

ISSN (E): 2320-3862  
ISSN (P): 2394-0530  
<https://www.plantsjournal.com>  
JMPS 2023; 11(6): 110-113  
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Received: 09-09-2023  
Accepted: 16-10-2023

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## Ethno-medicinal plants used for the treatment of dermatological disorders by tribal of Sagar district, Madhya Pradesh

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### Abstract

The present paper deals with the study of various ethnomedicinal plants used by tribal peoples of the Sagar district for the treatment of dermatological disorders. An ethnomedicinal survey was carried out to identify the wild plant used by tribes of Sagar district region of central India for the treatment of dermatological disorders. During field visits to tribal settlements, medicinal men Bharia, Bhillai, Damar, Gond etc, were contacted and interviewed and information on 25 plant species used by these tribes for the treatment of dermatological disorders was collected. The modes of administration preparation as suggested by tribes are given. The survey revealed that the plant part of *Acacia catechu*, *Carica papaya*, *Alocasia indica*, *Jatropha curcas*, *Lantana camara*, *Cassia fistula*, *Cassia alata*, *Datura matel*, etc. are used for skin diseases such as; Itching, Psoriasis, Leprosy, Boils, Eczema, Ringworm, Scabies, Wound etc.

**Keywords:** Ethno medicinal plants, Sagar district, tribal people, dermatological disorder

### Introduction

Indeed, the field of ethno-botanical studies has made significant contributions, particularly in the realm of medicine. India has a long and venerable tradition of medicine system which have been practiced for thousands of years. These systems are deeply rooted in the use of medicinal plants and herbal remedies. The knowledge of these systems has been passed down through generations and is often specific to certain regions and communities. Medicinal plants have been abundantly available in many parts of the Indian peninsula since time immemorial. Central India, with its dense forest and natural resources, has been a treasure trove of medicinal plants. Tribal communities residing deep within these forest have maintained a close relationship with the environment, relying on medicinal plants for their primary healthcare needs and treatment of diseases. Their ethno-medicinal knowledge is a testament to the intimate connection between people and their natural surroundings. The World Health Organization (WHO) has estimated that as many as 80% of the world population is dependent on traditional medicine for their primary health needs (Shankar and Majumdar 1998) [7].

Sagar, a hilly district is rich in ethnomedicinal plants. Sagar district has a unique and very rich area of flora diversity, which is situated in Madhya Pradesh. It is the home land of various tribal and non tribal communities practicing traditional system of medicine. A large number of rare and endangered plants species occur in wild state. Ethno dermatological deals with the skin care, beautification and diagnosis and treatment of various diseases related of skin. Tribals and locals have been in the habit of using certain plants and plants part like leaves, root, fruits etc., for skin beautification, skin care and skin protection. The information about medicinal plants is mainly confined to the village physicians, chieftains of different communication and older member of the family. Traditional healers include both tribes and non-tribal of different belief are prevalent among villagers. But they verily hold any common about any particular disease.

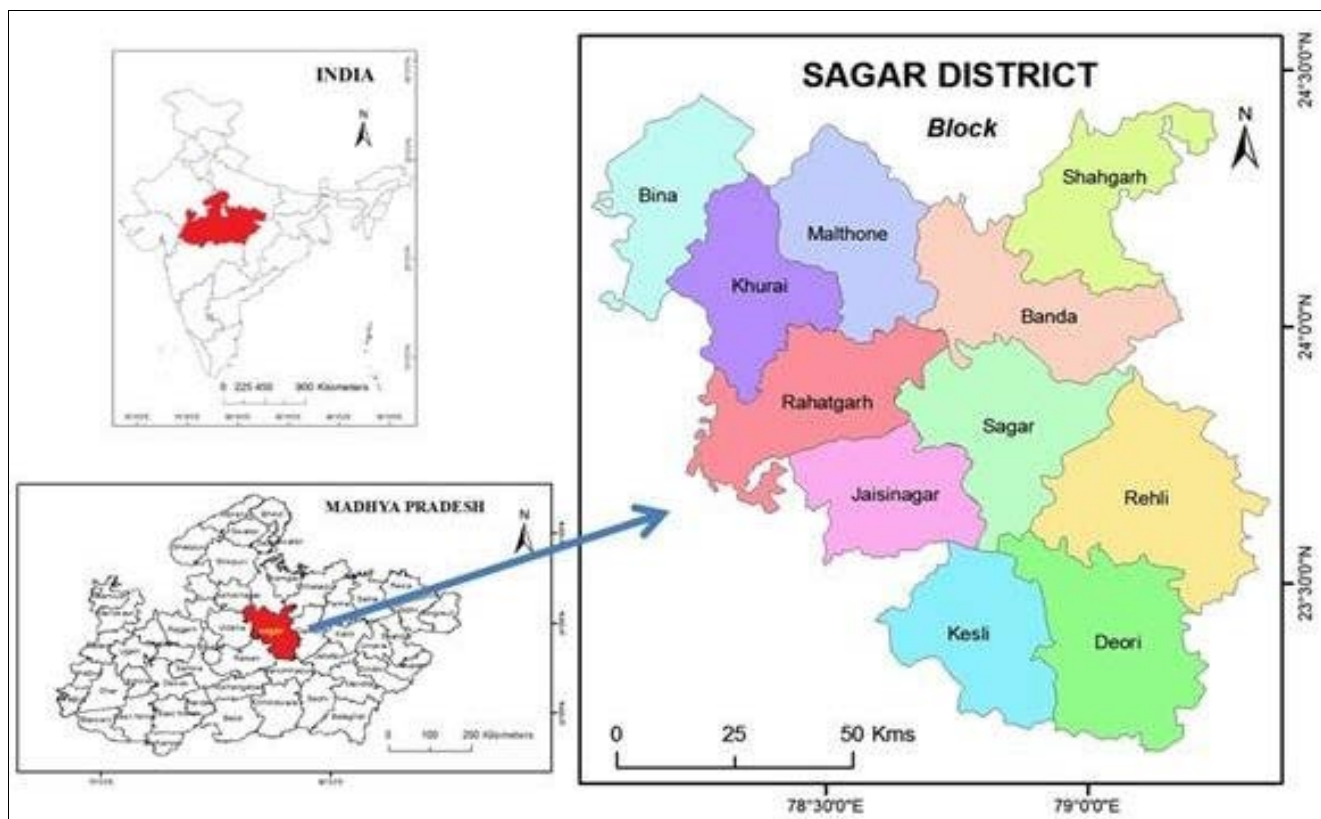
Different species of plants are used for various types of skin infection. A survey of literature revealed several studies an ethnodermetology (Begam and Nath 2000; Mishra and Patil 2014; Verma & Verma 2010) [1, 6, 8]. Jain 1991 [4] has published a witch contains very useful information on ethnodermetology. The present study has been undertaken with the aim of recording the details of various plants used for curing skin disease by the tribes.

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## Materials and Methods

**1. Study Area:** The Sagar district is located in the north central region of Madhya Pradesh and lies between north latitude 23° 10' to 24°21' and east longitude 70°9' to 79°21' having a total area of 10,252 square kilometers. It comprises of 09 Tensile 11 Blocks 270 Panchayet and 1027 Village. The area of Sagar region stands over a hilly tract at an average height of 582 meter above mean "sea

level". The climate of Sagar region is broadly characterized by typical central Indian type with three distinct seasons. The summer season from March to June, the rainy season from June to September and the winter season from October to February of these the post a monsoon period in October to November is most pleasant.



**Fig 1:** Location of Sagar District in Madhya Pradesh

- 2. Tribal People of Study Area:** Ethno botanical data were collected according to methodology suggested by Jain (1991) [4]. An ethno botanical information especially on medicinal plant used by certain tribes including mainly Bharai, Bhilali, Damar, Gond, Kol, Kanwar, Shariya and some migrated tribes of joining states. Data presented here is based on personal observation and interviews with traditional healers.
- 3. Ethnomedicinal Study:** An ethno botanical survey was carried out during October 2010 to 2012 in Sagar district to collect ethno botanical information especially on

medicinal plant used by certain tribes including mainly Bharia, Bhilai, Dammar, Gond, Kol, Kanwar, Sharia and some migrate tribes of joining state data presented here is based on personal observation and interviews with traditional healers. Medicine Men, Vaidas, Older People. The plants were identified with the help of regional floras and other important publications, (Bentham and Hooker, 1962-1863; Kirtikar and Basu, 1993; Dixit A.K.1993;) [2, 5, 3]. The plants were described on the basis on their botanical name family, local name, part used, method of use.

**Table 1:** Medicinal plants used against skin disease by tribal people of Sagar district Madhya Pradesh

Sr. No.	Botanical Name	Family	Part used	Local Name	Uses
1	<i>Acacia catechu</i>	Mimosaceae	Bark	Khair	The decoction of bark used to cure skin disease, especially eczema
2	<i>Ageratum conyzoides</i>	Asteraceae	leaves	Ghamra	The paste of leaves externally applied on cuts and wounds.
3	<i>Alocasia indica</i>	Araceae	Whole plant	Mankunda	A small hole is made on a piece of petiole and the finger infected by paronychia is inserted into it and kept for 4-5 hours. It is an effective curing technique for paronychia.
4	<i>Aloe vera</i>	Araceae	leaves	Gawarpata	The peelings of the leaves are used in skin burn.
5	<i>Argemone mexicana</i>	Papaveraceae	plant extract	Pilikateri	The extract is used in various skin diseases, leaves juice is applied to cuts and wounds.
6	<i>Azadiracta indica</i>	Meliaceae	Whole plant	Neem	Paste of leaves is applied on skin diseases.
7	<i>Butea monosperma</i>	Fabaceae	Seed	Palas	Pest of seed is applied on skin diseases.
8	<i>Euphorbia hirta</i>	Euphorbiaceae	Latex, leaf	Dudhi	The leaves of euphorbia are useful in the treatment of skin disorder like

					ulcers. The paste of the plant can also applied beneficially on wounds and burns, the milky juice of the plants is useful in the treatment of warts. It should be applied externally on the affected area.
9	<i>Cassia tora</i>	<i>Caesalpiniaceae</i>	Seed	Panwar	Paste of roasted and powdered seed is applied on ringworm, eczema and scabies.
10	<i>Cassia fistula</i>	<i>Caesalpiniaceae</i>	Bark	Amaltas	The entire plant is used for almost all the skin disease. The powder or decoction of bark is prescribed in the treatment of leprosy. Their juice or paste serves as a useful dressing for the ringworm.
11	<i>Cassia occidentalis</i>	<i>Caesalpiniaceae</i>	Leaves, Seed	Bada Panwar	The leaf juice is very effective is curing boils. The seed are soaked and ground finely into a paste and it is applied over boils for effective care.
12	<i>Carica papaya</i>	<i>Asclepiadaceae</i>	Whole plant	Papita	Latex from fruit is used in gum swelling ringworm and eczema. After removing the outer Skin from the orange colored flesh of ripe fruit a smooth paste is prepared and applied on face to prevent and cure pimple. Milky juice of the fruit is useful against ringworm.
13	<i>Datura metel</i>	<i>Solanaceae</i>	Leaves	Datura	Leaves juice is applied over the affected area of cure ring infection.
14	<i>Euphorbia thymifolia</i>	<i>Euphorbiaceae</i>	Latex	Thuar	Latex is applied to cure burn wound. The juice of the plants is given in ringworm and other skin disease. The latex of the plants was applied on eruption boil, burn and wound
15	<i>Ficus benghalensis</i>	<i>Moraceae</i>	bark	bargad	The latex of the plants was applied on eruption boil, burn and wounds
16	<i>Ficus religiosa</i>	<i>Moraceae</i>	Latex	Pepal	Bark powder is used externally to cure burn wound. Latex is applied and after the application the effected part is shown to the fire to cure kibe.
17	<i>Hibiscus rosa-sinensis</i>	<i>Malvaceae</i>	Leaf	Gudhal	Leaf paste is applied over boils
18	<i>Jatropha curcas</i>	<i>Euphorbiaceae</i>	Latex, leaves, bark	Ratanjot	The latex is smeared over the part affected by scabies, eczema, and ringworm. A bath with decoction of the bark is an effective remedy for all skin disease. Leaves are made into a paste and mixed with salt and applied to cure eczema.
19	<i>Lantana camara</i>	<i>Verbinaceae</i>	Leaves and fruit	Raimunia	Leaves and fruits are made into a paste and used externally for curing eczema
20	<i>Ocimum basilicum</i>	<i>Lamiaceae</i>	Leaf	Vantulsi, jungle tulsi	Leaf juice is externally applied to cure ringworm.
21	<i>Polyalthia longifolia</i>	<i>Annonaceae</i>	Leaves	Asok	Leaves paste is applied on skin for curing skin infection.
22	<i>Solanum nigrum</i>	<i>Solanaceae</i>	Leaf	Makuiyya	Leaf paste is applied on leprosy. Lukewarm decoction of leaf is used as per drop for the treatment of earache.
23	<i>Tagetes erecta</i>	<i>Asteraceae</i>	Leaf	Ganda	Leaf paste is applied to cure ringworm.
24	<i>Tridax procumbens</i>	<i>Compositae</i>	Leaves	Lugharia	Juice of leaves is application cut and wounds. Leaves paste for the treatment of eczema
25	<i>Rauvolfia serpentina</i>	<i>Apocynaceae</i>	Leaves	Sarpangandha	Leaves paste is applied to cure of various type of skin disease.

## Results and Discussion

During the present ethnobotanical study, 25 plant species belonging to 17 families were reported by the informants for the treatment of common skin diseases (Table 1). These plants

are arranged in alphabetical order of their scientific name along with family followed by local name, parts used and mode of administration. The parts used in treating skin disease are present in Figure 2.

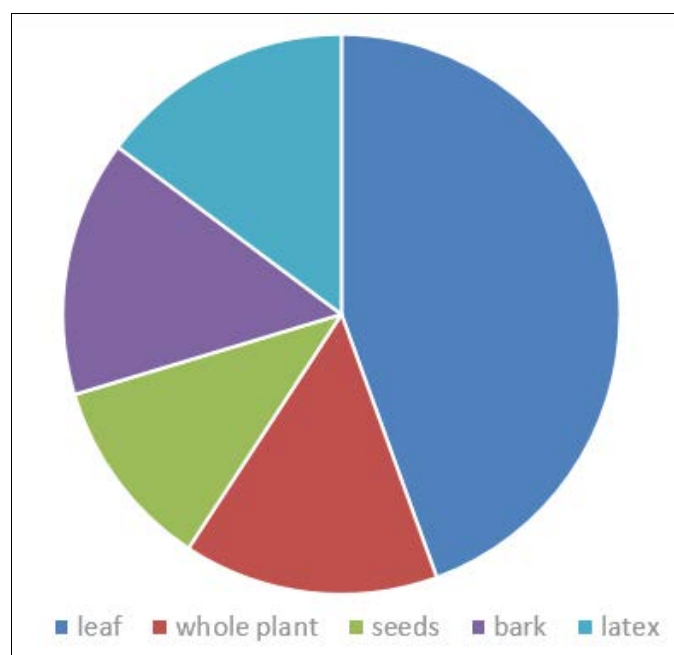


Fig 2: Plant parts used by tribal of Sagar district for the treatment of skin diseases.

The uses of plant as sources of medicine and food are as old as humanity. Health and disease are coeval with life. Based on the present study. It has been found that the tribal communities of Sagar district region of central India are rich in ethno biological knowledge, which has transmitted from one and belief.

The tribal inhabiting Sagar district is mainly Bharia, Bhilai, Dammar, Gond, Kol, Kanwar, and Shari. A total of 25 ethno medicinal plant species that were used by Sagar tribe of the area in their day to day life to cure various ailments have been documented along with their uses. The elder persons of this tribal community were not paying any attention to transfer this knowledge of ethno medicine to next generation get some of them learned this knowledge by observing the practices of elderly learned person. Leaves was reported to be the most frequently used parts of plants for the treatment of various ailment followed by other plant parts *viz.* Fruits, seed, stem, latex, bark, whole pant.

### **Acknowledgment**

The authors are thankful to the rural and tribal people of Sagar district for sharing their traditional knowledge on medicinal plants occurring the present work

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