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AYURVEDIC LITERATURE REVIEW OF DARUHARIDRA A HERBALDRUG

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ABSTRACT:

Dravya Vigyan is fundamental in separate branch of Ayurveda which deals with study of plant drugs, properties, action, dose, and time of administration & various preparations of these drugs. Recognizing the importance of Dravya guna, Shri Narhari gave prime position to Dravya Ashtanga in Astang Ayurveda in his Nighantu.

Dravya guna has not evolved spontaneously, years of observations extensive practical experiences has consolidated & enriched its principle and utility, due to this an only it has long regime in the changing scenario of the medical world and it streignigns supreme. The properties mentioned in Ayurvedic classical text are now being proved in modern parameters are, same is for Vranaropaka drugs. One of the drugs is Daruharidra, it has been prescribed in Vranaropaka by all Ayurvedic classical texts and Nighantus.

Keywords: Dravyaguna, Daruharidra, Vranaropaka

Introduction:

➤ Historical background of Daruharidra-

No reference is available in Veda about *Daruharida*. Rajani word has come which might be for *Haridra*.

• Charaka

Charaka has included the this drug in following Ganas, besides he has mentioned it in the treatment of Vranaropak, Prameha, Atisaar, Arsha, Grahani etc.

Lekhaniya¹

Arshoghan²

Kandughan³

Tikta Skandha⁴

- **Sushruta**

He has mentioned Daruharidra in Vrana chikitsa, Sadyovrana, Gandmala, Kustha, Sleepad, Kshudra Roga, Sarpdansha, Vidrhadi, Visarp, Netra-roga and Jwar. Included in following gana.

Mustadi gana⁵

Laksadi gana⁶

Tikta varga⁷

Haridradi gana⁸

Rasaut-anjandi gana⁹

- **Astanga hridaya**

Daruharidra has been used in Siro-veerachan, Atisaar, Grahani, Mutraghat, Prameha, Vidrhadi, Pandu rog, Kamala, Ksotha, Visarp, Kustha, Supta-vata, Dadru, Vatarakata, Netra-roga, Timir, Mukha-roga

Nasaya gana¹⁰

Vachadi gana¹¹

Mustadi gana¹²

Rasaut-anjandi gana¹³

➤ **NIGHANTU PERIOD**

- **Dhanvantari nighantu-(10-13 th century)**

In this Daruharidra has been included in Guduchiyadi Varga.

तिक्ता दारुहरिद्रा स्याद्रूक्षोष्णा व्रणमेहजित्
कर्णनेत्रमुखोद्भूतां रुजं कण्डूं च नाशयेत् ॥

- **Shodhala nighantu-(12 th century)**

In this Daruharidra has been included in Guduchiyadi Varga, described along with *Haridra*.

- **Madanpala nighantu-(1374 century)**

In this Daruharidra has been included in Abhayadi Varga.

- **Raj nighantu-(17 th century)**

In this Daruharidra has been included in Pippalyadi Varga.

तिक्ता दारुहरिद्रा तु कटूष्णा व्रणमेहनुत्
कण्डूविसर्पत्वग्दोषविषकर्णाक्षिदोषनुत् ॥२०२॥ रा.नि.

-Pippalyadi Varga

- **Kaiyadeva nighantu-(1425 century)**

In this Daruharidra has been included in Aushadhadi Varga.

तद्वद् दार्वी विशेषेण कणनित्रास्यरोगजित् ॥

- **Bhavprakasha nighantu-(16 th century)**

In this Daruharidra has been included in Haritakyadi Varga. Bhavprakash has mentioned first *Haridra* and then Daruharidra and narrated that it has similar property as *Haridra* but more efficacious in Netra, Karna and Mukha-roga.

दार्वी निशागुणा किन्तु नेत्रकर्णास्यरोगनुत् ।

- **Shaligram nighantu-(19 th century)**

In this Daruharidra has been included in Astha Varga.

- **Vano-ausdhai chandroya-**

In this Daruharidra has been included in Daruharidradi varga.

- **Sarvosdhi naam guna nighantu-**

In this Daruharidra has been included in Daruharidradi gana.

- **Unani dravya guna nam nighantu-**

In this Daruharidra has been included in Daruharidradi varga.

- **Vanaspati sristi-**

In this Daruharidra has been included in Darvyadi varga.

- **Vanga-sen nighantu-**

In this Daruharidra has been included in Haridradi gana, Tiktadi varga.

➤ **MODERN PERIOD**

The period after Nighantu Kala is the modern period. Nighantu Adarsha, Abhinava Nighantu, Dravyaguna Vijnanam, Dravyaguna Vignan, Abhinava Buti Darpana, Indigenous drugs of India, Indian medicinal plants, Ayurvedic Pharmacopoeia etc. are the texts of this period.

A brief account of Daruharidra, as found in these texts is give here underer:

(1) Nighantu Adarsa (Bapalal G.Vaidya)

Included in Daruharidradi Varga, has described family character. Its Synonyms, Guna, Chemical constituents and Uses are mentioned.

(2) Dravyaguna Vijnanam: (Shri Yadavji Trikamji)

Acharya has presented an elaborate on Daruharidra including its Latin name, synonyms, properties etc in this text.

(3) Dravyaguna Vignan: (Prof. P.V. Sharma):

The Latin names, synonyms, Rasa, Guna, Veerya, Vipaka etc of Daruharidra are mentioned.

(4) Indian Medicinal Plants: (By Shri Kiritkar and Basu)

This text emphasizes the family character apart from the distinguishing feature of other species of Berberis. Vernacular name and uses are mentioned according to ayurvedic classical text and current studies.

(5) Indian Materia Medica: (By Shri Nadkarni)

Various species of Berberis has been mentioned. *B.aristata*, *B.asiatica*, *B.lycium*, *B.nepalensis*, *B.vulgaris*, vernacular names, Habitat, Part used, chemical composition, therapeutic usage and preparation. In context of *B.vulgaris* pharmacological action and therapeutic uses of berberine has been mentioned.

(6) Materia Medica of India and their therapeutics: (By Shri R.N. Khory and N.N. Kartrak)

The habitat, parts used, characters, preparations, actions and uses of Daruharidra have been discussed.

(7) Ethnovet Heritage:

The text emphasizes on botanical description, chemical constituent parts used, therapeutic usage of Daruharidra (*Berberis aristata*.D.C).

(8) Flora of British India: (Hooker, J.D.-1973)

The detail botanical description of the various species of plant along with habit and habitat have been described, in this text 13 species of Berberis have been mentioned.

(9) Hand Book of Medicinal Plant: (Prajapathi, Purohit, Sharma/Kumar):

Botanical description, habitat, propagation, chemical constituents with therapeutic usage of Daruharidra are discussed in detail.

(10) The treatise of Indian Medicinal plants (Chatterjee Chatterjee, Satyesh Chandra)

Vernacular names, habitat, properties-uses, botanical description and chemical constituents have been discussed.

(11) Wealth of India

Vernacular names, habitat, general botanical description, Chemical constituents, uses, etc. have been discussed.

(12) Database on Medicinal Plants used in Ayurveda:

In this book *Berberis aristata* stem and root has been used as botanical source of Daruharidra, Vernacular names, Botanical description, Ayurvedic properties, Chemical constituents, pharmacological activities, Toxicology, Therapeutic evaluation, Formulation and Preparations, Substitutes and Adulterants are mentioned.

(13) Vanoashadi-Nidarishka (Prof.Ram sushil Singh)

A comprehensive description is available about drug, synonyms, Ras Panchakhak, gunakarma, pharmacognosy, various species of Berberis and Brief information about Berberin.

The dose is given according to part used,

Fruits (Jarishk) - 6gm-12gm

Rasut - ½-1gm

Daruharidra stem - 3gm-6gm

Commenting on

(14) Ayurvedic Pharmacopoeia of India (First Edition):

In this book, first time stem has been considered as medicine. In this book also Synonyms, Macroscopic and Microscopic description of *Berberis aristata* D.C. stem has been given. Some parameter to judge the Purity and the Identity of drug has been given, moreover Ayurvedic properties, Action, Important formulation, Dose has been mentioned.

(15) Indian Pharmaceutical Codex:

In this book Synonyms, Vernacular names, Specification of dried root of *Berberis aristata* has been given, Description of plant, Macroscopic and microscopic character of the root, Chemical constituent, action and uses, standard and tests, method to assay Berberine and substitute and adulterants are described.

(16) Glossary of Indian medicinal plants: (R.N.Chopra; S.L.Nayar; I.C.Chopra.)

Nine species of *Berberis* has been mentioned, with their Habit, habitat, uses and main chemical constituents.

Some facts- *Berberis aristata* root have 4.0% of total alkaloid, and of stem 1.95%, of which berberine is 2.09% and 1.29% respectively.

While describing *B. vulgaris* it is said that it has a fluctuating ratio of several alkaloid groups, relatively poisonous causing death through paralysis with dyspnoeic symptoms.

(Merk' jber, 1936, 102) Chem. Abstr.1937, 3149)

➤ SYNONYMS OF DARUHARIDRA-

अन्या दारुहरिद्रा च दार्वी पीतद्रु पीतिका ।

कालेयकं पीतदारू स्थिररागा च कामिनी ॥

कटकन्टेरी पर्जन्या पीता दारुनिशा स्मृता ।

कालियकं कामवती दारुपीता पचम्पचा ॥

स्यात् कर्कटकिनी द्वयेया प्रोक्तासप्तदशाहव्या ।

- राज. निघंटु

➤ NIRUKTI-

Daruharidra: Plant having yellow wood.

Kusumbhala: This produces yellow dye like Kasumbha.

Darvi: The important part of the plant.

Kantakari: Plant has spithe nes on margin of leaves.

Parjanya: Fruit appears in rainy season.

Vishodhani: It is blood purifier.

Krimihara: Anthelmentic

Pacampach: Improve liver function.

Peetadaru: Yellow wood.

Table No. 01 Shows synonyms of Daruharidra.

Synonyms	Cha.	Su.	AH	VS	DN	MN	RN	KDN	KN	BP	SGN	NS	AN
Nisha			+	+			+						
Daruharidra	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Darvi	+	+	+	+	+	+	+		+	+	+		+
Parjani										+	+		+
Kantkari			+	+	+	+	+		+	+	+	+	+
Peeta					+					+	+		
Pachampacha					+		+			+	+		+
kaliyak			+	+	+		+						
Kalayak				+	+		+			+			
Pitadru					+	+	+		+	+	+		
Haridru										+	+		
Pitadaru			+		+	+	+		+	+	+		
Kapitak										+	+		
Darunisha				+	+				+			+	
Dwitya											+		
Atha					+	+					+		
Hemvkanti					+								
Pitchandana					+								
Haridrae		+	+	+									
Rajani		+	+	+	+								
Kantlanti				+									
Daru			+	+									
Kusumbhka					+								

Other synonyms Darupita, Hemvati, Parjanya Kamini, Kastha, Parvatiharidra, Girijaharidra, and Daruk are also mentioned in various texts.

➤ RASAPANCHAK-

- **Rasa-**

Table No. 02 Shows Rasa of Daruharidra.

Rasa	Cha	Su	DN	MN	KN	BP	RN	NR	SGN	NS	PVS
Katu				+	+	+	+	+	+	+	
Tikta	+				+	+	+	+	+	+	+
kashay			-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	

- **Guna-**

Table No. 03 Shows Guna of Daruharidra.

Guna	Cha	Su	DN	MN	KN	BP	RN	NR	SGN	NS	AN	PVS
Laghu				-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	+
Rukhsa			+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-		+
Tikshna			-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-		

- **Vipaka-**

Table No. 04 Shows Vipaka of Daruharidra.

Vipaka	Cha	Su	DN	AH	KN	BP	RN	RVN	NR	SGN	NS	NK	NA	PVS
Katu	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+

- **Veerya-**

Table No. 05 Shows synonyms of Daruharidra.

Veerya	Cha	Su	DN	MN	KN	BP	RN	NR	SGN	NS	AN	PVS
Sheeta				-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	+
Ushna			+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+

➤ **Karma of DARUHARIDRA-**

Table No. 06 Shows Karma of Daruharidra.

Karma	Cha	Su	DN	MN	KDN	BP	RN	NR	SN	SGN	NA	PVS
Vran Ropan			+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Meha	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	
Kandu			+				+	+	+	+	+	+
Urdah jatra gat rog	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Visarp							+	+	+	+		

Twak roga				+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Visha					+		+		+	+		
Sotha					+	+						
Pandu				+	+	+						
Varanya				+	+	+					+	
Dah				+								
Rakta dusti				+							+	+
Shopha				+								+
Apachi					+							

It is evident from the above table that maximum numbers of the authors have accepted Raspanchak as below –

Rasa : Tikta, Katu.

Guna : Laghu, Ruksha.

Veerya : Ushna

Vipaka : Katu

➤ **Panchabhautik Composition of Daruharidra**

On the basis of gustatory perception, as has been advised by Charaka. Daruharidra possesses two Rasas viz. Tikta, Katu, The Panchabhautik composition of two Rasa is as follows:

Table No. 07 Shows Panchabhautik sanghatan of Daruharidra.

Rasa	Panchamahabhoota
Tikta	Vayu + Akasha
Katu	Vayu + Agni

➤ **Action of Rasas on Doshas:**

Table No. 08 Shows action of Rasas on Doshas of Daruharidra.

Rasa	Dosha Shamaka	Dosha Vardhaka
Tikta	Kapha, Pitta	Vata
Katu	Kapha	Vata and Pitta

Thus according to Rasa, Daruharidra has Kapha and Pitta pacifying effect, on the other hand, aggravates the Vata dosha.

➤ **Guna:**

According to the textual description Daruharidra possesses Laghu, Ruksha guna. The Panchabhautik compositions of these gunas are as follows –

Table No. 09 Shows Guna & Panchabhautik sanghatan of Daruharidra.

Guna	Panchabhautik
Laghu	Vayu+ Akasha + Agni
Ruksha	Prithvi+Vayu+Agni

➤ **The action of Guna on Doshas:**

Table No. 10 Shows action of Guna on Doshas of Daruharidra.

Guna	Dosha Shamaka	Dosha Vardhaka
Laghu	Kapha	Vata
Ruksha	Kapha	Vata

Thus, according to Gunas, it is effective on Kapha Dosha and aggravates Vata.

➤ **Vipaka:**

Panchabhautik composition is –

Vayu + Agni

Action on Dosha is, it aggravates Vata Dosha and pacifies Kapha dosha.

➤ **Veerya:**

Panchabhautik composition is **Agni**.

Action on Doshas is, it aggravates Pitta and pacifies Kapha, Vata.

Based on Rasa, Guna, Vipaka and Veerya, it can be concluded that it pacifies Kapha and aggravates Vata and Pitta.

Discussion:

In Samhita and Sangraha we find lot of reference of Daruharidra and its uses in various disease like Vrana, Phiranga, Upadansha, Gandmala, Visarpa, Pravahika, Kamala, Aruchi, Bastishotha, Twakdosha, Atisaar, Raktapitta, and especially in Eye, Ear, Nose, Throat diseases like Netra abhishyanda, Netrashotha Karnashoola, Karnasrava, Mukharoga. All Nighantus have mentioned Haridra i.e. Haridra and Daruharidra and narrated same property for both but reiterated that latter one is more efficacious in Netra-karna roga.

Conclusion:

Daruharidra has Katu, Tikta rasa; Katu vipaka; Laghu, ruksha Guna; and Ushna Veerya. Its property is similar to the Haridra, which is also considered as a substitute of Daruharidra. Botanical source of Daruharidra is Roots of *Berberis aristate* D.C. but now days its stem is being used.

Reference:

1. Ch.Su 4/3
2. Ch.Su 4/12

3. Ch.Su4/14
4. Cha.Vim.8/133
5. Su.Su.38/54
6. Su.Su.38/63
7. Su.Su.43/23
8. Su.Su.38/27
9. Su.Su.38/41
10. As.H.15/3
11. As.H.15/36
12. As.H. 15/40
13. As.H.15/14

