

## MEDICINAL PLANTS USED BY GOND TRIBE OF JAUNPUR DISTRICT, UTTAR PRADESH, INDIA

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An extensive survey was made in Jaunpur district of Uttar Pradesh, India, for the medicinal flora used by Gond tribe. The medicinal uses of 32 important plant species by these tribal people based on the field survey have been reported with a view to demonstrate the richness of floral diversity of the area and also the indigenous knowledge of the people of that area.

**Keyword** - Floral diversity; Medicinal plants; Tribal people.

### Introduction

Jaunpur, a district of Uttar Pradesh is situated 25° .24' , 26° .12' , North south to 82° .7' , 84° .5' east west covering and area of 3602.66 sq. km. Gonds are the main tribal inhabitants of Jaunpur district. These people still practice herbal drugs for the treatment of different ailments. In India work on ethnobotany has been done by many workers<sup>1-13</sup> in different areas, still there are several tribal pockets where an extensive survey for the listing of valuable drug is required.

### Methodology

For the purpose of collection and documentation of ethnomedicinal plant at different place of Jaunpur district, several field trips were conducted during October 2010 - October 2011. The field surveys were done with the help of local tribal people and local vaidys in order to identify plant species of medicinal importance. The medicinal values of these plants were recorded with the help of local vaidys and also by local tribal inhabitants of the area. The plants were botanically identified with the help of flora<sup>2</sup>.

### Observation

The medicinal plants were enumerated alphabetically with their botanical names, family, local name and medicinal uses.

1. *Adhatoda vesica* Nees (= *Justicia adhatoda* L.)  
Local name - Arusa  
Family - Acanthaceae  
Medicinal uses-leaves are used for the treatment of bronchial troubles.
2. *Achyranthes aspera* (L.)  
Local name-Chirchiri or Latjeera  
Family-Amaranthaceae  
Medicinal uses-The root paste is applied externally on scorpion and other poisonous insect bites.
3. *Aegle marmelos* (L.)  
Local name-Bel  
Family-Rutaceae  
Medicinal uses-Fruits are used in diarrhoea
4. *Amaranthus spinosus* (L.)  
Local name-Koteli Chaulai  
Family-Amaranthaceae  
Medicinal uses-Decoction of roots are used to cure gonorrhoea
5. *Acacia nilotica* (L.)  
Local name-Babul  
Family-Mimosaceae  
Medicinal uses-Bark, gum, leaves, flowers and fruits are extremely useful in the treatment of pulmonary and bronchial diseases diarrhoea, piles and gonorrhoea
6. *Azadiracta indica* (L.)  
Local name-Neem  
Family-Meliaceae  
Medicinal uses-Bark and leaves are used in many skin diseases such as eczema, itching, pruritis, Psoriasis, leaves are antiseptic, blood purifier.
7. *Asparagus racemosus* (Willd.)  
Local name-Shatawar  
Family-Liliaceae  
Medicinal uses-Tuberous roots are useful in the treatment of epilepsy; hysteria, leucorrhoea and rickets. Roots are given to increase lactation in women and cattles.
8. *Asphodelus tenuifolius* (Cav.)  
Local name-Banpiyazi  
Family-Liliaceae  
Medicinal uses-Seeds are orally given in urinary

- troubles.
9. *Bambusa bambos* (L.)  
Local name-Bans  
Family-Poaceae  
Medicinal uses-Leaves are given to female cattle such as buffalo and cow after delivery to relieve uterus pain.
  10. *Bauhinia variegata* (L.)  
Local name-Kachnar  
Family-Caesalpiniaceae  
Medicinal uses-Bark powder is used in cough, diarrhea and skin diseases. Roots are used as antidote for snake bite.
  11. *Boerhavia diffusa* (L.)  
Local name-Punarnava or Gadahpunna  
Family-Nyctaginaceae  
Medicinal uses-Root are used in anaemia, jaundice and asthma. Root powder is given with milk to cure spermatorrhoea.
  12. *Butea monosperma* (Lamk)  
Local name-Dhak or Palas  
Family-Fabaceae  
Medicinal uses-Decoction of bark is given in dysentery. The gum is given mixed with curd to cure diarrhea and dysentery.
  13. *Calotropis procera* (Ait)  
Local name-Madar  
Family-Asclepiadaceae  
Medicinal uses-Latex (Milky Juice) is used in scorpion bite. It is used in the treatment of Rheumatism, dropsy and heprosy.
  14. *Cassia fistula* (L.)  
Local name-Amaltas  
Family-Fabaceae  
Medicinal uses-Fruit pulp is given in gastric troubles.
  15. *Cassia tora* (L.)  
Local name-Chakwar, Pawar  
Family-Fabaceae  
Medicinal uses-Leaves are useful in skin disease. seed powder is taken as coffee for skin diseases.
  16. *Chenopodium album* (L.)  
Local name-Bathua  
Family-Chenopodiaceae  
Medicinal uses-Cooked aerial part is taken to cure indigestion and spleen disorder, whole aerial part of plant is laxative and iron rich
  17. *Chlorophytum tuberosum* (L.)  
Local name-Safed Musali  
Family-Amaryllidaceae  
Medicinal uses-In Ayurved, it is equivalent to the shilajeet. Roots are used to remove weakness.
  18. *Convolvulus microphyllus* (L.)  
Local name-Shankhpushpi  
Family-Convolvulaceae  
Medicinal uses-Whole plant is useful. It is used as brain tonic. Cure high blood pressure and loss of memory
  19. *Delbergia sissoo* (L.)  
Local name-Sheesham  
Family-Papilionaceae  
Medicinal uses-Leaf juice mixed with sugar is taken in leucorrhoea and diabetes
  20. *Eclipta prostrata* (L.)  
Local name-Bhangra or Bhringraj  
Family-Asteraceae  
Medicinal uses-Juice mixed with milk is used in chronic fever. It is used in jaundice, enlargement of liver and spleen.
  21. *Emblia officinalis* (Gaertn. Syn. *Phyllanthus emblica*)  
Local name-Awala  
Family-Euphorbiaceae  
Medicinal uses-Fruit is maximum source of vitamin C. It is used in leucorrhoea.
  22. *Euphorbia hirta* (L.)  
Local name-Dudhi  
Family-Euphorbiaceae  
Medicinal uses-It is given in leucorrhoea.
  23. *Madhuca indica* (L.)  
Local name-Mahua  
Family-Sapotaceae  
Medicinal uses-Dried flowers paste is applied externally to cure Scorpion bite.
  24. *Nyctanthes arbortristis* (L.)  
Local name-Harsingar  
Family-Nyctanthaceae  
Medicinal uses-Decoction of leaves are used in the treatment of Gout and chronic fever.
  25. *Ocimum sanctum* (L.)  
Local name -Tulsi  
Family -Lamiaceae  
Medicinal uses-The leaves are used in the treatment of cold and cough.
  26. *Phyllanthus niruri* (L.)  
Local name-Bhumi Awala  
Family-Euphorbiaceae  
Medicinal uses-Whole plant is used in the treatment of jaundice.
  27. *Ricinus communis* (L.)  
Local name-Rendi or Arand

Family-Euphorbiaceae

Medicinal uses-Milky seed paste is applied externally on the swollen portion in the gout. Decoction of root mixed with honey is taken in gout. Seed juice mixed with milk is given in the sciatica.

28. *Solanum nigrum* (L.)

Local name-Mokoy

Family -Solanaceae

Medicinal uses-It is diuretic and cardiac tonic. Decoction of whole plant is taken in jaundice; Enlargement of liver and dropsy.

29. *Sphaeranthus indicus* (L.)

Local name-Mundibuti

Family-Asteraceae

Medicinal uses-The paste of floral head is applied externally to cure gout. Root powder is given in the piles.

30. *Tephrosia Purpurea* (L.)

Local name-Sharpunkha

Family-Fabaceae

Medicinal uses-It is used to cure enlargement of liver and spleen diseases. Decoction of root is used in the fever.

31. *Terminalia arjuna* (Roxb.) W & A.

Local name-Arjun

Family-Combretaceae

Medicinal uses-Bark powder is used in the treatment of high blood pressure. Decoction of stem bark along with goat milk is given in dysentery.

32. *Withania somnifera* (L.) Dunal

Local name-Asgandh or Ashwagandha

Family-Solanaceae

Medicinal uses-It is used for the treatment of Rheumatic pain, inflammation of joints. It remove all kind of weakness. Root powder mixed with equal quantity of sugar is given in the gout.

**Result and Discussion**

A total of thirty two plant species belonging to twenty six families used for the treatment of different ailments or diseases by the tribal people mainly Gond tribe of Jaunpur

district have been recorded. Due to the effect of modern civilization the indigenous knowledge of Gond tribes are gradually disappearing day by day. Therefore, it is necessary to document the indigenous knowledge of useful plants and their therapeutic uses.

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