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Ethnomedicinal Plants of Euphorbiaceae Family Used By Tribal's of Dhar District, Madhya Pradesh, India

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Abstract : The present paper deals with an ethnomedicinal trends were carried out during 2024-2025 in the Euphorbiaceae families plants used by tribal's of Dhar district, Madhya Pradesh, India. A total of 19 plant species belonging to 10 genera of Euphorbiaceae family from the study area. Such knowledge is transferred from one generation to another by word of mouth only and restricted to few families of the area recognized as 'Vaidyas' 'Badwa' and 'Ojhas'. Tribal do not approach doctors (physicians) due to lack of awareness and shyness or hesitation. Herbal healers and their patients who receive the treatment for any enquired the local names, parts used and method of administration. The binomial names are enumerated with utilization and dosages of these plants are like Viz. *Acalypha indica*, *Bridelia retusa*, *Croton bonplandianus, Euphorbia hirta*, *Phyllanthus emblica*, *Ricinus communis* etc. The family Euphorbiaceae is the second largest among the dicotyledonous plants of the study area.
Keywords: Ethnomedicinal trends, Fabaceae family, Dhar district, tribal's, Madhya Pradesh.

Introduction - Dhar district is situated in the south-western part of Madhya Pradesh, India. The study area lies between 22º oo' to 23º 10' Northern latitude and 74º 28' to 75º 42' Eastern longitude. Covering 8153 Sq. Km study area and geographical area of 1214.8 Sq.km. Its population is 2184672 (Census 2011). Dhar The tribal people constitute over 83.93 percent of the population. The study area is mostly inhabited of tribal groups are *Bheel*, *Bhilala, Barela* and *Patelia*. Majority of the population live in remote villages and depend on shifting cultivation and forest for their food, shelter and other requirements. These Tribal's live close to the forest and are largely dependent on the wild biological resources for their livelihood. Although the tribal people traditionally use many ethno-medicinal Euphorbiaceae family plants used by tribal's of Dhar district, Madhya Pradesh. Such documentation has been done earlier. Keeping this in view, the present study was initiated with an aim to identify medicinal plants resources and traditional knowledge of tribal people of the study area. Literature survey of ethnobotanical work was done (Srivastava 1984, Samvatser *et al*. 2004, Jain 2004, Jain 1991, Jadhav 2007, Alawa *et al*. 2012, Shaikh *et al*. 2012, Alawa 2015, Alawa *et al*. 2016, Alawa 2018, Alawa 2021, Wagh et al. 2010,). The present paper first time documented of the study area.

Materials and Methods: The present paper is outcome of extensive field survey of different tribal villages of Dhar district during 2024- 2025 to collect information on medicinal uses of different plant species. Herbarium of the collected plants specimen was prepared following customary method (Jain and Rao, 1977). During field work, interviews were conducted with local knowledgeable villagers; local elders and experienced tribal peoples (both men and women) were interviewed and cross -interviewed again and again. Local 'Vaidyas,' 'Badwa' and 'Ojhas'.The collected plant species are arranged alphabetically along with their botanical name and family, local names, method of preparation of drug and mode of administration are given below in observation. The plant specimens were collected and identified with local flora available literature (Varma *et al*. 1993, Mudgal *et al*. 1997 & Khanna *et al*. 2001). Herbarium preserved in Department of Botany, PMB Gujarati Science College, Indore, Madhya Pradesh.

Enumeration of species: During ethnobotanical survey of Dhar district it was found that some wild medicinal plants are used by tribal of Dhar district Madhya Pradesh. The enumerations of field observation are given below:

***Acalypha indica* L.** (Euphorbiaceae) **V.Ns**.- Muripinda, Khokali.

Uses:

1. Juice of leaf is consumed orally early in the morning in empty stomach for 3 days to cure Constipation.
2. Powder of root with milk is given twice a day for 2-3 days to relieve pneumonia.
3. Paste of root is given as twice a day for a week for the treatment of piles.

***Baliospermum montanum* (Willd.) Muell.-Arg**.

(Euphorbiaceae) V.Ns.- Jangli jamalgota.

Uses:

1. Leaves extract is used twice a day for 3 weeks to cure asthma and bronchitis.
2. Powder of root with Kela (*Musa paradisiaca* L.) is given twice a day for a week to cure jaundice.

***Bridelia retusa* (L.) Spreng** (Euphorbiaceae) **V.Ns**.- Aggnia, Aggiya, Khaja, Khasai.

Uses:

1. Powder of bark is applied as plastering agent to cure bone fracture.
2. Paste of bark is used cuts for healing to check bleeding.
3. Decoction of Stem-bark is taken orally twice a day for 3 days to cure diarrhoea.

***Croton bonplandianus* Baill**. (Euphorbiaceae) **V.Ns.-** Kala-bhangra.

Uses:

1. Paste of root is applied on the effected teeth for teeth infection.
2. Juice of leaf is applied externally on fresh cut to stop bleeding.
3. Latex is applied on wounds and cuts for early healing.

***Euphorbia geniculata* Orteg** (Euphorbiaceae)**V.Ns.-** Guleria Chara.

Uses:

1. Latex is rubbed in eczema and ringworm.

***Euphorbia hirta* L.. (**Euphorbiaceae**) V.Ns**.- Dudhi, Dudhiya.

Uses:

1. Paste of leaves is applying to cure ringworm.
2. Latex is applied on skin disease for eczema and scabies.

***Euphorbia ligularia* Roxb. (**Euphorbiaceae**) V.Ns.** Thuwar, Pattonkisend.

Uses:

1. Chewed pulp and applied on wound to cure snake bite.
2. Paste of stem mixed with turmeric is tied over wounds.

***Euphorbia tirucalli* L.** (Euphorbiaceae) **V.Ns.**- Dudhi, Gangli thor.

Uses:

1. The milky latex is applied to old wounds to cure skin.
2. Latex is applied over affected parts in arthritis.
3. Latex is applied on skin disease to cure for scabies and eczema.

***Jatropha curcas* L.** (Euphorbiaceae) **V.Ns.–** Ratanjot, Agarandi.

Uses:

1. Twigs are used as toothbrush to cure toothache.
2. Latex is applied externally in ear to stop pus formation.
3. Latex is also applied on cuts and injury to cure bleeding.

***Jatropha gossypifolia* L.** (Euphorbiaceae) **V.Ns.–** Ratan jhad, Ratanjot.

Uses:

1. Paste of leaf is applied as skin for scabies, itching and eczema.
2. Paste of seed is used for purgative.
3. Seed oil is used for affected body massage to relieve paralysis.

***Phyllanthus amarus* Schum and Thonn.** (Euphorbiaceae) **V.Ns.**- Bhui amla.

Uses:

1. Powder of whole plant is given orally twice a day for 3 days to cure leucorrhoea.
2. Powder of seed with water is given orally twice a day for 3 days to cure diabetes.

***Phyllanthus emblica* L.** (Euphorbiaceae) **V.Ns.–** Amla, Aonla.

Uses:

1. Extract of stem bark is given orally with water to cure diarrhoea.
2. Dry fruit powder with ghee mixed is applied on nose and head to prevent bleeding.
3. Powder of seed with honey is given twice a day for 3 weeks to cure leucorrhoea.
4. Raw fruit powder is given twice a day for 3 days to cure cough.

***Ricinus communis* L.** (Euphorbiaceae) **V.Ns.–** Arandi, Arand.

Uses:

1. Seed oil is applied on cut and wounds.
2. Decoction of leaf with water is given twice a day for intestinal worms.
3. Decoction of leaf is given orally twice a day to relieve fever.

Results and Discussion: The present study includes information on the total 23 plant species belonging to 19 genera of Fabaceae family. Generally local medicine men are known as 'Badwa' or Vaidyas. The rich treasure of indigenous knowledge of local medicinal plant is also under serious threat in rural areas due to the availability of allopathic medicines and treatment of ailments and disease. The indigenous knowledge of the tribal communities must be properly documented and preserved so that their knowledge could be passed on the future generation. Such studies and documents provide important for understanding the complex heritage of tribal communities and their association with environment and nature. the important medicinal plants were used again Ring worm, scabies and eczema and cure of bleeding of 3 species; asthma, diarrhoea, toothache and leucorrhea of 2 species; constipation, pneumonia, piles, jaundice, bronchitis, bone fracture, snake bite, paralysis, and fever each of 1 species. The collection of remote areas of Euphorbiaceae family plants of photo graphs below (Fig. 1 to 4).


Fig.1*:Phyllanthus amarus* **Fig.2: *Phyllanthus emblica***


Fig.3*:Euphorbia hirta* **Fig.4: *Jatropha curcas***

Ethnomedicinal plants of Euphorbiaceae family used by tribals of Dhar district (M.P.)

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