

Critical review on *Latakaranj: Caesalpinia Crista Linn.*Simran Abdulraheman Shaikh^{*1}, Radha H. Phadnis²,¹P.G. Scholar,²Associate Professor, M.S; Ph.D. Sch; radhakulkarni6@gmail.com

Department of Prasutitantra Evum Strirog, Hon. Shri. Annasaheb Dange Ayurved Medical College and Research Centre, Ashta, Sangli, M. S., India

***Corresponding Author:** simranbams041@gmail.com**Abstract:**

Latakaranj i.e., *Caesalpinia Crista Linn.* belongs to family Fabaceae is 10-meter herb grows throughout forest of India. It is the most significant Ayurvedic medicinal herb well known as Fever nut. It is advised in various diseases as it has antimalarial, anthelmintic, antispasmodic, antioxidant, antidiabetic, immunostimulant, antipyretic properties. Scattered information is given in *the brihartray* i.e. *Charak Samhita, Sushrut Samhita, Ashtang Hriday* and in *Nighantus*. Single hand study regarding its details of, vernacular names, *rasa-veerya-vipak, guna, karma, Varga, matra* as per different acharyas and its pharmacological action is not available. So, the present review is an effort to provide a detailed survey of literature review of *Latakaranj*.

Keywords: *Latakaranj, Caesalpinia Crista Linn*, pneumonia, pulmonary tuberculosis

Introduction:

The bond between human and ayurvedic medicinal plants has been established since the origin of mankind. There are plenty of medicinal plants of ancient Ayurveda which have been used to treat multiple disorders. *Latakaranj* is one of them.

It is prickly herb or woody vine with length of 10 meter. Mainly it is found in India and Sri Lanka. In India it is grown in south and eastern parts. ^[1] It can sustain in moderate to high temperature. It is used in treatment of many health complications like colic fever, malaria, menstrual problems, pneumonia, pulmonary tuberculosis, skin diseases, etc. ^[1]

It is a perennial, straggling climber with finely grey branches, armed with hooked prickles. Leaves are alternately stipulated and pointed having large lamina about 25-40 cm long and broad. It has 6-8 pairs of leaflets. Inflorescence is long pedunculated which is about 15-20cm long. It contains 5 united sepals and 5 free petals. It has stalked flat fruit with ash-colored seeds. ^[2]

It consists of antimalarial, anthelmintic, antispasmodic, antidiabetic, antipyretic properties ^[1]. Even if it is well known medicinal herb, to make it more beneficial, there is need to find out its uniqueness as per various acharyas. Here in this current article, efforts are made to gather possible information about *Caesalpinia Crist. Linn.* given in *Nighantus* and *Samhitas*.

Aim And Objectives:

As available data is in scattered form, it is time consuming to explore *Samhitas* every time. So, to make it easier, aim is to provide detail survey of literature review about *Latakaranj*.

Material And Method:

For the current review article, review has been done from *Brihatrayi.e. Charak Samhita, Sushrut Samhita, Ashtang Hriday*, textbooks of *Dravya Guna* and *Nighantus* for details of *rasa, virya, veepak, guna, karma, paryay, matra, prayojyang*, for pharmacological action and its medicinal properties, information has been collected through published articles from websites, database and relevant books.

Classification: [1]

- Kingdome. - Plantae
- Phylum. - Magnoliophyte
- Class.- Angiospermae

- Family. - Fabaceae
- Genus. - Caesalpinia
- Species. - Crista

Vernacular Names: [3]

- English. - Teri pods, fever nut.
- Hindi. - Katukaranj. Karanjaja
- Marathi. - Sagargota, gajra
- Sanskrit. - Putakaranj, kantikaranj
- Gujrati. - Kankancham, gajya
- Kannada. - Gujugu
- Bengali. - Latakaranch

Chemical Compositions:

1. Triterpenoids.
- 2.
3. . Aspartic acid.
4. Butyric acid.
5. Glycine.
6. Glycosides.
7. Flavonoids

Properties	Dravya Guna Vigyan ^[4]	Bhav Prakash Nighantu ^[5]	Nighantu Aadarsh ^[6]	Shaligram Nighantu ^[7]
Rasa	Tikta, Kashaya	Tikta, Kashaya	Tikta	Kashay, katu
virya	Ushna	Ushna	Ushna	Ushna
vipak	Katu	Katu	Katu	Katu
Guna	Laghu, ruksha	Laghu, ruksha	Laghu, ruksha	
Varga		Guduchyadi	Putikaranjyadi	Guduchyadi
Prayijyang	Beej	Mul	Beej, multwaq	
Matra	1-3gms	500-1000mg	1.5-1mash	

Table No.1 - Rasa-Veerya-Vipak-Guna-Prayojang-Varga-Matra

Sr No	Synonyms	R.N	BP.N.	SH.N.	K.N.	M.N.
1	Angarvalli	...	...	...	...	+
2	Uttundika	...	...	...	...	...
3	Udakirya	...	...	...	...	...
4	Rikachika	...	...	+	...	...
5	Karanj	...	...	...	...	...
6	Karanja	...	...	+	...	...
7	Karanji	...	...	...	...	+
8	Kalimar	...	...	...	...	...
9	Kantaki	...	...	...	...	...

10	<i>Kantakini</i>	...	...	+	...	...
11	<i>Kantaphal</i>	+	...	...	...	...
12	<i>Kantakikaranj</i>	...	+	...	...	...
13	<i>Kaktundi</i>	.....	...	...	...	...
14	<i>Kaktikta</i>	...	...	...	...	+
15	<i>Kuberaksha</i>	+	+	...	...	...
16	<i>Kuberakshi</i>	...	...	+	...	...
17	<i>Kairrya</i>	...	...	...	...	...
18	<i>Gaur</i>	...	...	...	...	...

Table No. 2 - Absolute synonyms of *latakaranj* in *Nighantu*; [8]

Sr.No.	Synonyms	P.N.	Sh.N.	A.N.	D.N.	So.N.
1	<i>Angarvalli</i>	...	+	...	...	...
2	<i>Uttundika</i>	...	+	...	...	...
3	<i>Karanj</i>	+	...	...	...	+
4	<i>Kalimar</i>	...	...	...	...	+
5	<i>Kantaki</i>	+	...	...	...	...
6	<i>Kantakikaranj</i>	+	...	...	...	...
7	<i>Naktamala</i>	...	...	...	+	+
8	<i>Parakirya</i>	...	...	+	+	...
9	<i>Kaktundi</i>		+			
10	<i>Prakiryak</i>	...	+	...	...	...
11	<i>Putik</i>	...	+	...	+	...
12	<i>Putikaranj</i>	...	+	+	...	+
13	<i>Putipatrak</i>	...	...	...	...	+
14	<i>Matrinandan</i>	...	...	...	...	+
15	<i>Kuberaksha</i>	+	...	...	...	...
16	<i>Gaur</i>	...	...	...	+	...
17	<i>Chirbilva</i>	+	+	...	+	...
18	<i>Vallikaranj</i>	...	...	...	...	+
19	<i>Saurashtri</i>	...	...	...	...	+

Table No. 3 - Equivalent synonyms of *latakaranj* in *Nighantu*;- [8]

R.N -*Raj Nighantu*; BP.N - *Bhavprakash Nighantu*-; SH.N - *Shaligram Nighantu* ; K.N - *Kaiyadeva Nighantu*;

M.N.- *Madanpal Nighantu* ; P.N.- *Priyavat Nighantu* ; Sh.N – *Shudras Nighantu*

Sr.N	Synonyms	Charak	Sushrut	Ashtang hriday
1	<i>Udakriyak</i>	4	2	1
2	<i>Karanj</i>	34	34	20
3	<i>Karanjdravya</i>	1	1	...
4	<i>Chirbilva</i>	4	10	2
5	<i>Naktamal</i>	6	13	7

6	<i>Puteek</i>	3	19	2
7	<i>Prakirya</i>	2	1	1

Table No.4: Synonyms in Samhita

Synonym	Etymology
<i>Angaarvalli</i>	Creeper which is red in colors like burning coal.
<i>Udakirya</i>	Its seeds jumping up ward direction after ripening.
<i>Karanj</i>	Its colorful flowers can color water.
<i>Kalimaal</i>	Its buds appear like garland ³⁷ .
<i>Kakaghni</i>	It gives death like pain to birds especially crow.
<i>Kuberaksha</i>	Its bark and pods are dirty in appearance.
<i>Chirabilwa</i>	It has alter action of purgation.
<i>Dusparsha</i>	Difficult to touch.
<i>Naktamal</i>	It has beautiful garland like appearance at night.
<i>Prakirya</i>	It spreads all over.

Table No.5: Etymology of Sanskrit synonyms of *latakaranj*.^[8]

Uses:

1] *Stambhani*: Due to its *tikta*, *Kashya rasa*; it is used in *raktapradara* as a single drug or in formulations.

2] *Vamihara*: It is beneficial as antiemetic as it has *Kashaya rasa* in it.

3] *Kushtaghna*: Due to its properties, it absorbs excessive *Kled* in body.

4] *Pramehghna*: it is of Laghu, Ruksha Guna with *kledaghna* property which makes it *pramehghna*.

Pharmacological actions:

- Antimalarial activity: This is known to be an effective herb in the treatment of malaria. It helps to manage symptoms like chills, fever, sweating, headache.
- Anti helminthic activity: Anti parasitic properties of this herb are quite effective to extrude out the helminthes and other internal parasites from the body.
- Anti spasmodic activity: - This herb suppresses spasms, reduces muscular tension. It also acts on the central nervous system and can

help to relax psychological tension.

- Antioxidants: It helps to neutralize the effect of free radicals in body and reduces the oxidative stress in body.
- Anti diabetic: It helps to regulate blood sugar level in body. Moreover, use of the drug is to manage symptoms of diabetes like frequent urination, excessive thirst, etc.
- Immune stimulants: Helps to stimulate different components of the immune system like T cells, B cells, monocytes, macrophages.
- Anti-inflammatory; The drug is loaded with anti inflammatory properties which helps to provide relief in body pains.
- Memory enhancer: It is quite good to manage mental disorders, neurodegenerative disorders like dementia, Parkinson, etc
- Menstrual problems: It helps to resolve menstrual problems like

irregularities of menstrual cycle, abdominal pain.

Observations and Results:

In present review, everything about *Latakaranj* from Ayurvedic literature has been explored. Documentation of its classification, *paryay*, absolute and equivalent synonyms, *rasa*, *virya*, *vipak*, *matra* and pharmacological action has been done in tabulation form.

Discussion:

The extensive literature review revealed that *latakaranj* is a medicinal Ayurvedic herb available abundantly and having diverse pharmacological properties. It has *Kashaya –tikta rasa, katu vipak and ushna virya*. It comprises *Bonducin* as a main chemical constituent.

Conclusion:

Caesalpinia Crista Linn. Has high potential if used properly. It is a valued herb in the Ayurvedic system of medicine. It is effective in *pranavaha strotas, rasavaha strotas, raktavaha strotas, majjavaha strotas, manovaha strotas*.

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