ETHNOBOTANICAL STUDY OF MEDICINAL PLANTS USED BY TRADITIONAL USERS TO TREAT URINARY DISEASES IN PETH TALUKA OF NASHIK DISTRICT, MAHARASHTRA, INDIA.

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ABSTRACT: *Ethnobotany is nothing but the study of the ancient plants and their relationship with the people (Jain, 2004). Health is the only pathway for the development of the human being. Traditional medicine encompasses the protection and restoration of health over the years. Herbal medicines include herbs, herbal materials, herbal preparations, and finished herbal products that contain active ingredients, parts of plants, or other plant materials or combinations. Tribals are knowledgeable about the utility of the majority of these plants. In talukas like Surgana, Harsul, Peth, Igatpuri, Trimbakeshwar tribal communities are prominently seen, here the forest is dry deciduous, and scrub. The relationship between the tribals and the forest is immemorable. Tribal means a group with similar ancestors, customs, and traditions. This group is very much bounded to each other. They worship their God, follow the tradition and customs, no matter how is today's world. In the Nashik district Bhil, Katkari, MahadeoKoli, Kokana, Adivasi are the tribal communities. Especially MahadeoKoli and Kokana are the largest community of all. Tribals are considered as the main city of the area. They live in 'Padas' and follow their old traditions. They still believe and trust the plant for treating their illness. Tribals have immense knowledge of the plants and the forest.*

Key Words: *Ethnobotany, Urinary diseases, Acacia ferrugineaDC.,Hibiscus vitifoliusL. Launaeasamentosa(Willd.)Alst.,Thespesia lampas(Cav.)Dalz.&Gibs., Withaniasomnifera(L.)Dunal. PsoraleacorylifoliaL., ClitoriaternateaL., TerminaliacuneataRoth. PhyllanthustrilobusAit.Hort.Kew.,IndigoferaglandulosaWendl. Var.glandulosa*

INTRODUCTION:

Peth village has a forest but the forest is mostly disrupted by human exploitation. But, the place called Karanjali still managed its own way of using traditional medicines. Peth is the smallest taluka of Nashik district. Tribals of this area use plants for their cure. Lakshminarsimhan& Sharma (1991).Tribals worship the forest and use home remedies to cure diseases. Tribals use home remedies for curing their diseases like cough and cold, fever and also to treat their animals they use plants or plant products. At present fifteen talukas of Nashik district are- Sinnar, Trimbak, Peth, Kalwan, Surgana, Igatpuri, Yeola, Nandgaon, Chandwad, Dindori, Deola, Baglan (Satana), Malegaon, and Niphad. From these Peth, Trimbak, Igatpuri, Kalwan, Surgana has tribal areas. Malegaon taluka is the largest in area in the district, occupying 12 percent area of the district, whereas Peth is the smallest taluka having 3.36 percent area followed by Deola having 3.8 percent area remaining talukas having on an average 5 to 9 percent of the total district, Bhadbhade, M.A. (1969–70 to 1988– 89). Ethnobotany is the study of plants and their interrelations with humans. Singh and Khade, (2012-2013 & 2021-22).

The main aim of this study was to record all the useful plants and their medicinal, economical uses to mankind. The main objective of this study was to establish a regional profile of the indigenous knowledge system. Traditionally medicinal plants are much in use to treat various ailments in the tribal areas like- Surgana, Peth, Harsul, Kalwan, Igatpuri, and Trimbakeshwar regions of the Nashik district. Gaikwad&Mali(2012). Every village has a bhagat. Bhagats are very well-known personalities of the village. He gives medicines for all the possible diseases. Even, bhagats believe and spread blind faith among the tribals. . Garud*et al*. (2009) Superstition are also one of the factors spread by the bhagats. People are very strong believers in Bhagats. Few plants are used to treat Urinary diseases. Bagul R.M. (2013), Mali (2012).

Material & Methods:

Field Work: The fieldwork is based on collections and photographs from systematic planning and meticulously exploring the area for gathering various information related to the medicinal uses of plants, distribution, and data related to the computer analysis database. Extensive and intensive exploration every Saturday and Sunday and on other holidays was carried out. All the information collected during outings has

been recorded in the field book. The preparation of medicines from plants and dosages given to the patients has been recorded from the medicine man, vaidya, or tribal bhagats. The methods of preparation of infusions, decoctions, juice and extracts, pastes, pills, powder, oil, etc. have also been recorded.Patil S.H.(2010). Different forest views, exciting places, and close-ups of rare and exciting medicinal plants were taken during outings.

Laboratory Work:

All the collected plants were processed for herbarium by the dry method as per the routine herbarium techniques suggested by Santapau (1955). Specimens were critically examined in the laboratory with floras, mainly Lakshminarsimhan and Sharma (1991), Cooke (1901-1908), Manuals, Monographs, and other available literature for provisional identification. The identification was then confirmed by matching the specimen with authentically identified herbarium sheets at BSI, Pune.

1. *Acacia ferruginea*DC. (Mimosaceae) Pandhrakhair
Flowering &Fruiting: Feb-March.
Distribution: Few in the fields.
Exsiccata: SDS 121 Peth.
Medicinal Uses: Bark is used to treat Urinary disease. A decoction of the dried bark is prepared and given twice daily for 8 days. Dried roots are also used in the treatment of skin infections, leucoderma, and ulcers.

2. *Hibiscus vitifolius*L. (Malvaceae) Van Kapus
Flowering &Fruiting: March-April
Distribution: Abundant
Exsiccata: SDS 05 Peth.
Medicinal Uses: Decoction of dried roots is prepared and a cupful is given twice daily for 7 days. Roots are also used to cure diabetes and jaundice.

3. *Launaeasarmentosa*(Willd.)Alst. (Asteraceae)
Sagarpathari
Flowering &Fruiting: March-November
Distribution: Scarcely seen in the fields.
Exsiccata: SDS 181 Peth.
Medicinal Uses: Plant is used as a diuretic. A decoction of roots is mixed with sugar and given daily for 7 -10 days. The plant is antirheumatic.

4. *Thespesia lampas* (Cav.) Dalz.&Gibs. (Malvaceae) Janglibhendi
Flowering &Fruiting: August-September
Distribution: Common
Exsiccata: SDS 101 Peth
Medicinal Uses: Roots and fruits are used on gonorrhea and syphilis. The paste of roots is used to treat Urinary disorder which is given twice daily for 8 days.

5. *Withaniasomnifera*(L.) Dunal. (Solanaceae) Ashwagandha
Flowering &Fruiting: July-January
Distribution: In the fields and cultivated.
Exsiccata: SDS 25 Peth
Medicinal Uses: Plant has various benefits in the health industry. Roots and fruits are used for various medicinal purposes like to treat stress, anxiety, diabetes, skin diseases, arthritis, also used in Alzheimer's treatment, in Cancer treatment. In Urinary diseases, the decoction of roots is prepared and given twice daily for 8 days.

6. *Psoraleacorylifolia*L. (Papilionaceae) Bawachi
Flowering &Fruiting: Dec.-March
Distribution: In the fields and cultivated.
Exsiccata: SDS 112 Peth
Medicinal Uses: Seeds are made into a paste and given twice daily for 8-10 days as a diuretic. The plant is also used to treat psoriasis and leucoderma.

7. *Clitoriaternatea*L. (Fabaceae) Gokarni
Flowering &Fruiting: Sept- April
Distribution: In the fields.
Exsiccata: SDS 128 Peth
Medicinal Uses: Seeds are crushed into a paste and given twice daily for 8 days as a diuretic.

8. *Terminaliacuneata*Roth. (Combretaceae) Arjun
Flowering &Fruiting: Sept-Nov.
Distribution: In the fields and valley.
Exsiccata: SDS 25
Medicinal Uses: The dried bark decoction is given twice daily for 7-8 days as a diuretic. The dried bark is also used to treat Leucorrhoea. The bark is used to administer joint pains, stomach aches.
9. *Phyllanthustrilobus*Ait.Hort.Kew. (Fabaceae) Tiwas
Flowering &Fruiting: June-August
Distribution: In the valley
Exsiccata: SDS 89 Peth
Medicinal Uses: A Decoction of plant is given twice daily for 8-10 days to treat Urinary disorder. Leaf powder is used to treat Jaundice.
10. *Indigoferaglandulosa*Wendl. Var.*glandulosa*(Fabaceae) Buikarvi
Flowering &Fruiting: Oct.-Dec.
Distribution: In the fields and cultivated.
Exsiccata: SDS 55 Peth
Medicinal Uses: A Decoction of plant is given twice daily for 7-8 days. The plant is also used as a tonic.

RESULT:
The 'Bhagats' (medicine-man) have a stronghold on the tribal people. It is necessary to explore their knowledge. These plants are used to treat various diseases effectively. Tribal people have been using these plants immemorial for the treatment of disease. They trust Bhagats or medicine-man rather than any medical treatment.

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