

THE ROLE OF INVERTIBRATES AS TRADITIONAL DRUGS PREVALENT AMONG THE TRIBALS OF ORISSA-PART-1

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ABSTRACT

The present paper deal with the medicinal usage zoological origin as used by the tribals of Orissa state. They use invertebrate/parts incurring the dreaded diseases prevalent among the tribal community. The survey covers the districts namely- Dhenkanal, Kendujhar, Samabalpur, Sundargarh and Mayurbhanj or Orissa. The study reveals the use of 13 invertebrates in the treatment of human ailments.

KEYWORDS: Invertebrates, drugs, tribals

There is much public awareness of utility of the ethnobotany specially because of the use of plants in several systems of medicines like Ayurvedic, Homopathic and Unani. In comparison, there is very little knowledge of ethnozoology, although it was widely used by primitive society and even now, it is being utilized. Scarcity of wild animals also has deteriorated the utility of animals for food and for drugs. However, with a view to record the available knowledge on ethnozoology, a survey was undertaken in Orissa.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The information collected through the personal contact and interview of different tribal of the state. The general idea about the districtwise distribution of the tribals could be had from the "Tribal Map of India" (Gohain, 1991). Information regarding their location, population and social structure were collected from District and Block Development Officers. Whenever, language problem arose, the services of interpreters were utilized.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Many curious information regarding the medicinal applications of various invertebrates by the tribal of Orissa are presented here, while majority of

these advocation are novel, some to find place in earlier text. Persual of available literature did not indicate the medicinal application of invertebrates like scorpion, glowworm, bedbug and cricket which are being reported here. The remaining species have been mentioned for their therapeutic value, incidentally for these diseases which are mostly different which are mostly different from the once treated by the tribal. The overall reported claimed suggested that the whole body of cimex, cricket, prawn are respectively used in Neurotic fits, Pheumonia, Galactoschesia (Kent, 1970) Joseph 1982, Poorlactation paralysis, General weakness, Baldness (Tikadar et al., 1985), Flesh of Pila and Unio for Asthama, T.B. and sexual vigour (Azmi, 1989, 1992). These information on invertebrates togwthor with those on mammals, avian, amphibian, fishes and reptiles (Azmi, 1989, 1990, 1991, 1992) and Annonymous (1952, 1954) suggested that animal kingdom if scientifically serutinized may have much to contribute to our therapeutic armamentarium.

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Table 1: Some important medicinal applications of reptiles by the tribal of Orissa

Part (S) Used	Made of administration	Name of Disease (S)	Name of Tribes
1- Bed Bug (<i>Cimex Sp.</i>)			
Whole Body	5-6 bugs taken orally along with banana or bread for about 25 days, once daily	Fits, Neurosis, Poles, Fistula	Bathudi, Gond
Whole Body	8-10 dugs rubbed over the scalp once daily till cured.	Baldness	Bhumij, Jaung
2- Cocroach(<i>Blatta orientalis</i>)			
Whole Body	4-5 cockroaches fried in oil with little spices and consumed for about one month once daily	Asthma	Matya, Kolha
Whole Body	8-10 Cockroaches boiled with little spieces, soup consumed and remins used as food once daily till cured.	Difficult breathing Asthma	Munda, Goud, Kawar
3- Crap (<i>Cracinus Sp.</i>)			
Whole Body	4-5 crabs boiled in water, emerging fumes inhaled deeply, and juice taken orally and flesh consumed as food for about one month, once daily.	Tuberculosis, Asthama, Difficult breathing	Kharia, Oroon, Gond
Whole Body	4-5 crabs cooked with little spice and consumed once daily for about 21 days.	Loss of erectile power	Mankirdia, Bhuiya
4-Cricket (<i>Cryllus Sp.</i>)			
Whole Body	Roasted, mixed with honey and applied on ribs of infants twice or thrice daily	Pneumonia	Kharia, Kawar
Whole Body	Roasted, mixed with honey orally given with milk to infant twice daily	Cough, cold and whooping cough	Jaung, Gond
5- Leech (not specific)			
Whole Body	5-6 living leechs allowed to stick on the affected site for about 10 min utes once a week till the disease is cured.	Filaria	Gond, Mundi
Whole Body	Killed, burned in to ashes mixed with mustard oil and applied on the scalp once daily for about 10 days.	Baldness	Bhumij, Jaung
6.Pila Sp.			
Whole Body	Cooked and consumed thrice a week.	General weakness	Matya, Kolha
Flesh	Cooked with little spice orally taken and flesh consumed as food once daily for 30 days.	Asthama difficult breathing, Tuberculosis	Gond, Munda
Pila Water	Dropped in to eyes 2-3 times only.	Redness of eye	Kawar, Kolha
Shell	Burned powdered mixed with honey and applied on the tibs twice or thrice only.	Pneumonia	Kharia
7. Prawan (not specific)			
Whole body	Cooked and consumed thrice a week.	General weakness	Oraon, mankirdia

8.Unio (not specific)			
Unio Water	Filtered and dropped in to the eyes regularly.	Weak sight, Night blindness	Munda, Gond
Shell	Burned into ashes mixed with honey and applied on ribs of the children	Pneumonia difficult breathing	Matya
Flesh	Cooked and consumed	General weakness	Bhuiza
9. Pheritima posthma			
Body	Taken once daily in empty stomach for three days.		
Body	Mascrealed in water and given to ladies with cow milk after and delivery for one week once daily.	Galactose-esia	Bhumij
Body	Crushed into water and given to the victim once daily	Snake bite	Jaung, Matya
Body	Fried well in oil, remaining oil massaged on the phalius once a day, for about 20 days	Impotency	Kolha
Body	Cooked in mustered oil extract massaged on affected parts for about 15 days 2 -3 times a days.	Rheumatism, Joints Pain, Bone Fracture	Gond, Oraon, Matya
10. Glow Worm (not specific) :			
Whole Body	1-2taken orally along with banana or bread once daily for about 30 days.	Weak sight, Night blindness	Kharia
11-Honey Bee (Apis indica)			
Honey	Applied in the eyes regularly at bed times.	Weak sight disease	Kalha, Mankirdea
Honey	Dissolved slightly in warm water and taken in empty stomach once daily,	For reducing excess fat	Oraon, Munda
Honey	About half tea spoonful given to the infants thrice a day for 3-4 days.	Abdominal pain, Dirrhoea (Diarrhoe)	Oraon, Munda, Kolha
Honey	Rubbed on the gums thrice a day daily for about 2-3 days	Toothache, pyrhoea	Bhuija, Kolha
12. Honey bee (Apis indica)			
Honey	Dried banana leaf insiniriated, powered mixed with honey and orally taken for 20-25 days thrice daily.	Whooping cough, Cough and blood kities	Matya, Gond, Munda
Honey	Alsi seed powered, mixed with honey and ground almond	Galactose-esia	Bhumij
Honey	Regularly once daily, till cured		Jaung, Matya
13. Scorpion (not specific)			
Whole Body	Crused in to paste and applied on the spot once or twice daily.	Scorpion bite	Gond, Oraon, Matya
	Killed burned into ashes and mixed with coconut oil or mustard oil and applied on the scalp.	Baldness, Dandruff	Mankirdia, Gond

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