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Sesoltani, Alireza

Master thesis

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Abstract

ABSTRACT

In this Master thesis, there is an emphasis on scientific studies carried out to find information about the pharmacological effects and phytochemical constituents in 10 selected medicinal plants from Burma. These plants are taken from Burma collection compiled by Arnold Nordal during the period 1957-1961. Information was obtained about ethnomedicinal use, phytochemistry and biological activities of the 10 chosen plants.

After a thorough search in different databases, there were great differences in scientific studies for the 10 plants. Documentation for the traditional use varied for the different plants. In two of the plants (Xylia dolabriformis Benth. and Pithecellobium lobatum Benth.) there were not found documentation that can confirm the traditional uses. In three of the plants (Antiaris toxicaria Lesch., Entada phaseoloides Merr. and Acacia pennata Willd.) there was a fair number of documentation that would confirm some of the traditional uses. In the rest of the plants (Ficus religiosa L., Mimosa pudica L., Pithecellobium dulce Benth., Albizia lebbeck Benth. and Tinospora cordifolia Miers.) there was found a reasonable number of documentations and scientific studies which would confirm most of the traditional uses of the plants. For Albizia lebbeck Benth., it is antiasthmatic, antianaphylactic, antiinflammatory, nootropic, anticonvulsant, anxiolytic, antispermatogenic, antidiarrheal, antibacterial, anthelminthic and antiulcer activities that are documented in scientific studies. For Ficus religiosa L. antitumor, antioxidant, antidiabetic, antihelmintic, antimicrobial, antiamnesic, anticonvulsant, antiinflammatory and analgesic effect were documented. For Mimosa pudica L. it is antifertility, antidepressant, anticonvulsant, antibacterial, antivenom, antioxidant, antinociceptive and wound healing activity that is documented in scientific studies. Tinospora cordifolia Miers. has shown antioxidant, pro apoptotic activity, immunostimulatory, hypolipidaemic, anticancer, anti allergic, radio sensitizing, re-establishment of antioxidant defence and antiosteoporotic positive results. For Pithecellobium Dulce Benth. there was a fair number of documentations about antiinflammatory, antivenom, protease inhibition, antibacterial, antifungal, antidiabetic, hepatoprotective and abortion inducing activity.

In this thesis we have many interesting traditional indications that still have not been explained. Thus, it should be carried out several scientific studies so we may in the future be able to benefit by the properties of these medicine plants.



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The medicinal plants are used for curing the diseases since ages. There are thousands of plants that have the power to cure any human diseases either in their leaves, flowers, stems, and roots. The modern medicines are also derived from these thousands or herb plants. There are also a few wonderful plants described by Zamnesia that make great alternatives for tobacco. The plants are capable of reducing almost everything like fever, pain and the list go on. These are also anti-fungal, anti-inflammatory, anti-bacterial, and antihistamines. We have created so many modern medicines but we look at Medicinal Plants. (Contacts). Please CLICK on Underlined Categories to view: [To search for Subject Matter, depress Ctrl/F]: Kinds of Drugs. The interest in medicinal plants was especially pronounced among the early botanists who were often physicians. Drug Plants. That branch of medical science dealing with the drug plants themselves is known as Pharmacognosy. Natives of Burma and other parts of Southeastern Asia have used the seeds and oil from the chaulmoogra tree, Hydnocarpus kurzii, and related species to treat skin diseases. Thus, in a quest for a treatment for leprosy it was found at the University of Hawaii that the oil from these trees had certain acids the ethyl esters of which were productive in treating leprosy.