

Preparation and Ayurvedic Application of Palashkshar (Butea Monosperma Derived Alkali)

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ABSTRACT:- Palash Kshar, an alkaline substance derived from the ash of Butea monosperma, holds a prominent place in Ayurvedic medicine due to its potent therapeutic properties. This research paper outlines the traditional preparation method, pharmacological properties, and the therapeutic applications of PalashKshar, supported by classical Ayurvedic references.

Keyword:- PalashKshar, Butea monosperma, Ayurveda, Kshara Kalpana, Alkaline preparation.

I. INTRODUCTION:-

Palash Kshar is an Ayurvedic alkaline preparation derived from the plant Butea monosperma (commonly known as Palash or Flame of the Forest). It is classified under Kshara Kalpana, a sub-branch of Ayurveda dealing with alkaline formulations obtained from plant ash. Kshar is widely used for its Lekhana (scraping), Shodhana (purifying), and Chedana (cutting) properties, especially in Arsha (hemorrhoids), Bhagandara (fistula), and skin diseases. This study documents the classical preparation, pharmacological attributes, and therapeutic indications⁽²⁾

Acharya Sushruta defines the kshara as the substance possessing ksharna and kshana properties and also has tridosahara (Equilibrium of vata, pitta, kapha) properties. The classification of kshara on the basis of administration i.e. paneeya and pratisaraneeya⁽³⁾. Kshara has been proved to be effective in treating many disorders like dusht varna, bhagandara, arsha, charmakeel etc. Acharya Sushruta as mentioned many plants for the preparation of kshara and Palash (Butea monosperma) is one among them.

Botanical Profile

- Botanical Name: Butea monosperma
- Family: Fabaceae
- Sanskrit Name: Palasha

- Common Name: Flame of the Forest
- Parts Used: Kanda (Stem) (for Kshar)

Guna of Palash:-

Ras- Katu (Pungent), Tikta (Bitter) Guna- Laghu (Light), Ruksha (Dry) Vipak - Katu (Pungent)
Virya- Ushna (Hot potency)

Guna of kshara⁽⁴⁾:-

Ras - katu
Guna - saumaya, tikshna, agneya Virya- ushna
Doshaghanata-tridoshaghan
Karma-dahan, pachan, daran, vilayan, shodhana, Ropana, shoshana, stambha, lekhana.

Materials:-

1. Dried Palash stem
2. Iron pan
3. Gas stove
4. Cotton cloth
5. Weight machine
6. Measurement flask
7. Bucket

Methods:- This method follows the general procedure for Pancha-Vidha Kshara Kalpana, especially the preparation of Pratisarniya Kshara (topical application). Preparation of Palash kshar includes various steps-

1. Authentication of Palash plant and collection of kanda and drying of kanda.
2. Preparation of ash.
3. Preparation of ksharajala.
4. Preparation of kshara.

Step 1st:- Identification of Palash plant and collection of kanda and drying of kanda:-

Authentication of Fresh mature Palash plant and kanda (stem) has been collected during the

month of October. Sample was dried completely in sun light for the one month.



STEM OF PALASH

Step 2nd:-Preparation of ash:-

For the purpose of preparation of ash, total 10kg of dry Palash kanda was burnt completely in

open air .The gray coloured ash was collected, which was devoid of stone and charcoal . The total weight of ash is 750 gm.

Weight of dry Palashkanda	10kg
Weight of Palashash	750gm
Percentage of ash from dried kanda	13.33%



ASH OF PALASH

Step 3rd – Preparation of ksharajala: -

The total volume of this ash was mixed with 6 times of water and mixture was left overnight (5). The next morning only the supernatant fluid was collected, discarding the dark

coloured sediment in the bucket. The supernatant fluid thus obtained was filtered 21 times using a white colour cotton cloth to obtained ksharajala. The total volume of ksharajala is 4500 ml.

Weight of Palashash	668gm
Weight of added water	4500ml
Weight of ksharajala	3822ml



KSHARAJALA OF PALASH

Step 4th:-Preparation of kshara-

This ksharajala was heated over an iron pan in mild to moderate flame with intermittent stirring for about 4 hr till it turned to reddish yellow (Ishat raktavarana). On continue heating

colour was change yellowish to whites. It was stirred continuously to prevent bumping and striking at final stage. Finally white coloured kshara deposited as flakes at bottom of iron pan was collected and was ground into fine powder.

The total weight of obtained kshara is 48gm.It was kept in tightly closed container to protect from moisture.

Weight of obtained kshara	48gm
% of kshara obtained from ksharajala	1.40%
% of kshara obtained from ash	7.18%
% of kshara obtained from Palashkanda	0.09%



PALASHKSHAR

II. DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION:-

This research article aimed to investigate the preparation of Palash kshara. Here are some key points highlighting the significance of ensuring the ideal preparation of kshara:

1. The proper preparation of kshara ensures the extraction and preservation of bioactive compounds present in the medical plants used.
2. The ideal preparation of kshara involves specific methods and techniques that not only extract the active alkaloid compounds but also minimize the adulteration.
3. Proper kshara preparation involves quality control measure, including the selection of high-quality raw materials and adherence to specific processing techniques. This is particularly important for the reliable and safe use of kshara in clinical practice.
4. Proper kshara preparation techniques help preserve this traditional knowledge and ensure its continued relevance in modern healthcare.

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