

Insight on Nomenclature of Medicinal Plants - An Ayurvedic Perspective

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Abstract—The knowledge of Namarupavijnana (Nomenclature of medicinal plants) proves to be scientific and an authentic even to this day. Since many of the morphological features described in Sanskrit language can be correlated to botanical terminologies as per today's era. The base of identification of medicinal plants is named using Binomial Nomenclature which is considered as universal and scientific. Earlier each plant had many synonyms. For example, the identification of *Achyranthes aspera* (Apamarga), also known as Shikhari, Kharamanjari, Kinihi, Adhahshalya, Pratyakpushpi and Mayuraka can be confirmed after studying all the synonyms attributed to it. The morphological features cover other aspects like properties and actions, resemblance, trade and commerce, mythological background, utility etc thereby giving comprehensive knowledge about a plant. Hence the scientific vision of ancient Acharyas who have taken lot of effort to gather and give enormous information on medicinal plants through synonyms for the wellbeing of mankind.

Keywords— Nomenclature, Namaroopa Jnana, Dravyaguna Vijnana.

I. INTRODUCTION

Namarupajnana' has been designated as a distinct branch of Dravyaguna vijnana. Charakacharya^[1] mentions three facets for this purpose, namely name, appearance and properties. Knowledge regarding medicinal plants has been found right from Vedic period, Samhita period, later added during Nighantu period which has led to the enrichment of Dravyaguna vijnana. During olden days, Vaidyas were keen observers of nature and coined exact synonyms to designate specific characters of plants. They not only define the morphological features but also cover other aspects like properties and actions, resemblance, trade and commerce, mythological background, utility etc thereby giving comprehensive knowledge about a plant. Raja Nighantu was the first person to mention 7 bases for Dravyanamakarana (Nomenclature of drugs). Acharya Charaka insists that one acquire the knowledge of plants from the shepherd, hunter, tribes etc.

Dravya namakarana according to classics-

Vedic Period: As per Vedas, following are few of the criteria on which Dravyanamakarana is done^[2].

Swarupa, Avayava (Parna, Phala, Pushpa, Kanda etc), Udbhavasthana, Guna (Rupa, Rasa, Gandha etc), Karma (Samanya, Vishishta, Rogamulaka), Prashastimulaka Dhanwantari Nighantu- Suggests one or many are assigned to plants according to habitat, form, colour, potency, taste, effect etc^[3].

Raja Nighantu mentions- Basonyms and synonyms are assigned to plants on the following seven bases^[4]-

- Rudhi (Traditional usage)
- Prabhava (Effect)
- Deshokti (Habitat)

- Lanchana (Morphological characters)
- Upama (Simile)
- Veerya (Potency)
- Itarahvaya (Other factors)

Following are few of the criteria along with examples for Dravya Namakarana^[5]-

1. Based on Swarupa (Habit): Plant Meaning

Vrkshaka- Kutaja – (*Holarrhena pubescens*, Apocynaceae)- It is a tree

Suvarnalatika-Jyotishmati- (*Celastrus paniculatus*, Celastraceae)- It is a climber

Yojanavalli- Manjishtha (*Rubia cordifolia*, Rubiaceae)- A climber spreading extensively

Vallijam- Maricha- (*Piper nigrum* Piperaceae) - It is a climber.

Valka phala- Dadima (*Punica granatum*, Punicaceae)- Fruit has leathery covering

Kantaphala- Dhatura (*Datura metel*, Solanaceae)- Fruit is a large capsule with numerous sharp spines

Drudhaphala- Narikela (*Cocos nucifera*, Arecaceae)- Fruits of Narikela are very hard

Mahaphala- Bilwa (*Aegle marmelos*, Rutaceae)- Fruit is a berry large in size

Golaphala- Madanaphala (*Randia dumetorum*, Rubiaceae)- Fruit is a berry which is round in shape

Vrutaphala- Maricha (*Piper nigrum*, Piperaceae) -It has a globose fruit

Tula phala- Shalmali (*Bombax ceiba*, Bombacaceae)- Fruit is a capsule lined within with white silky hairs

Pushpa-

Sadapushpa- Arka (*Calotropis procera*, Asclepiadaceae) - It bears flowers all the year round

Pindapushpa- Ashoka (*Saraca Ashoka*, Caesalpinaceae)- Flowers occur in dense clusters

- Pushpashunya- Udumbara(Ficus racemosa, Moraceae)*- It has no apparent flowers
- Lajapushpaka- Karanja(Pongamia pinnata, Papilionaceae)*- Flowers resemble parched paddy(Laja)
- Girimallika- Kutaja(Holarrhena antidysentrica, Apocynaceae)*- Flowers resemble fragrant jasmine in mountains
- Pita pushpa- Kushmanda(Benincasa hispida, Cucurbitaceae)*- It bears yellow flowers
- Ghantapushpa- Dhatura(Datura metel, Solanaceae)*- It bears bell-shaped flowers
- Gudapushpa- Madhuka(Glycyrrhiza glabra, Papilionaceae)*- It bears flowers full of sweet juice.
- Pratyakpushpa- Apamarga(Achyranthus aspera, Amaranthaceae)*- Flowers are deflexed
- Patra/Parna-*
- Kshiraparna- Arka(Calotropis procera, Asclepiadaceae)*- It has profuse latex in leaves
- Tamrapallava- Ashoka(Saraca Ashoka, Caesalpinaceae)*- It has coppery young leaves
- Guhyapatra- Ashwattha(Ficus religiosa, Moraceae)*- It has vulva-shaped leaves
- Ghrutaparnaka- Karanja(Pongamia pinnata, Papilionaceae)*- Leaves are glossy
- Balapatra- Khadira(Acacia catechu, Mimosaceae)*- It bears small leaves
- Tilaparnakam- Chandana(Santalum album, Santalaceae)*- Leaves are similar to those of sesamum plant
- Mandalapatrika- Punarnava(Boerhavia diffusa, Nyctaginaceae)*- It is a spreading herb with round leaves
- Tripatra- Bilwa(Aegle marmelos, Rutaceae)*- Leaves are trifoliate
- Shamipatra- Lajjalu(Mimosa pudica, Mimosaceae)*- Leaves resemble those of 'Shami'
- Phanijihwaparni- Shatavari(Asparagus racemosus, Liliaceae)*- Leaves resemble those of snake's tongue
- Shwajihwapatra- Snuhi(Euphorbia neriifolia, Euphorbiaceae)*- Leaves resemble dog's tongue
- Yugmapatra- Kanchanara(Bauhinia variegata, Caesalpinaceae)*- Leaves are bilobed
- Shwetamula- Punarnava(Boerhavia diffusa, Nyctaginaceae)*- It has white root
- Tamramula- Manjishta(Rubia cordifolia, Rubiaceae)*- Root is coppery when half-dried
- Sugandhimula- Sariva(Hemidesmus indicus, Asclepiadaceae)*- It has aromatic root
- Lomashamulika- Haridra(Curcuma longa, Zingiberaceae)*- It has hairy rhizomes
- Bija-*
- Chitrabeeja- Eranda(Ricinus communis, Euphorbiaceae)*- Seeds are mottled
- Mani beeja- Dadima(Punica granatum, Punicaceae)*- Seeds resemble ruby
- Dantabeeja- Dadima(Punica granatum, Punicaceae)*- Seeds resemble teeth
- Tailabeeja- Bhallataka(Semicarpus anacardium, Anacardaceae)*- It has oily nuts
- Chitratandula- Vidanga(Embelia ribes, Myrsinaceae)*- Seeds are peculiarly white spotted
- Kanda*
- Raktakanda- Punarnava(Boerhavia diffusa, Nyctaginaceae)*- It has reddish stem
- Raktangi- Manjishta(Rubia cordifolia, Rubiaceae)*- Its stem is reddish
- Pitadru- Daruharidra(Berberis aristata, Berberidaceae)*- It has yellow wood
- Sara*
- Pitasara- Asana(Pterocarpus marsupium, Fabaceae)*- It has yellowish heart wood
- Niharsa- Kadali(Musa paradisiaca, Musaceae)*- It has no heart wood
- Raktasara- Khadira(Acacia catechu, Mimosaceae)*- It has reddish heart wood
- Gandhasara- Chandana(Santalum album, Santalaceae)*- It has aromatic heart wood
- Krishnasara- Shimshapa(Dalbergia sissoo, Papilionaceae)*- It has blackish heart wood
- Niryasa*
- Nilaniryasa- Asana(Pterocarpus marsupium, Fabaceae)*- It exudes blue gum
- Hemadugdha- Udumbara(Ficus racemosa, Moraceae)*- It exudes golden colour latex
- Kananiryasa- Guggulu(Commiphora mukul, Burseraceae)*- It exudes a gum-resin in the form of particles
- Kantaki*
- Duhsparsha- Kantakari(Solanum xanthocarpum., Solanaceae)*- It is difficult to touch since plant has thorns
- Bahushalya/Jihmashalya- Khadira(Acacia catechu, Mimosaceae)*- It is a wild thorny tree, spines being curved
- Adharakantaka- Shatavari (Asparagus racemosus, Liliaceae)*- Plant has recurved spines
- Kantakadya- Shalmali(Bombex ceiba, Bombacaceae)*- It is a thorny tree
- Yugmakantaka- Snuhi(Euphorbia neriifolia, Euphorbiaceae)* - A plant with sharp twin spines
- Adhahshalya- Apamarga (Achyranthus aspera, Amaranthaceae)*- It has spinous bracteoles and pointed perianth
- Shwadamshttra- Gokshura(Tribulus terrestris, Zygophyllaceae)*- Fruits are armed with spines which injure the feet of grazing cattle
- Twak*
- Sheetavalkala- Udumbara(Ficus racemosa, Moraceae)*- Bark of Udumbara has cold potency
- Gudatwak- Twak(Cinnamomum zeylanica, Lauraceae)*- Bark is sweet-pungent in taste
2. Based on *Prapthisthana(Habitat)*:
- Anaryam- Aguru(Aquillaria agallocha, Thymelaceae)*- It grows in hilly regions of north-east
- Kashmira/Madri- Ativisha(Aconitum heterophyllum, Ranunculaceae)*- It grows in places of high altitude like Kashmir/Madri
- Korangaka- Amalaki(Emblia officinalis, Euphorbiaceae)*- It is commonly cultivated in Tamil Nadu and Andhra

Pradesh Korangi/Dravidi- Ela(Elettaria cardomomum, Zingiberaceae)- is cultivated in South Indian States

Kairataha- Kiratatikta(Swertia chirata, Gentianaceae)- It is found in north-eastern region of India

Kalinga- Kutaja(Holarrhena antidysentrica, Apocynaceae)- The tree grows in Kalinga region

Malayaja- Chandana(Santalum album, Santalaceae)- The tree grows in Western Ghats spreading in Karnataka and Kerala

Saimhalam- Twak(Cinnamomum zeylanica, Lauraceae)- plant is very common in Sri Lanka

Magadhi/Vaidehi- Pippali(Piper longum, Piperaceae)- It is abundantly available in Magadha/Videhadasha

Vindhyajata- Vibhitaki(Terminalia bellerica, Combretaceae)- It grows mostly in Vindhya region

Kiratini- Jatamansi(Nardostachys jatamansi, Valeriaceae)- It grows in high altitude

Kashmira- Keshara(Crocus sativus, Iridaceae) - It is found in Kashmir

Nadeyi- Agnimantha (Premna integrifolia, Verbenaceae)- It grows on river sides

Nadisarja- Arjuna(Terminalia arjuna, Combretaceae)- It grows in vicinity of water streams

Vanyavraksha- Ashwattha(Ficus religiosa, Moraceae)- It is commonly grown in wild

Marusambhava- Indravaruni(Citrullus colocynthis, Cucurbitaceae)- It is mostly found in desert area

Vanashukari- Kapikacchu(Mucuna pruriens, Papilionaceae)- It is grown wildly

Marudeshya- Guggulu(Comiphora mukul, Burseraceae)- It is a plant growing in arid zone

Outtharapatham-Jiraka(Cuminum cyminum, Apiaceae)- It is cultivated abundantly in northern region

Gramya- Tulasi(Ocimum sanctum, Lamiaceae)- It is a herb grown in villages

Jalabrahmi (Bacopa moneri, Scrophulariaceae)-It grows in watery areas

Shaileya(Parmelia perlata, Parmeliaceae)- It grows on mountains

3. Guna-Shabda

Tuntuka- Shyonaka(Oroxylum indicum, Bignonaceae)- Fruits are hanging and dancing with sound on the tree

Sparsha- Durgraha- Apamarga(Achyranthus aspera, Amaranthaceae)- Difficult to hold due to its spinuous bracteoles

Shwadamshtira- Gokshura(Tribulus terrestris, Zygophyllaceae)- Fruits which are armed with spines injure the feet of grazing cattle

Shaakhakantaka- Snuhi(Euphorbia neriifolia, Euphorbiaceae)- It has spines

Kantalu- Babbula(Acacia Arabica, Mimosaceae)- The tree has spines

Durabhigraha- Kapikacchu(Mucuna pruriens, Papilionaceae)- The plant is difficult to handle

Kharamanjari- Apamarga (Achyranthus aspera, Amaranthaceae)- Flowers have spinuous bracteoles and pointed perianth.

Roopa/Varna- Shukla kanda- Ativisha (Aconitum heterophyllum, Ranunculaceae)- Its tuber is white in colour

Raktasara- Khadira(Acacia catechu, Mimosaceae)- Its heartwood is red in colour

Tamrapallava- Ashoka(Saraca indica, Cesalpinaceae)- It has coppery leaves

Peetamoola- Revandachini(Rheum emodi, Polygonaceae)- Its root is yellow in colour

Hemavati- Jeevanti(Leptadenia reticulate, Asclepiadaceae)- It exudes golden colour substance

Dhawala- Arjuna(Terminalia arjuna, Combretaceae)- It has white bark

Rasa- Shadrasa- Amalaki(Emblia officinalis, Euphorbiaceae)- It has six tastes

Tikta- Katuki(Picorrhiza kurroa, Scrophulariaceae)- Its rhizome has bitter taste

Varatikta- Kutaja(Holarrhena antidysentrica, Apocynaceae)- It is a potent bitter drug

Pancharasa- Haritaki(Terminalia chebula, Combretaceae)- Its fruit contains five rasas

Kandatikta- Kiratatikta(Swertia chirata, Gentianaceae)- It is bitter in taste

Katugranthi- Shunti(Zingiber officinale, Zingiberaceae)- Its rhizome is pungent

Yashtimadhu(Glycyrrhia glabru, Papilionaceae)- Its root has sweet taste

Vrikshamla(Garcinia indica, Clusiaceae)- Fruit has sour taste

Gandha- Gandharajam- Chandana(Santalum album, Santalaceae)- It is foremost among aromatic substances

Utkatam/Bahugandham- Twak (Cinnamomum zeylanica, Lauraceae)-Its bark is highly aromatic

Ugragandha- Vacha(Acorus calamus, Araceae)- Its rhizome has intense smell

Bahulagandha- Ela(Elettaria cardamomum, Zingiberaceae)- Seeds are highly aromatic

Ashwagandha(Withania somnifera, Solanaceae)- It has horse's urine smell

4. Lanchana- *Dhavalala- Arjuna(Terminalia arjuna, Combretaceae)*- Outer bark is whitish

Chitratanadula- Vidanga(Embelia ribes, Myrsinaceae)- It has spotted seeds

Shuklakanda- Ativisha(Aconitum heterophyllum, Ranunculaceae)- It has white tubers

Kharamanjari- Apamarga(Achyranthus aspera, Amaranthaceae)- It has inflorescence with spinuous bracteoles

Tripata- Ela(Elettaria cardomomum, Zingiberaceae)- Its fruit has 3 surfaces

Deerghaphala- Aragwadha(Cassia fistula, Caesalpinaceae)- Its fruit is very long

Jantuphala- Udumbara(Ficus racemosa, Moraceae)- Its fruits are filled with insects

5. Upama: *Animal names*

Varahakarni- Ashwagandha(Withania somnifera, Solanaceae)- It has leaves resembling pig's ears

Vyaghrapuccha- Eranda(*Ricinus communis*, Euphorbiaceae)- Flowers are arranged in beautiful racemes like tiger's tail
Hayahvaya- Ashwagandha(*Withania somnifera*, Solanaceae)- The drug has horse potency
Gavakshi- Indravaruni(*Citrullus colocynthis*, Cucurbitaceae)- Its fruits resemble cow's eye ball
Matsyashakala- Katuki(*Piccorrhia kurroa*, Scrophulariaceae)- Its rhizome has fishy scales
Vyaghri- Kantakari(*Solanum xanthocarpum*, Solanaceae)- It promotes strong voice like that of tiger
Markati- Kapikacchu(*Mucuna pruriens*, Papilionaceae)- Its fruit is studded with stiff hairs like that of monkey
Mahishaksha- Guggulu(*Commiphera mukul*, Burseraceae)- Gum-resin of guggulu has reddish-black colour like that of Buffalo's eye
Gostani- Draksha(*Vitis vinifera*, Vitaceae)- Its fruits are shaped like cow's teat
Simhakesaraka- Bakula(*Mimusop elengi*, Sapotaceae)- Its stamens resemble lion's mane
Phanijihwaparni- Shatavari(*Asperagus racemosus*, Liliaceae)- It has thin linear leaves like that of snake's tongue
Shwajihwapatra- Snuhi(*Euphorbia neriifolia*, Euphorbiaceae)- Leaves are shaped like dog's tongue
Hasidianta- Muli(*Raphanus sativus*, Brassicaceae)- Root resembles elephant trunk
Simhasya- Vasa(*Adhathoda vasica*, Acanthaceae)- Flowers are bilabiate resembling face of lion
Ahicchatrakam- Shunti(*Zingibera officinale*, Zingiberaceae)- Flowers resemble cobra's hood
Matsyashakala- Katuki(*Piccorrhia kurroa*, Scrophulariaceae)- Rhizomes have fishy scales
 Others / Miscellaneous-
Vajrangi- Asthishrunkala(*Cissa quadrangularis*, Vitaceae)- It is a weak plant looking like chain of bones
Kanakahwaya- Dhatura(*Datura metel*, Solanaceae)- It has golden seeds
Odanahwaya- Bala(*Sida cardifolia*, Malvaceae)- Seeds resemble cereals
Adhyanda- Kapikacchu(*Mucuna pruriens*, Papilionaceae)- Its seeds resemble testicles
Agnika- Chitraka(*Plumbago zeylanica*, Plumbaginaceae)- It is a plant known for its fiery hot nature
Oshtopamaphala- Bimbi(*Cocconia grandis*, Cucurbitaceae)- Its fruit resembles the shape of lips
Dhanurbeeja- Bhallataka(*Semecarpus anacardium*, Anacardiaceae)- Its fruits are obliquely ovoid like a bow.
Kritamala- Aragwadha(*Cassia fistula*, Caesalpinaceae)- Tree looks like adorned by the garland
Chatra- Dhanyaka(*Coriandrum sativum*, Apiaceae)- It has umbrella-shaped inflorescence
 6. Based on Karma-
Kshawaka- Apamarga(*Achyranthus aspera*, Amaranthaceae)- It induces sneezing
Shwasaneshwara- Arjuna(*Terminalia arjuna*, Combretaceae)- It is a potent drug for cardiac disorders
Putrada/Balada- Ashwagandha(*Withania somnifera*, Solanaceae)- It promotes progeny and strength

Karshya- Asana(*Pterocarpus marsupium*, Fabaceae) - It cures obesity
Asthisamyojaka- Asthishrunkala(*Cissus quadrangularis*, Vitaceae)- It promotes union in fractured bone
Vayastha- Amalaki(*Embllica officinalis*, Euphorbiaceae) It maintains youthfulness
Varuni- Indravaruni(*Citrullus colocynthis*, Cucurbitaceae)- It is a potent hydrogogue purgative
Kasaghni- Kantakari(*Solanum xanthocarpum*, Solanaceae)- It alleviates cough
Shleepadari- Karanja(*Pongamia pinnata*, Papilionaceae)- It is an effective drug for Filaria
Sangrahi- Kutaja(*Holarrhena antidysentrica*, Apocynaceae)- It is an efficacious drug in diarrhea
Kushtaghna- Khadira(*Acacia catechu*, Mimosaceae)- It is a potent drug in all skin disorders
Palankasha- Guggulu(*Commiphera mukul*, Burseraceae)- It is indicated in obesity
Nishotha- Trivrt(*Operculina terpathum*, Convolvulaceae)- It is a safe purgative useful in edema
Mukhashodhanam- Twak (*Cinnamomum zeylanica*, Lauraceae)- It is used a mouth fresher
Shwitraghni- Bakuchi (*Psoralea corylifolia*, Fabaceae)- It is a reputed drug for vitiligo
Arushkara/Shophakrut- Bhallataka (*Semecarpus anacardium*, Anacardiaceae)- Juice of its fruit produces blisters and swelling on touch
Shwasana- Madanaphala(*Randia dumetorum*, Rubiaceae) - It alleviates respiratory disorders
Pleehaghna- Rohitaka (*Tecoma undulata*, Bignoniaceae)- It is indicated in disorders of spleen.
Jantunashana- Vidanga(*Embelia ribes*, Myrsinaceae) - It is an unfailling remedy for worms
Mehaghni- Haridra(*Curcuma longa*, Zingiberaceae)- It is indicated in Prameha
 7. Religious/Mythological background:
Chaityadruma- Ashwattha(*Ficus religiosa*, Moraceae)- It is regarded as a religious tree
Bodhivrksha-Ashwattha Gautama (*Ficus religiosa*, Moraceae)- attained enlightenment under this tree
Tapasadruma- Ingudi(*Balanites aegyptica*, Balanitaceae)- It is known as hermit's tree as it is used by them
Yagnanga- Udumbara(*Ficus racemosa*, Moraceae)- It is used in sacrifices
Gayatri- Khadira(*Acacia catechu*, Mimosaceae)- It is regarded as holy and used in sacrifices
Devadhupa- Guggulu(*Commiphera mukul*, Burseraceae)- It is used as incense in god's worship
Shivapriya- Dhatura(*Datura metel*, Solanaceae)- It is liked by Lord Shiva
Bhutavasa- Vibhitaki(*Termonalia bellerica*, Combretaceae) - It is an abode of evil spirits
Shivesta- Bilwa(*Aegle marmelos*, Rutaceae) -It is offered to Lord Shiva
Mangalya- Vacha(*Acorus calamus*, Araceae) -It is regarded as auspicious
Devadaru(*Cedrus deodara*, Coniferae) - Tree growing in the land of Devata

Vishnukranta(*Evolvulus alsinoides*, Convolvulaceae)- Flowers are used to worship Lord Vishnu

8. Measurements/Numbers-

Kolam- Amalaki (*Embllica officinalis*, Euphorbiaceae)- Fruit weighs 6g (kola pramana)

Karshaphala- Vibhitaki(*Terminalia bellerica*, Combretaceae)- Fruit weighs 12g (karshapramana)

Chaturangula- Aragwadha(*Cassia fistula*, Caesalpinaceae)- Fruit has depression at every 4 inch distance

Shadgrantha- Vacha(*Acorus calamus*, Araceae)- Rhizome of vacha has more than 6 nodes on it.

Tripata- Ela(*Elettaria cardomomum*, Zingiberaceae)- Fruit is triangular shaped and has three surfaces

Tribhandi- Trivrut(*Operculina turpethum*, Convolvulaceae)- has got triangular stem

Chatuhsira- Asthishrunkala(*Cissus quadrangularis*, Vitaceae)- It has quadrangular stem

Bahula- Ela(*Elettaria cardomomum*, Zingiberaceae)- Seeds are numerous

Saptaparna(*Alstonia scholaris*, Apocynaceae) - Seven leaves arranged in whorls

Pancharekha- Haritaki(*Terminalia chebula*, Combretaceae) - Fruit has 5 ridges

9. Commercial Uses-

Vishwadhopakam- Aguru(*Aquillaria agallocha*, Thymelaceae)- It is used in perfume industry

Madirasakha- Amra-(*Mangifera indica*, Anacardaceae) It is used in preparation of wine

Gudamoola- Ikshu(*Saccharum officinarum*, Poaceae)- It is the source for jiggery

Dantadhavana- Khadira(*Acacia catechu*, Mimosaceae)- Its twigs are used as toothbrush

Gandharajam- Chandana(*Santalum album*, Santalaceae)- It is used in perfume industry

Vastraranjani- Manjishta(*Rubia cordifolia*, Rubiaceae)- It is used for dyeing cloth

Nagaram- Shunti(*Zingiber officinalis*, Zingiberaceae)- It is commonly sold in shops

Ranjani- Haridra(*Curcuma longa*, Zingiberaceae)- It is utilised for dyeing

10. Rudhi-

Tarkari-Agnimantha(*Premnaintegrifolia*, Verbenaceae)

Pachampacha- Daruharidra (*Berberis aristata*, Berberidaceae)

Bahedaka-Vibhitaki(*Terminalia bellerica*, Combretaceae);

Murangi-Shigru(*Moringa oleifera*, Moringaceae)

Haldi- Haridra(*Curcuma longa*, Zingiberaceae)

Kinihi- Apamarga (*Achyranthus aspera*, Amaranthaceae)

11. Superlative terms-

Rajavraksha- Aragwadha(*Cassia fistula*, Caesalpinaceae)- Regarded as King of trees owing to its beauty

Shakashreshtha- Jivanti(*Leptadenia reticulata*, Asclepiadaceae) - It is regarded as best among vegetables

Phalottama- Draksha (*Vitis vinifera*, Vitaceae)- It is regarded as best among fruits

Mahoushadha- Shunti(*Zingiber officinalis*, Zingiberaceae)- Universally reputed drug applicable in numerous disorders.

Valliphalottama- Kushmanda(*Benincasa hispida*, Cucurbitaceae)- Regarded as best among cucurbitaceous fruits

12. Seasons-
Varshapushpika- Atibala(*Abutilon indicum*, Malvaceae)-

Flowers blossom in rainy season

Tisyaphala- Amalaki(*Embllica officinalis*, Euphorbiaceae)- Fruiting takes place in *Pushya masa*

Vasantapadapa- Amra(*Mangifera indica*, Anacardaceae)- Fruiting takes place in spring season

Pravrushayani- Kapikacchu(*Mucuna pruriens*, Papilionaceae)- It grows in rainy season

Pravrushenya- Kutaja(*Holarrhena antidysentrica*, Apocynaceae)- It bears flowers in early rainy season

Meghamodini- Jambu(*Eugenia jambolana*, Myrtaceae)- It bears fruits in rainy season

Madhuduti- Patala(*Stereospermum suaveolens*, Bignoniaceae)- Its flowers blossom in spring

Varshabhu- Punarnava(*Boerhavia diffusa*, Nyctaginaceae)- A perennial herb regenerating in rainy season

Vasanta- Vibhitaki(*Terminalia bellerica*, Combretaceae)- Its flowers blossom in spring season

Sharada- Saptaparna(*Alstonia scholaris*, Apocynaceae)- It bears flowers in autumn

Sharadi- Sariva(*Hemidesmus indicus*, Asclepiadaceae)- Flowers appear in autumn

13. Itarahwaya-
Devahwa- Devadaru(*Cedrus deodara*, Coniferae).

Shakrahwa- Indrayava (*Holarrhena antidysentrica*, Apocynaceae)

Kakahwa- Kakamachi(*Solanum nigrum*, Solanaceae)

Analanama- Chitraka(*Plumbago zeylanica*, Plumbaginaceae)

Varidanamakam- Musta(*Cyperus rotundus*, Cyperaceae)

II. CONCLUSION

Knowledge regarding medicinal plants has been found right from *Vedic* period, *Samhita* period, later added with enormous inclusions during *Nighantu* period which has led to the enrichment of *Dravyaguna Vignana*. Synonyms not only define the morphological features but also cover other aspects like properties and actions, utility, mythological background, trade and commerce, resemblance etc thereby giving comprehensive knowledge about a plant. Hence the scientific vision of ancient *Acharyas* who have taken lot of effort to gather and give enormous information on medicinal plants through synonyms for the wellbeing of mankind.

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