SOME IMPORTANCE WILD MEDICINAL HERB UTILIZATION OF PATALKOT, CHHINDWARA DISTRICT, MADHYA-PrADESH, INDIA – A CASE STUDY

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ABSTRACT: Plants represent a constant interest as sources of novel foods and medicines. Plant derived medicines have been part of the traditional health care for many years. Worldwide, developing countries rely heavily on the use of traditional medicines as their primary source of health care and building materials. Other plants are important sources of traditional beverages (including herbal indigenous tea plants) and livestock feed. Among these many uses of plants, this study will emphasize medicinal plants, edible fruits, herbal teas and sustainable strategies of plant exploitation. Given this growing global demand for plants as sources of novel foods and medicines, there is need to document indigenous and threatened species of economic value.

KEYWORDS: Wild medicinal herb, Patalkot, Chhindwara District, Madhya – Pradesh.

INTRODUCTION: “Patalkot” situated in the hilly block ‘Tamia’ of Chhindwara district, has acquired great importance because of its Geographical and Scenic beauty. Patalkot is a lovely land scape located at a depth of 1200-1500 feet in a valley. Because of the great depth at which it is located this place is christened as ‘Patalkot’ (Patal means very deep, in Sanskrit). When one looks down the place sitting at the top of the valley, the placed looks like a horse shoe in shape. People believe it as the entrance to “Patal”. There is one more belief that after worshipping ‘Lord Shiva’ Prince ‘Meghnath’ had gone to Patal-lok through this place only. People say that this place was ruled by in 18th and 19th century and that there was a long tunnel connecting this place to ‘Pachmarhi’ in Hoshngabad District. The place is spread over an area from 22.24° to 22.29° North. 78.43° to 78.50° East. The place is located at a distance of 62 Km. from the district headquarters in the North-West direction, and 23 km. from Tamia in North-East direction.

METHODOLOGY: Present work is based on the result of intensive survey, collection, and study of plant species of Patalkot, Chhindwara District. The field work has been conducted following the suggestion of Santapau (1955). The field trips were arranged 4-6 times in a month, in such a way so as to cover all parts of the areas and to collect all plants in flowering and fruiting stages. Field observations were recorded in note book. Observation includes information on habitat, habit, size of the plant, leaf, colour, variation of the flowers, scent of the flower association etc. Local name were also noted. To illustrate the range of variation of the plants, 5-6 specimens from different localities have been collected, for each species. During collection following precautions have been taken. As far as possible specimens were collected on a clear dry day and were studied and examined as early as possible at the end of the day of collection. Whole plants were collected in case of plant, small piece of twig with leaves; flowers were taken for the preparation of herbarium specimens.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION:
The present work in Patalkot Chhindwara district of 19 plant species belonging to 12 families have been documented of some importance wild medicinal herb utilization of Patalkot Chhindwara district for curing various ailments such as sexual diseases, rickets, urinary diseases, skin diseases and ailments related to easy delivery, scorpion bite, digestive system, respiratory system, asthma and liver complaints.

Species enumeration:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S. N.</th>
<th>Local Name</th>
<th>Scientific name</th>
<th>Family</th>
<th>Traditional Knowledge</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Akandi, Kadupatha</td>
<td><em>Cissampelos pareira</em> L. var. <em>hirsuta</em> Buch - Ham. ex DC.</td>
<td>Menispermaceae</td>
<td>Powder of root and leaves of Kadupatha used to treat fever, diarrhea, diabetes, wound and also used for easy delivery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Gulancha, Gulel, Gurbel</td>
<td><em>Tinospora cordifolia</em> (Willd.) Miers ex Hook.</td>
<td>Menispermaceae</td>
<td>The stem, root and leaves of Gulancha is used in the form of juice and decoction to treat irregular fever, chronic fever, jaundice, vomiting, acidity and skin diseases.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Bharband, Pilikatari</td>
<td><em>Argemone mexicana</em> L.</td>
<td>Papaveraceae</td>
<td>The root in the form of powder and latex of Bharband is used against small pox, skin diseases, gonorrhea and rabies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Ardanda</td>
<td><em>Cleome gynandra</em> L.</td>
<td>Capparaceae</td>
<td>Root and bark decoction is given to treat fever, stomach pain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Hulhul</td>
<td><em>Cleome viscosa</em> L.</td>
<td>Capparaceae</td>
<td>The seeds, leaves and root of Hulhul is used in the form of juice and powder to treat earache, arthritis, indigestion, abdominal pain, tumours, worms, skin diseases and fever</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>Ratanpuras, Varuna</td>
<td><em>Hybanthus enneaspermus</em> L.</td>
<td>Violaceae</td>
<td>The root is used to treat urinary affection and bowel complaints of children.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>Goal bhaji, Kulfia</td>
<td><em>Portulaca oleracea</em> L.</td>
<td>Portulacaceae</td>
<td>Goal bhaji used in jaundice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>Mushk dana, Kasturi bhindi</td>
<td><em>Abelmoschus moschatus</em> Medic.</td>
<td></td>
<td>The seeds of Mushk dana are used to treat cough, asthma, bronchiolitis, burning sensation, calculi, Naturally &amp; planted pectoral diseases, vomiting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.</td>
<td>Kanghi</td>
<td><em>Abutilon indicum</em> (L.) Sweet.,</td>
<td></td>
<td>Leaves locally applied to boils, ulcer, and used to painful parts, toothache</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
11. Bhiunli | *Sida rhombifolia* L. | Stem bark paste is applied to treat piles. Seed powder is applied to treat wounds.

12. Banokra, Adhosiri, Agira | *Xanthium indicum* Koenig | Plant decoction is used to treat malaria, leucorrhoea and urinary tract infections. Leaf paste is applied to treat wounds.

13. Panjari ka path | *Anisochilus carnosus* (L.f.) Wall. ex Benth. | Leaf juice is given internally to treat liver disorder, dropsy, cough and cold.

14. Pudina | *Mentha spicata* L. | Leaf decoction is giver to treat fever.

15. Jivak | *Malaxis acuminata* Sm. | The green swollen stem base covered by brown scales is used to treat aemetemesis, fever, and seminal weakness, burning sensation.

16. Ghee- Kunwar | *Aloe vera* (L.)Burm.f., | Fleshy leaf pulp is mixed with coconut oil and applied to treat black patches on the skin; leaves are warmed and the pulp is applied to treat burn injuries.

17. Dashmool, Satawar | *Asparagus racemosus* Willd., | The root is used in, piles, hoarseness of voice, cough, biliary coil, gout, defects of vision, poisoning, disorders of female genital tract and erysipelas.


19. Kanchara | *Commelina benghalensis* L., | Leaf paste is given to treat dysentery and fever.

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