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## “ETHNOBOTANICAL STUDY OF BARSHI TAHASIL (MAHARASHTRA)”



Maruti Krishna Shahane<sup>1</sup> and Dr. V.D. Devarkar<sup>2</sup>

### INTRODUCTION:

Traditional medicine still remains the main resource for majority (70-80%) of people in developing countries for treating health problems, particularly because medicinal plants are accessible and cheap. Ethno botany may be defined as an anthropocentric approach to botany and is essentially concerned with gathering information on plants and their use. Ethno botanical survey is one of the reliable sources to natural and synthetic drug discovery. The knowledge on medicinal plants usage is very often passed on from one generation to the next only verbally & most of this knowledge has not been documented. Moreover due to deforestation, environmental degradation, migrations of traditional medicinal healers to other jobs cause rapid erosion of this rich knowledge. Plants are significant sources of medicines that are used in the treatment of various categories of human diseases. Historically all medicinal preparations were derived from plants, whether in the simple form of plant parts or the more complex form of crude extracts, mixtures, etc.

Infancy, a period marked by the most rapid physical growth & development a person's

### Abstract

*Inventory was under taken from last 3 years i.e. between 2011 to 2014. It was continuously screened & documented the use of traditional medicinal plant from Barshi Taluka from Solapur district of Maharashtra, India. Present work investigated the total 12 species were found which are used as traditional medicine for the treatment of various diseases and commonly occurs in human life.*

**Keywords :** Ethno botany, Barshi Maharashtra .

### Short Profile

Maruti Krishna Shahane is a Research Student of Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathwada University, Aurangabad.

life. The major causes of poor health & premature death among children in the developing world are not rare or exotic diseases. Millions of children in developing countries die each year from common illnesses such as malaria, measles, mumps, convulsion, chicken pox, small-pox, cholera, whooping cough, diarrhea, pneumonia, New borns die from delivery complications,

cold, infections & tetanus.

### STUDY AREA:

Barshi taluka is one of the 11 tahasils of Solapur district in the Indian State of Maharashtra. This tahasil occupies the Northeast corner of the district and is bordered by Osmanabad district to the north and east, Madha taluka to the west, Mohol taluka to the southwest and North Solapur taluka to the south. The tahasil headquarters is located at Barshi, which is also the largest city in the tahasil. Geographically Solapur is located between 17.10 to 18.32 degrees north latitude and 74.42 to 76.15 degrees east longitude. The district is situated on the south east fringe of

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<sup>2</sup>Guide

Maharashtra State and lies entirely in the Bhima and Seena basins, whole of the district is drain either by bhima river or its tributories.

#### MATERIALS AND METHODS :

Investigations were carried out since from last three years from present studied area regularly. The information was collected from local peoples, medicine man, elder informants, practitioners, vaidus, dhangars, guravas, farmers & through interviews. The local names, doses of administration have been documented. The specimens were collected and voucher specimens have been identified.

#### RESULTS AND DISCUSSION :

Present study gather ethno botanical information on total 12 flowering plant species are useful as traditional medicine. Most of the species are herbaceous followed by shrubs and trees. Top disorders are more than one species as fever, cough, asthma.

Various plant parts like root stem, leaves, bark, fruit and seeds are employed in the preparing medicinal recipes. They are used in the form of paste, extracts, decoction, powder & juice. Smoke & fumes of plant parts also reported. In the preparation of dosage, either single plant part or a combination of plant parts part or a combination of plant part was used, in some cases two or more different plants is also administered some domestic substances are also added in the recipes like honey, deshi ghee, oil, milk, curd, sugar, jaggery and salts. Cow urine, cow milk and goats milk is also reported to add in recipes for fast and good result. These domestic substances added to increase the efficiency of the drug present in plant part or to accept recipe by patient due to their sweetness or acts as preservative agent. Most of the ailments such as stomach ache, sunstroke, jaundice, foot cracks, swelling, diabetes, indigestion can be cured by oral administration & some can be cured by topical application.

#### ENUMERATION :

The Botanical Names of traditional medicinal plants along with their respective family names & their local names written in brackets, then medicinal uses and their doses were documented.

1) *Acacia nilotica* : Mimosaceae (Babhul) :

a) Leucorrhoea- fresh bark juice (10-15 ml). in cup water taken once in early morning for a week.

b) Stomach ache- Powder of single seed taken once with water.

2) *Amaranthus spinosus* Amaranthaceae (Katemath)

a) Sunstroke - sharbat made by using fresh leaf juice with coriandrum & jeera seed powder taken twice or thrice a day.

b) Foot cracks- Leaf juice / paste applied over cracks twice a day for 2-3 weeks.

3) *Argemone mexicana* : Papaveraceae (Bilayat).

a) Jaundice- Root extract (3-5 ml) taken orally once in early morning for a week.

b) Swelling – Root paste applied on affected part twice for a day.

4) *Catharanthus roseus*: Apocynaceae (Sadaphuli)

a) Diabetes – One leaf eaten early in the morning for 15-20 days and again repeated after interval of 15-20 days.

5) *Datura innoxia* Solanaceae (Dhotra)

a) Dog bite – 1gm seed powder with 5 gm root paste taken in milk.

b) Swellings – Fresh leaf juice or paste applied over swellings twice for 2-3. days.

6) *Ficus benghalensis*- Moraceae (Wad)

a) Tonsils- stem latex subbed on swelling twice daily for a week.

b) Jaundice- Prop root juice (50 ml) taken once a day for 3 days.

7) *Ficus racemosa* : Moraceae (Umber).

a) Indigestion – 100 ml fresh tender root juice taken twice a day.

b) Small px – Root liquid (50 ml) taken daily for 2-3 days.

- 8) *Gymnema sylvestre* : Asclepidaceae (Afumari)  
a) Snake bite – Root (3 inch) taken orally once.  
b) Diabetes – One tea spoon dry leaf powder taken orally once a day.
- 9) *Lantana camera* : Verbanaceae (Ghaneri)  
a) Piles – leaves (10-12) eaten once in early morning for 10 days.  
b) Wounds – Leaf paste applied over wounds for 2-3 days or till cure.
- 10) *Semecarpus anacardium* Anacardiaceae (Biba)  
a) Rheumatism – flowers (3-4) taken orally twice a day for a week.  
b) Wounds – Seed oil applied on wounds by physical means.
- 11) *Tinospora cordifolia*, Menispermaceae (Gulvel)-  
a) Jaundice – Stern decoction (50 ml) taken once for 2-3 days.  
b) Weakness – One leaf of *Tinospora* Crushed with 10 leaves of *Ocimum tanuiflorum* in 100 ml of water, taken once in early morning for a month.
- 12) *Vangueria spinosa* Rubiaceae (Aliv)  
a) Headache – Seed without seed coat taken twice for 2-3 days.  
b) Scabies – Stern or branch tumour paste applied on affected part till cure.



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#### CONCLUSION :

Ethno botanical study and their medicinal practices about their indigenous knowledge of plants along with uses were documented in present study & revealed ethno-pharmacological resources.

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