A REVIEW OF KAMPILLAK (MELLOTUS PHILLIPINENSISmuelle arge): GENERAL INFORMATION AND MEDICINAL PROPERTIES FROM AYURVEDIC PERSPECTIVE

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Abstract

Kampillak is one of the medicinal plants described in ayurvedic literature. In present article Kampillak literature reference from ancient kaal to adhunic kaal were compiled systematically. This review article provides the information about Kampillak with respect to synonyms, properties, classification, therapeutic uses and formulations according to ayurvedic literature.

Keywords: Kampillak (Mellotus Phillipenensis), Ayurvedic literature

1 Introduction

Kampillak is one of the Ayurvedic plant described in Ayurvedic literature having medicinal properties. Information regarding Kampillak plant as ‘Aushadhi dravy’ is available in ayurvedic classical text including Samhita, Nighantu, and Sangrah Granth. The synonyms, identification tests, uses, actions, doses, properties and various formulations were compiled and arranged in a systematic manner. In the present study, entire review of drugs Kampillak has been taken right from Vedic era to till date. The historical background, botanical description, therapeutic indication has been mentioned in detail.

2. Literature review

2.1 Ancient literature

2.1.1. Veda and Puran Kaal

Kampillak was not reported in the ved-kaal as well as in puran kaal but after this period we can find Kampillak reference in Nighantus and Samhita.

2.1.2. Samhita Kaal

a. Charak Samhita

Charkachary mentioned Kampillak under virechan gana. Kampillak mentioned as ‘Phalvirechan’ (Ch.su.1-82); Classified as ‘virechanopag’ (viechn gan-8-158); Argvadhyi adhay (ch.su.-3-8); Granthivran (Cha.chi.-11-136); Udavart and Ashmari chikitsa; Prameh chikitsa (Cha.chi.); Gulk chikitsa (Cha.chi.5-126)

b. Sushrut samhita

Kampillak mentioned under adhobhagaharand shyamyadi gan. Sanshodhan sanshamaniy adhyay–Adhobhagahar; Kampillak phalavirechan (Su.su.-36-4); Prameh chikitsa–(Su.chi-16).

c. Harit samhita

Use of Kampillak mentioned in krimirog chikitsa.

2.1.3. Nighantu Kaal

a. Bhavprakash nighant: Kampillak quoted under ‘Haritakyadi varg’.

b. Dhanvantari nighantu: Kampillak occupies place under ‘Chandanadi varg’.
c. Shaligram nighantu: Shaligram vaishya has described Kampillak under ‘Ashtvarg’.
d. Kaiyadev nighantu: In this Nighantu Kampillak mentioned under ‘Aushadhi varg’.
e. Madanpal nighantu: Kampillak is described in ‘Abhayadi varg’.
f. Haritakyadi nighantu: Kampillak described under Haritakyadi varg.
g. Nighanturatnakar: Kampillak mentioned under krumivarg chikitsa,
h. Amarkosha: In Amarkosh, different name of Kampillakis mentioned
i. Bhaishajya ratnavali17: Mentioned under krimirog chikitsa.
j. Gunratnamala18: Kampillak described in Gunratnmala, Under ‘Haritkyadi varg.’
k. Ayurvedic aushadhakosha19: Kampillak plantis described as Aushadhi.

2.2 Adhunik Kaal: 20th - 21st century
Kampillak is elucidated in a concise manner with information regarding vernacular names, synonyms, morphology, properties, therapeutic uses, formulations and doses are given in modern text. Some of modern text books which give above information are enlisted below.

4. Indian Medicinal Plants: A Compendium Of 500 Species; Dr. P. S. Varier
5. Database On Medicinal Plants Used In Ayurveda: Volume V, Department Of Ayush New Delhi
6. Prayogatmak Abhinav Dravyagunvigyanam, Dr. Mayaram Uniyal
9. Dravyagunakosha: Priya Vrat Sharma

3. Details Of Kampillak Plant
3.1 Geographical Distribution
Kampillak is widely distributed perennial shrub or small tree in tropical region of the world with around 20 species in India.

3.2 Botanic Description
Trees: small to medium sized monoecism in nature, up to 25m tall and bole up to 50cm in diameter. The trunk: fluted and irregular at the base. Leaves: alternative and simple, opposite on the stem, ovate to oblong in shape, with long pointed tip. Flowers: males and female flowers grow on separate trees. Flowers mature from November to January. Fruits: Threelobed capsules covered in red powdery substance. Seed: one small black globular seed in each of the three parts of the capsule.

Collection method: Red coloured rip fruits of Kampillak collected and dry in shade, Rubbed with hands in cloth and powder will be collected.

3.3 Classification of Kampillak As Per Ayurveda:
1. Charaka- Virechana gana;
2. Sushruta - Syamadi, Adhobhagahar;
3. Vagbhata-Nikumbhadi, Syamadi

3.4 Vernacular names
Sanskrit: Kampillak, Karkash, Raktang, Rechan.; Hindi: Kabila, kamala, Sindur,Rohini, Bengali: Kamala-gundi; Gujarati : Kapilo; Tamil : Kungumam; Telagu : Kumkum, Chendra-sinduri; Kannad:
Kumkumadamar, Kampillaka; Marathi: Kapila, Shendri; Assam: Gangai,Lochan; Oriya : Kumala, Sundergundi; Malayalam: Manjana, Kampipalla,Ponnagam; Panjabi : Kumila, Kambal; English : Kamala tree, Monkey face tree; Arabic : Kinbil

3.5 Synonyms

Synonyms of Kampillak as mentioned In Granthis and their interpretations are given below table 1.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Characteristic</th>
<th>Synonyms</th>
<th>Interpretation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Leaves</td>
<td>Bahupatra</td>
<td>Having many leaves</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fruits</td>
<td>Bahuphala</td>
<td>Having many fruits in bunch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kapila</td>
<td></td>
<td>Red fruit dust on fruit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visual appearance</td>
<td>Raktpahala, Lohitang</td>
<td>Fruits are red in colour fruit with fruit dust are red in colour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Rakt phalraj</td>
<td>Kampillak churn is red in Color</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Girimrudagairika</td>
<td>looks like gairik churn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Chandra</td>
<td>in blossom, appear beautiful</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Use</td>
<td>Ranjanak,Ranjana, Varnka</td>
<td>used as coloring agent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Availability</td>
<td>Kampilya</td>
<td>Abundantly available at Kampilla Pradesh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Nadivasa</td>
<td>Tree grows near the river</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karm</td>
<td>Rochan, Rechi, Rechani</td>
<td>It acts as a purgative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shodhan</td>
<td>Vranshodhak</td>
<td>clean the wounds</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Rasa Panchak: Ras-katu; Virya-Ushna; Vipra-katu; Gunaj-Laghu,Ruksha,Tikshna; Doshahnata-Kaphvatsamak
- Chemical composition: It contain 80% reddish yellow resin and also many other components like, Leaves-Rottlerin, Isoallottlerin Red compounds, Heartwood-Betulin-3-acetate, Lupeol, Lupeol acetate, Sitosterol amyrin. Bark- Acetylerutolic acid, Amyrin, Sitosterol, Bergenin, Other compounds- Unsaturated fatty acids, Kamlolenic acid, Glyceride homorottlerine, Red role 50%, Yellow role 5%, manure 2% Volatile oils, Tanin, Gum, Citric acid.
- Common Adulterants / substitute: Brick dust, Ferruginous sand, Ferric oxide, Stem bark of casearia tomentosa, Carthamus tinctorius (flower powder), Ficus benghalensis (fruit powder) are reported to be used as adulterants or substitute of Kampillak.
- Criteria used for primary identification of Shudh Kampillak are given in following table 2.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Identification Procedure</th>
<th>Shudhha Kampillak</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Visual checking of churn colour</td>
<td>Fine granular powder, shenduri (crimson colour)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water dissolution test for impurity</td>
<td>Churn floats on the water no any accumulated material at bottom</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Colour of line drawn on white paper by fingertip of wet churn | Yellow colour fine line when put on fire | Produces sparking

Use of Kampillak in various diseases is given in table 3.

Table 3 Karma Rog-Adhikaran

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sansthan (system)</th>
<th>Karma</th>
<th>Prayog</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sansthanic (Bahya)</td>
<td>Kushthagna</td>
<td>Kandu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Vranashodhana</td>
<td>Pama</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Vranaropana</td>
<td>Kushhtadi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Charmarog</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abhyantar</td>
<td>Rechan</td>
<td>Udara</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Krumighna</td>
<td>Gulma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Krumiroga</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raktavahasansthan</td>
<td>Raktashodhaka</td>
<td>Raktvikar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mutravahasansthan</td>
<td>Ashmaribhedana</td>
<td>Ashmariroga</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prajanansansthan</td>
<td>Garbhanirodhaka</td>
<td>Garbhanirodha</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **General Uses:** Making cosmetic items. Use in making natural colour, dye etc.
- **Maatra (Dose):** Adult dose: Fruit powder – 1 to 3 gm; Children: 500 mg to 750 mg; Contraindication: In pregnancy period before and after major surgeries, over dosing.
- **Formulations:** Kampillakchurn; Kushtadhik churn; Krimighatini vati; Krimikuthar rasa; Dhanvnatar ghrita etc.

**Conclusion**

Data collected from various ayurvedic and modern text with respect to Kampillak plant, its botanical description, classification, vernacular names, synonyms, properties and uses were collected and compiled in systematic manner. This can be useful for research community to get information of Kampillak from ayurvedic prospective.

**References**