapanidatta's *Dravya guna samgraha* about *Saireyaka*.

#### ***Dhanvantari Nighantu***<sup>[2]</sup>

In *Guduchyadi varga* three types of *Saireyaka* are mentioned according to flowers - *Peeta, Rakta, Neela*. *Peeta* is mentioned as *Kurantaka* and *Rakta* is mentioned as *Kurabaka*. *Dhanvantari Nighantu* specially mentions *guna karma* of *Kurantaka* as *Hima veerya, Tikta*

*rasa* and having action as “*Tri doshashamak*”. *Shopha-Daha-Trushna hara, Vrushya* and *keshya* as well.

### ***Kaiyadev Nighantu*<sup>[3]</sup>**

Mentions about all four variety of *Saireyaka*, Out of which *Peeta pushpa* is said as *Kurantaka*, *Balas-vaat* and *Rakta, kushtha kandu, visha* are mentioned in *guna karma* of *Saireyaka*.

### ***Madanpal Nighantu*<sup>[4]</sup>**

*Mrudukantak* is the different synonym given. *Kurantaka* mentioned as *Peeta Saireyaka*. other varieties like *Rakta* and *Neela* are also mentioned.

### ***Madanadi Nighantu*<sup>[6]</sup>**

In *Chaturdasha gana*, *Saireyaka* is mentioned. Different synonyms of *Saireyaka* are mentioned. Specification of *Kurantaka / Peet* variety not found.

### ***Raj Nighantu*<sup>[6]</sup>**

*Raj Nighantu* mentioned in *Karviradi varga*. Seven synonyms of *Kurantaka* are mentioned. Like *Kinkirat, Peetaamlan, Kurantaka, kanaka, Peeta kurava, Supeeta, Peetakusuma. Rasa* are mentioned as *Kashya-Tikta. Virya as Ushna virya* and said to have *Vaat-Kaphajeet* action.

### ***Naam Samgraha*<sup>[17]</sup>**

In *Guguchaydi varga* different varieties of *Saireyaka* are mentioned. Four types are mentioned according to color's of flowers. Variety with *Peeta* flowers is accepted as *Kurantaka*.

### ***Nighantu shisha*<sup>[18]</sup>**

Mentions about three variety of *Saireyaka*. Name specification mentioned. *Kurantaka* mentioned as *Peeta pusha, Rakta* as *artagala* and *Neela* as *Bana/dasi/Audakya*.

### ***Paryayaratnamala*<sup>[25]</sup>**

*Paryaya ratna mala* mentions *Vira, Sahachar, Peetapushpa, Dasi* as synonyms of *Kurantaka*.

### ***Saraswati Nighantu*<sup>[20]</sup>**

*Sahachar* mentioned in *Kshupa varga*. *Kurantaka* is name mentioned along with *Kurabak* and *Zhiniti*.

**Shabdachandrika<sup>[7]</sup>**

In Vrukshadi *varga* two types of *Sahachar* (*Sahachar i-dwaya*) are mentioned *Peeta* and *Neela*. *Peeta* is mentioned as *Kurantak*.

**Shodhal Nighantu<sup>[26]</sup>**

Four types of *Saireyaka* are mentioned in *Guduchyadi varga*. *Peeta* is accepted as *Kurantaka*.

**Shaligram Nighantu<sup>[9]</sup>**

*Peeta* verity mentioned as *Kurantaka*. Guna-karma's of *Kurantaka* are mentioned.

**Soushruta Nighantu<sup>[22]</sup>**

Different synonyms are mentioned of *Saireyaka* in *Araghvadhadi gana*.

**Classification of *Kurantaka* in Various *Nighantu*'s,****Table 2.14: Classification In *Nighantu*.**

Sr.No	Author name	Gana or Varga
1.	<i>Abhidhaan ratnamala</i>	<i>Tikta-skandha</i>
2.	<i>Dhanvantari Nighantu</i>	<i>Guduchyadi Varga</i>
3.	<i>Kaiyadeva Nighantu</i>	<i>Aushadhi Varga</i>
4.	<i>Raj Nighantu</i>	<i>Karviradi Varga</i>
5.	<i>Bhavprakash Nighantu</i>	<i>Pushpa Varga</i>
6.	<i>Saraswati Nighantu</i>	<i>Kshupa Varga</i>
7.	<i>Shaligram Nighantu</i>	<i>Pushpa Varga</i>
8.	<i>Nighantu shisha</i>	<i>Gulmakanda</i>
9.	<i>Shabdachandrika</i>	<i>Vrukhadi Varga</i>
10.	<i>Naam sangraha</i>	<i>Guduchyadi Varga</i>

**Synonyms**

*Peeta*, *Peeta pushpa*, *SuPeeta*, *Peeta kusuma*, *Peetamlana* etc are synonyms mentioned on basis of color of flower of *Kurantaka*. *Peeta pushpa* synonym is accepted by Seven authors.

**Table 1: Synonyms of *Kurantaka* in Different *Niganthu*'s.**

Synonym	D.N	K.N	R.N	B.N	S.N	N.A	N.S	S.C	P.R.M	A.M	A.RM	A.N
<i>Kurantaka</i>	+	+	+	+	+		+	+	+			
<i>Kuranta</i>						+						
<i>Kinkirata</i>			+		+	+						
<i>Kanaka</i>			+		+	+						
<i>Kantakarant</i>			+									
<i>Peet pushpa</i>	+	+		+	+	+	+		+			
<i>SuPeeta</i>			+									
<i>Peeta Kusuma</i>			+									
<i>Peeta Kurava</i>			+									

<i>Peeta amlana</i>			+			+			+			
<i>Parnaadhya</i>										+		
<i>Peeta Saireyaka</i>				+	+	+						
<i>Mrudu kantaka</i>		+								+	+	
<i>Mrudu pushpaka</i>												+
<i>Sahachar</i>					+	+						
<i>Vanya Sahachari</i>			+									

### Interpretation of few synonyms of *Kurantaka*<sup>[23]</sup>

1. कुरण्टक – कुर्यते छिद्यते जनैः उपयोगार्थमिति | ‘कुर् छेदने | ‘पीते कुरण्टक’ |

These flowers are prasiad and picked up by public.

2. अम्लान- कुरण्डो हि म्लानिं न गच्छति | न म्लानं पुष्पं भवति अस्येति |

Its flowers are not spoiled easily

3. अम्लाटन – same as above

4. सैरेयक – सीरे सुर्यातपयुक्ते आवरण हितेऽपि प्रदेशे भवतीति | यद्वा सीरस्वेदम् सैरं : सैरं आकारं धारयति इति |

It grows even even in very temperature conditions OR Its flowers shine white like sun

5. सहचर – सह चरति इति |

It grows in group.

### *Rasa, Veerya, Vipaka*

*Tikta-madhur rasa* mentioned in majority and *Ushna Virya* is accepted by many authors.

**Table 2: *Rasa, Veerya, Vipaka of Kurantaka.***

Author name	Rasa	Veerya	Vipaka
A.P.I.	<i>Madhur-Tikta</i>	<i>Ushna</i>	<i>Katu</i>
A.R.M	<i>Tikta</i>	-	---
B.N.	<i>Tikta-Madhur-Amla</i>	<i>Ushna</i>	
D.N.	<i>Tikta</i>	<i>Sheeta</i>	
K.N.	<i>Madhur-Tikta</i>	<i>Ushna</i>	
R.N.	<i>Kashya-Tikta</i>	<i>Ushna</i>	
S.N.	<i>Tikta-kashya</i>	<i>Ushna</i>	

### *Guna, Doshakarma, Other karma*

Vata-kaphaghna dominance is accepted by many authors;.

**Table 3: Guna, Doshakarma, Other karma of Kurantaka.**

Author name	Guna	Dosha karma	Other karma
API <sup>[16]</sup>	Snigdha	Kapha-hara	Keshya, Ranjana, Vishahar
B.N. <sup>[2]</sup>	Susnigdha	Vaat-kapha-paha	Kesha ranjaan
D.N. <sup>[4]</sup>	--	Tri-dosh shamaan	Balya, Vrushya, Keshya
K.N. <sup>[5]</sup>	Snigdha	Balas vaat Jayeyt	Kesha ranjaan, Keshya
R.N. <sup>[8]</sup>	--	Kapha-Vaat jeet	Deepan
S.N. <sup>[11]</sup>	--	Vata-kapha hara	Agnideepti

**Rogaghanta**

Kurantaka mentioned in Kandu, Rakta vikaar, Shota etc as shown in chart.

**Table no 4: Rogahnata of Kurantaka in Niganthu's.**

Vyadhi	D.N	M.N	K.N	R.N	B.N	S.N	M. N	API	Total Ref.
Kandu			+	+	+	+		+	06
Kushta			+		+			+	04
Twak dosha				+		+			02
Rakta vikaar		+	+		+				03
Visha paha	+		+		+				03
Trushna				+					01
Vidaha	+								01
Palit								+	01
Vaat -Rakta								+	01
Shohta						+			01

**DISCUSSION**

In *Abhidhaan manjiri* no direct reference of found about *peet* verity *Sahachar / Kurantaka*, although *Sahachar* synonyms and *Shweta, Neela* verity's are mentioned. *Abhidhaan ratnamala Nighantu* mentions about *Peeta Saireyaka* as *Kurantaka* in *Tikita skandha*, other two varieties of *Saireyaka* also mentioned *Neela* and *Aruna*.

*Ashtang Nighantu* no direct reference of *Kurantaka / Peeta Saireyaka* is found, it mentions about *Neela* verity of *Saireyaka*.

In *Bhavprakash Niganthu Bhavprakash* mentions *Kurantaka* should be always taken in wet form as *Aushadh graham* rules. *Kurantaka* name given to *Peeta Saireyaka* and other varieties of *Saireyaka* like *Sweta, Rakta, Neela* are also mentioned by *Bhavprakash*. It is said to have *madhur-tika rasa* and *Ushna veerya*, *Guna Snidha* and *kesharanjaan* is also *karma* mentioned by *Bhavprakash*. Whereas no reference found about *Saireyaka / Sahachar/ Kurantaka* in *Chamatkaar Nighantu* as well as in *Chakrapanidatta's Dravyaguna Samgraha*.

References in *Dhanvantari Nighantu*, in *Guduchyadi varga* three types of *Saireyaka* are mentioned according to flowers *Peeta*, *Rakta*, *Neela*. *Peeta* is mentioned as *Kurantaka* and *Rakta* is mentioned as *Kurabaka*. *Dhanvantari Nighantu* specially mentions *guna karma* of *Kurantaka* as *Hima veerya*, *Tikta rasa* and having action as “*Tri doshashamak*”. *Shophadaha-Trushna hara*, *Vrushya* and *keshya* as well.

*Kaiyadev Nighantu* also mentions about all four variety of *Saireyaka*, Out of which *Peeta pushpa* is said as *Kurantaka*, *Balas-vaat* and *Rakta*, *kushtha kandu*, *visha* are mentioned in *guna karma* of *Saireyaka*. In *Madanpal Nighantu*, *Mrudukantak* is a different synonym given. *Kurantaka* mentioned as *Peeta Saireyaka*, other varieties like *Rakta* and *Neela* are also mentioned. *Saireyaka* is mentioned in *Madanadi Nighantu* in *Chaturdasha gana*. Different synonyms of *Saireyaka* are mentioned. Specification of *Kurantaka* / *Peet* variety not found.

In *Raj Nighantu* it's mentioned in *Karviradi varga*. Seven synonyms of *Kurantaka* are mentioned like *Kinkirat*, *Peetaamlan*, *Kurantaka*, *kanaka*, *Peeta kurava*, *Supeeta*, *Peetakusuma*. *Rasa* are mentioned as *Kashya-Tikta*. *Virya as Ushna virya* and said to have *Vaat-Kaphajeet* action. In *Naam Samgraha* in *Guguchaydi varga* different varieties of *Saireyaka* are mentioned. Four types are mentioned according to color's of flowers. Variety with *Peeta* flowers is accepted as *Kurantaka*.

*Nighantu shesha* mentions about three variety of *Saireyaka*. Name specification mentioned. *Kurantaka* mentioned as *Peeta pusha*, *Rakta* as *artagala* and *Neela* as *Bana/dasi/Audakya*.

*Paryayaratnamala* mentions *Vira*, *Sahachar*, *Peetapushpa*, *Dasi* as synonyms of *Kurantaka*.

In *Saraswati Nighantu*, *Sahachar* mentioned in *Kshupa varga*. *Kurantaka* is name mentioned along with *Kurabak* and *Zhiniti*. In *Shabdachandrika* in *Vrukshadi varga* two types of *Sahachar* (*Sahachari-dwaya*) are mentioned *Peeta* and *Neela*. *Peeta* is mentioned as *Kurantak*.

Four types of *Saireyaka* are mentioned in *Guduchyadi varga* in *Shodhal Nighantu* and *Peeta* is accepted as *Kurantaka*. *Shaligram Nighantu* also mentions *Peeta* variety as *Kurantaka*. *Guna-karma's* of *Kurantaka* are also mentioned.

In *Soushruta Nighantu* Different synonyms are mentioned of *Saireyaka* in *Araghvadhadi gana*.



**CONCLUSION**

*Kurantaka* available throughout India should be used widely in Clinical practice. Majority of *Kurantaka* references found in *Nighantu* include it's use in *Kandu*, *Kushta*, *Twak dosha*, *Rakta vikaar etc* so in dermatological practice *Barleria Prionitis Linn* it should be used or dermatological clinical or pre-clinical trials can be also conducted.

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