

Traditional Medicinal Uses of Neem in Human Life

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Abstract: *Neem is very important plant belonging to Meliaceae and Botanical name is Azadirachta indica is derived from the Persian, Azad means "Free" dirakht means "Tree". Hence it literally means "the free tree of India". This plant is very important which is medicinal property and therefore, commercially exploitable. In Ancient period it is also used in the treatment of Unani, Ayurveda, Homeopathic medicine, therefore considered as cynosure of modern medicine. It is now considered as a valuable source of unique natural products for development of industrial products. The use of traditional medicine and medical plants in most developing countries, as a normative basis for the maintenance of good health, has been widely observed. In the last century approximately 130 pharmaceutical products discovered based on the information obtained from the traditional scientist and physician. The importance of Neem tree has been recognized by the US National Academy of sciences, and publish a report in 1992, entitled 'Neem -a tree for solving global problems' Neem used to development of new drugs from medicinal plants and because of these facts the domain market for plant derived chemicals, pharmaceutical, fragrances, flavours and colour ingredients. The main purpose of this paper was to evaluate medicinal applications of Neem in human life.*

Keywords: Neem, Meliaceae, Azadirachta indica, Pharmaceutical

I. INTRODUCTION

Neem is most important tree found wild and often cultivated in India and a sacred gift of nature. Neem tree is mainly cultivated in the Indian subcontinent, Neem is a member of the mahogany family, Meliaceae. The height of the tree is about 12m to 2.75m with spreading branches. Bark is dark grey and rough, leaves are green in colour, bluntly serrate and alternate. The flowers are white, having a scented odour especially at night. Its fruit is smooth, oblong and small in size and called, Nimboli. Unripe fruit is green and bitter in taste while the ripe is yellow in colour and somewhat sweetish in taste.

Neem provides shades, ornamental look, shelter belt, fuel wood and construction material and also helps in degraded land reclamation and soil conservation activities. Neem has been used extensively by humankind to treat various ailments before the availability of written records which recorded the beginning of history. Since prehistoric times, Neem has been used by humankind (Venugopalana, 2013). The Neem tree is an incredible plant that has been declared the "Tree of the 21st century" by the United Nations (United Nations Environment /programme, 2018). The US National Academy of Science published a report in 1992 entitled "Neem: A tree for solving global problems" (National Academy of Science, 1992).

II. METHODOLOGY

The databases used to get information from journals and articles or google. For the search primordial and current literature author visited Library.

A) Medicinal uses of Neem in Humankind

a) Antiviral

Galhardi et al. studied the in vitro antiviral property of Azadirachta indica polysaccharides for poliovirus. The research of Xu et al. Showed the in vitro antiviral activity of neem seed kernel extracts against duck plague virus

b) Antibacterial Activity

Recent research shows the isolation and identification of the antibacterial active compound from petroleum ether extract of Neem oil.

C) Sexually Transmitted Disease

Few researchers have focused on Neem efficacy in treating sexually transmitted diseases.

D) Skin Diseases

Neem has a remarkable effect on Chronic skin conditions. Acne, psoriasis, eczema, ringworm and even stubborn warts are among the conditions that can clear up easily when high quality, organic Neem oil is used.

E) Neem And Immune System

Thoh et al. studied that Azadirachtin interacts with the tumor necrosis factor (TNF) binding domain of its receptors and inhibits TNF induced biological responses.

F) Antioxidant Effect

Manikandan et al. Researched that antioxidant and protective effect of active Neem leaf fractions against hydrogen peroxide induced oxidative damage to pBR322 DNA and red blood cells

G) Anti- Inflammatory Activity

The study of Alan et al. Showed the anti- inflammatory activity of epoxyazadiradione against macrophage migration inhibitory factors.

H) Digestive Disorders

Neem is generally accepted in the ayurvedic medical tradition as a therapy for ulcers and other types of gastric discomfort. Neem promotes a healthy digestive system by protecting the stomach.

I) Parasitic Disease

Neem quickly kills external and internal parasites. Neem extracts have hormone mimics that interfere with the life cycle of parasites.

J) Antisnake Venom Activity

Ashis *et al.* Studied a snake venom phospholipase A2(PLA) inhibitor (AIPLAI) was isolated from leaves of A. Indica (Neem) and the mechanism of PLA2 inhibition by ALPLA, AL in vitro condition was also studied Ashis, 2008.

III. CONCLUSION

The parts Green leaves, Ripe fruits and its coat, Neem seed, Roots, Bark, uncrushed twigs, Stem bark Fresh whole fruit and Dry leaves 0.1m of Azadirachta indica (Neem) have in use since times immemorial to treat the wide range of disease. It has no toxic effect on vital organs. Scientific studies have proved most of the claim of traditional medicines. This article gives information about structure of bioactive compounds and from article it is clear that Neem has many medicinal uses in human life.

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