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Review Article

COMPARATIVE CORRELATION OF VARIOUS PHARMACOLOGICAL SCREENING OF DALBERGIA SISSOO ROXB. WITH CLASSICAL DOCUMENTATION IN AYURVEDA: A REVIEW

Janki Lukhi^{1*}, Dilip Jani², Neha Parmar³

¹3rd Year PG Scholar, Post Graduate Department of *Dravyaguna*, Government Ayurveda College, Vadodara, Gujarat, India

²Professor & HOD, Post Graduate Department of *Dravyaguna*, Government Ayurveda College, Vadodara, Gujarat, India ³Asst. Professor, Post Graduate Department of *Dravyaguna*, Government Ayurveda College, Vadodara, Gujarat, India *Corresponding Author Email: jankilukhi@gmail.com

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ABSTRACT

Shisham (Shimshapa) is a medium sized tree which is used in the Indian tradition and for medicinal purpose since *Vedic* period. It is useful in making furniture, ships and other ritual purposes due to its compact firmness and long holding capacity. As medicinal uses, it has vast therapeutically activities documented in many *Ayurvedic* treatises and also observed to be practiced in the routine classical Ayurveda practice. This beauty of this medicinal plant has attracted many researchers including pharmacologist, biotechnologists, microbiologist, etc. to work on it and to explore its hidden capacities. In the current work, efforts have been made to amalgamate the traditional Ayurveda knowledge of the plant in co-relation with the various pharmacological screening. This kind of effort will help to understand the medicinal plant more precisely and correctly. It will also help to screen another unexplored property of the plant for academic as well as research purpose.

Keywords: Ayurveda, Dalbergia sissoo Roxb., Pharmacological screening, Shimshapa

INTRODUCTION

The first reference of Shisham which is known as Shimshapa in Sanskrit observed in Rugaveda¹ where it is expressed for Yagnakarma (procedure to conduct environment purification). Later, every traditional text of Ayurveda has described the tree for various clinical applications. The Latin name of Shisham Dalbergia sissoo Roxb and belongs to fabaceae family. Its useful parts are wood, stembark, leaves and roots. Out of all clinical applications, the medicinal plant was mainly quoted for its activity on wound, skin diseases and urinary track system. However, the conceptual aspect of the plant is also helpful to apply clinically in other diseases where an Ayurveda principle is applicable. Conceptually, the plant has be quoted to have Katu (Pungent), Tikta (Bitter), Kashava (Astringent) taste, Ushna Veerya (potency)². Hence, conceptually the plant will also be useful for all those diseases where these concepts are applicable. Apart from the direct references and conceptual feedback, the plant is also explained as a therapeutic application (Amayeek Prayoga) in many diseases with the details of its actual

application. Being a very easily available and easy to identify the plant has attracted many scholars to work on it. As of now, there are more than 13 Pharmacological screening were conducted on this plant. In most of the cases the plant shows a significant activity and exerts positive impression for its action. It will be very interesting and justifiable that most of the activity documented in the traditional literature were observed to be get validated by the current pharmacological screening method. The said kinds of activity not only justify the correct *Ayurvedic* documentation but also give an insight to study the basic tools used by the traditional healers to correctly document the pharmacological activity. As there were no technological gadgets, laboratories, statistical methodologies, micro-fined experiments, etc in olden days, despite of that the healers were successful to impress the present generation by claiming the actions.

The comparative observations to correlate the pharmacological screening of *Shimshapa* among conventional methods and *Ayurveda* documentations are mentioned.

PHARMACOLOGICAL ACTIVITY	DIRECT OR INDIRECT	AYURVEDIC INTRPRETATION: AN APPLIED THERAPEUTIC
	CLASSICAL REFERENCES	FEATURE
Anti-parasitic effect: An anthelmintic activity of ethanolic extract ³ of stem bark of	Krimighna ^{4,5,6,7,8,9}	Being Tikta-Katurasa and
Dalbergia sissoo was against Indian earthworms pheretimaa posthuman & hematode	_	having Katuvipaka, it can
Ascardigali. A significant decrease in egg mass weight & reproductive intreated ticks		cover all the range of parasite
along with an increase in percent inhibition of oviposition.		growth.
Anti-inflammatory effect: In hexane- methanol extracts ³ of <i>D. sissoo</i> and okanin was	Shothaghna ^{10,11,12,13}	Shimshapa has Shophaghna
by carrageenan induced paw oedema in rats. The methanolic extract showed	_	properties also have a Ushna
maximum activity. D. sissoo significantly decreased the writhing movements in mice		Veerya & Kaphaghna action, it
in acetic acid – induced writhing test.		can perform the said actions
Analgesic effect: An ethanol extract ³ of the leaves of <i>D. sissoo</i> showed both	Shoolaghna ^{11,13}	Vata Dosha is the cause for
peripheral and central analgesic activity in a dose dependant manner.it showed	_	pain. Shimshapa is Ushna

significant analgesic activity as evidenced by the increase in reaction time to the pain stimulus		<i>Veerya</i> & also <i>Vata Kapha</i> <i>Nashaka</i> , hence it can rule out the pain.
Antidiabetic effect : The ethanol, ethyl acetate, n-butanol & petroleum ether extracts of the leaves of <i>D. sissoo</i> were investigated for antidiabetic activity in alloxan induced diabetic rats. The extracts produced a significant antidiabetic effect on first, third, fifth and seventh days at 300mg/kg body weight.	Mehaghna ^{4,5,6,7,14,15,16}	The direct reference is <i>Mehagna</i> (a Diabetic condition). Hence possible to exert the action
Dermatological effect: The result indicated that ethylacetate extract of bark of <i>D. sisso was non-toxic increased melanin activity</i> . The bark of <i>D. sissoo</i> stimulates B16F10 melanogenesis at very low concentrations in the treatment of Hypopigmentation disease, such as vitiligo ³ .	Kushthaghna ^{2,4,6,8,12,14,17}	The direct reference is <i>as</i> <i>Kushthahara</i> and <i>Shwitrahara</i> (a skin disease and leucoderma). Hence possible to exert the action
Osteogenic effect: The effect of Dalbergiphenol, the neoflavonoid isolated from heartwood <i>was</i> evaluated in bone loss in ovariectomized Mice. The result indicated. The leaves & pods extract ³ of <i>D. sissoo</i> showed anti resorptive and bone forming effect. The positive skeletal effect attributed to active molecules presents in the extract of <i>D. sissoo</i> .	Balya ^{10,13}	The indirect actions like Balya, Vranahara and Shophahara are responsible along with Kashaya Rasa
Anti-microbial effect: The methanol extracts ³ were exhibited good anti-bacterial activity proved towards various pathogens, Gram positive & Gram-negative bacteria. D. sissoo was evaluated for its antibacterial potential against eight human pathogenic bacterial strains.	Krimighna ^{4,5,6,7,8,9}	Shimshapa is documented strongly against Krimi along with Dushta Vrana hence capable to cover maximum range of microbial growth.
Antioxidant effect: The ethanol extract ³ of the bark of D . <i>sissoo</i> was screened for lipid peroxidation inhibitory. The bark extracts exhibited significant antioxidant activity.	Shramapaha ¹³ , Balya ^{10,13}	It is having <i>Shramnahara</i> (relieves tiredness) and <i>Balya</i> (provides proper strength)
Anti-ulcer effect: The anti-ulcer effect of <i>D. sissoo</i> stem bark methanol extract ³ was studied against the diclofenac sodium – induced ulceration in rat. There was significant decrease in offensive factor like free & total acidity, pepsin, with significant increase in the defensive factor like total carbohydrate content.	VataPittaghna ^{9,13}	Aggravation of <i>Pitta Dosha</i> is responsible for ulcer formation. Hence, <i>Shimshapa</i> is useful as it has <i>Tikta</i> , <i>Kashaya Rasa</i> and <i>Sheetaveerya</i> along <i>Vata</i> - <i>Pittashamak</i> property.
Anti-diarrhoeal effect: The ether, ethanol and aqueous ³ extracts of <i>D. sissoo</i> bark were studied for anti-diarrhoeal properties in experimental diarrhoea induced by castor oil. The ether extract showed significant and dose dependent anti-diarrhoeal activity.	Ateesaraghna ¹⁴	There is direct reference of the drug on anti-diarrhoeal activity
Cardiac effect: The effect of alcoholic extract ³ of <i>D. sissoo</i> leaf extract was studied in isoproterenol induced myocardial injury in rats. Histopathology also showed significant improvement in herat tissue.	Vranahara, Shokhahara and Medohara ^{4,5,6,7,14,15,16}	Vranahara (wound healing), Shophahara (reducing inflammation) and Medohara (resolving extra fat) all in total can act as cardioprotective
CNS effect: The ethanolic leaf extracts ³ of <i>D. sissoo</i> attenuated behavioural alternations, oxidative damage, mitochondrial dysfunction, and striatal/hippocampus damage in 3-nitropropionic acid treated rats.it significantly enhance the learning and memory activities against the scopolamine induced dementia and significant decrease in acetylcholinesterase level in brain in animals	Vataghna ^{13,19}	Ushna Veerya & Vata Shamaka actions are able to control most of psychological activities.
Reproductive effect: Anti fertility effects of <i>D. sissoo</i> was investigated and shown in male mice. The anti-spermatogenic efficacy of ethanol extract ³ of stem bark in healthy fertile men. Significant reduction in epidymal sperm motility, viability, & serum level of testosterone.	Kapshaghna ^{2,7,16}	Katu, Tikta, Kashaya Rasa & Katu Vipaka decrease the Shukra dhatu & also having Garbhapatini action responsible to exert male infertility. The Shukra is the common concept in male and female

DISCUSSION

Ayurveda science is *Nitya* and *Shashwata* and hence the documented data of the herb will be correct in any situation. However, its application and tracing-out its mechanism may differ from expert to expert. Its principles, medicines, plans of treatments are directly subject to the ideology of Ayurveda. The co-relation with current Pharmacological methods may be correct but not completely validates Ayurveda actions. But it can be surely commenting that the properties and activities said by the Acharyas thousands of years ago can be carried out by the researches of today's era too. The Documentation of *Shimshapa* will help us to design the screening of action. Yet many activities like *Medohara* (Anti-cholesterol, anti-obesity, etc), *Daha Hara* (Hepatoprotective, Nuralgia, etc), *Vami* (Anti-emetic), *Shosha* (Anti-tubercular, etc), *Basti Ruk* (Lithotriptic, etc), *Pinasa*

(activities for ENT diseases), Kandu (Anti-itching, etc), Varnya (skin toner), Ruchikara, Ajeerna, Dipya (Carminative, Appatizer), Garbha Patini (abortificient, contraceptive) are not experimentally explored through Pharmacological methods. However, the activities which were explored through screening can more precisely be screened considering overall action of Shimshapa as per Ayurveda concept. For Example, Shimshapa is screened for anti-diabetic activity. But according to Ayurveda, it is not only controlling the Blood Glucose level, but also helps in treating complication like Diabetic dermatopathy (due to Meha-Kushthahara), Diabetic Nephropathy (Meha-Basti), Non-healing wounds (Meha-vrana), Diabetic foot amputations (Meha-Dushta Vrana), etc. The amalgamation of Ayurveda and conventional system can useful for applied application of both the systems. Utilization of experimental tools and conceptual Ayurveda aspects will help to strengthen the medical science.

CONCLUSION

In this study, *Ayurvedic sutras* were correlated to the conducted pharmacological screening of herb. Proper understanding of Ayurveda principles and its micro-division will help to select the proper experimental model for screening. This activity will reduce unwanted expenditure on screening and beneficial for more accurate results. Moreover, if clubbed with the drug-discovery methodologies, there are enormous chances for new drug identification or drug-delivery system.

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