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NOMENCLATURE ON FLORAL PARTS OF SOME MEDICINAL PLANTS – A REVIEW

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ABSTRACT

Living in close vicinity with plants man used to utilize the natural wealth with great understanding and appreciation. Plants and its diversity allured and tempted them to seek the best out of it and care for it. Ancient Indian sages had commendable knowledge of the Plant kingdom of India. Indian Literature and Vedic history is brimmed with illustrations in the history digging into the elegance of nature in the past. Ayurveda Materia Medica inscribes many plants with diverse names and uses. Naming a plant provides a means of communication and a reference. Nomenclature of medicinal plants has been an integral part of Ayurveda since Vedic period. Nomenclature or naming the plants has a lead role in pharmacognostical identification of plant and

is the main field of taxonomy. Many times, different parts of plants such as roots, seeds, flowers, fruits etc are used for naming the plants. Ayurvedic Materia medica (Dravyaguna Vijnana) has designated as a distinct branch on nomenclature called as 'Namarupavijnana'. The synonyms were coined based on various considerations. Flowers are beautiful creation of God adding magic to the environs. This paper highlights the nomenclature of some of the

plants listed in lexicons related with flower morphology revealing its importance in naming the plants in the ancient times.

KEYWORDS: Flowers, Morphology, Namarupvijnana, Nomenclature, Pushpa, Synonyms,

INTRODUCTION

The inquisitive nature of a human being has led to the urge for exploration of the nature. In the past people lived a simple life free from materialism and close to nature. Living in close vicinity with plants man used to utilize this natural wealth with great understanding and appreciation. Plants and its diversity allured and tempted them to seek the best out of it and care for it. Indian Literature and *Vedic* history is brimmed with illustrations in the history digging into the elegance of nature in the past. The *Vedas, Puranas, Upanishads*, epics and post *Vedic* exposition illustrates the then existing flora. The ancient system of healing, *Ayurveda* grossly talks about the plant diversity and its utilization for the wellbeing of hominid. The ancient scholars were well versed with the huge wealth of plants and its diverse benefits for longevity and health. They have documented their experience and wisdom in famous lexicons that accounts for its rich heritage. *Dravyaguna vijnana* is a branch of *Ayurveda* that extensively deals with medicinal plants of *Ayurvedic* Classics, their identification, properties, action and therapeutic uses in accordance with fundamental principles of *Ayurveda*.

Nomenclature

For the betterment of humanity many ancient savants coined synonyms of the *Dravyas*. They used various tools and tactics to name the plants following the inherent principles of nature. The criteria adopted by them for nomenclature of plants was diverse and pragmatic. It is based on their medicinal uses, gross morphological characteristics etc. Coining of synonyms was based on the identification and classification of the available flora.

Ayurvedic Samhitas and Nighantus give systematic and scientific documentation of herbs with vast knowledge about many aspects related to flora. Many synonyms are ascribed to a particular plant with each name manifesting a good picture on the various aspects of plant like habit, habitat, qualities, morphology, biological actions, and therapeutic uses and so on. This multinomial nomenclature methodology reveals the intellect of our ancestors as each name describes a particular feature of plant. [1] In Vedic Kala there was less number of known drugs (Rigaveda 67, Yajurveda 81 and Atharvaveda 289) which get increased in Samhita

Kala. In this medieval period nomenclature based on therapeutic uses was in practice. Thereafter in *Nighantu Kala* various synonyms based on morphology, therapeutic uses, pharmacological actions etc. were assigned to a particular plant.^[2]

Namarupa vijnana is a special branch of *Dravyaguna Vijnana* which exclusively deals with the study of *Nama* i.e. names of the plants and *Rupa*, (the forms) i.e. appearance or morphology. Names, forms and indications of medicinal plants used in *Ayurveda* come under the scope of this branch. Ama denotes basonyms (*Mukhyanama*) as well as synonyms (*Paryayas*). Rupa is one of the characters which include morphology. Study of *nama* and rupa together of medicinal plants constitute the branch known as pharmacognosy (*Nama Roopa Vijnana*) which deals with cognition (identification) of medicinal plants. Acharya P.V. Sharma has interpreted the word *Namarupa vijnana* in different ways in his work on *Namarupajnanam* (characterisation of medicinal plants). According to him a medicinal plant can be characterized based on name and form of a substance. Secondly, the names and forms are correlated so that the entity can be identified correctly.

Classification of Plants given in *Rajanighantu* (14th century A.D.). ^[6] *Rajanighantu* is one of the eminent *nighantu* in *Dravyaguna* till date. To gain good knowledge regarding the etymology, place of origin, the properties or nature of drug, etc. sound scientific principles were geared up in form of seven factors namely *Rudhi*, *Swabhava*, *Desha*, *Lanchana*, *Upama*, *Virya*, *Itarahwaya*. ^[7] These factors were considered as the basic principles on which name of a plant must be categorized. Among the seven factors the Word '*Lanchana*' includes the names which are assigned on the basis of the special morphological characters. This reveals the incredible maneuver adopted by the ancient sages for naming the plants.

Flowers

Plant identification is an important task for researchers, students, and practitioners in field of the agriculture, forest, biodiversity protection, and so on. Among all the components of a plant, a flower's picture is crucial for identifying it because its appearances (e.g., color, shape, texture) are highly distinguishing. Appearances of flowers are stable and less invariant with weather conditions, age of plant. In views of the botanic experts, flower images therefore are most valuable source for the plant identification task. [8] Sanskrita equivalent to the flower is 'Pushpa'. 'Pushpa' is so called because it intensifies purity, helps in giving up sinful acts and is useful in providing excellent results. [9] Flowers have its importance since prehistoric time. Many archaic texts like Rigaveda mention that Ashvinikumaras wore a garland of lotus

flowers. The Goddess Sri is mentioned as being born out of a lotus (*Padmasambhava*), being lotus eyed (Padmaakshi) and having color of lotus (Padminivarna). [10]

Flowers are extensively used in Ayurveda. Different parts of flowers like petals, sepals, stamens, anthers etc are consumed in the form of Swarasa, decoction, syrup, Arka, powder adding up flavor and form to innumerable food and medicinal products. This manifests the keen observation of ancient scholars and their perspicacity to aptly use and utilize nature in its best way.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

After the literature survey of medicinal plants as mentioned in the compendiums and lexicons. The synonyms in relevance to the floral aspect of the plant were categorized along with their significant meaning. The observations are written in tabular form with their Botanical name, family, synonyms, meaning and reference as mentioned in *Bhavaprakash Nighantu* (Bh.Ni.), Dhanwantari Nighantu (Dh.Ni.), Priya Nighantu (Pr.Ni.), Raja Nighantu (R.Ni.), Ashtanga Nighantu (A.Ni.), Nighantu Adarsha (Ni.Ad.), Shodhal Nighantu (So.Ni.), Kaideva Nighantu (K.Ni.), Amarkosha (A.Ko.), Nighantu Shesha (Ni.Sh.), Charaka Samhita (Ch.), Paryayaratnamala (P.)

Table: 1 shows the list of plants with Botanical name, Family, Synonym and their meaning. [11,12]

SR NO.	NAME	BOTANICAL NAME AND FAMILY	SYNONYMS	MEANING OF SYNONYMS	NIGHANTU
1	Agastya	Sesbania grandiflora (Papilionaceae)	 Agastya Munipushpa Raktapushpa Vakrapushpa Sheegrapuhpa Ardhendupushpaka 	➤ It blossoms when Agastya star appears in the sky (autumn) ➤ Same as above ➤ Red colored flowers ➤ Curved flowers ➤ Plant bears flowers fastly ➤ Semilunar shaped flowers	>Bh.Ni. >Bh.Ni. >P. >R.Ni >R.Ni. >Pr.Ni.
2	Agnimantha	Premna mucronata (Verbenaceae)	KetuVaijyanti	➤ Projecting inflorescence like banners➤ Same as above	>Dh. Ni. >Bh.Ni.
3	Ankota	Alangium salvifolium	 Gandhapushpa Gudhamallika	➤ Fragnant flowers ➤ White flowers like	<i>>Dh. Ni. >R.Ni.</i>

		(Alangiaceae)		those of jasmine	
4	Atasi	Linum ussitatissimum (Linaceae)	 Kshuma Neelapushpi	>Nose shaped flowers >Blue colored	>Bh.Ni >Bh.Ni.
5	Atibala	Abutilon indicum (Malvaceae)	PitapushpikaVarshapushpikaVatyapushpi	Flowers ➤ Yellow flowers ➤ Flowers blossom in rainy season. ➤ It is also known as garden flower	> Bh.Ni. > Ni.Sh. > Dh. Ni.
6	Apamarga	Achyranthes aspera (Amaranthaceae)	 Shikhari Pratyakpushpa Adhahshalya Kharamanjari Durgraha 	>Flowers are present at the top >Deflexed flowers >Spinous bracteoles are there >Due to pointed perianth >Difficult to handle	>Bh.Ni >Ch. >Bh.Ni >Bh.Ni >Bh.Ni
7	Arka	Calotropis procera (Asclepidiaceae)	 Arka Raktapushpa Sadapushpa Balarka 	 ➤ Flower has the color of the rising sun ➤ Same as above ➤ Reddish orange colored flowers ➤ Flowers can be seen whole year 	>Bh.Ni. >Bh.Ni. >R.Ni.
8	Arjuna	Terminalia arjuna (Combretaceae)	> Madhugandhiprasun aka	>Flowers with honey like aroma.	<i>≻K. Ni.</i>
9	Ashoka	Saraca asoca (Papilionaceae)	 Kankeli Gandhapushpa Hemapushpa Pindapushpa Madhupushpa 	 ➤ Pleasant flowers ➤ Fragrant flowers ➤ Golden yellow flowers ➤ Dense clustered flowers ➤ Flowers blossom in spring 	> Bh.Ni. > Bh.Ni. > Bh.Ni. > Bh.Ni. > R.Ni
10	Asana	Pterocarpus marsupium (Papilionaceae)	BandhukapushpaSugandhiTishya	➤ Flowers like those of bandhuka➤ Fragrant flowers➤ Appears during late winters	> Bh.Ni. > K.Ni. > K.Ni.
11	Amra	Mangifera indica (Anacardiaceae)	 Atisaurabha Madhu Vasantapadapa Chaitravriksha Madirasakha Shaundikapriya 	 ➤ Flowers have pleasant intoxicating aroma ➤ Plant bears flowers in spring ➤ Flowering in vasanta ritu ➤ Flowers blossom in Chaitra masa 	> K.Ni . > Dh. Ni. > Ni.Sh. > K.Ni. > Dh. Ni. > K.Ni.

			>	Manmatha	>Flowers are used	► K Ni
			_	Manmana	in preparation of	PK.IVI.
					wine	
					>Same as above	
					>Aroma of flowers	
					arouses sexual	
					desire	
					➤ Beautiful flowers	
			>	Pragraha	>Golden yellow	<i>≻K.Ni.</i>
			>	Swarnanga	flowers	≽Bh.Ni.
			>	Rajavrikshakert	>Tree looks like	≽Bh.Ni.
12	Aragvadha	Cassia fistula	>	Kritamala	king of trees	
		(Caesalpinaceae)			>Flowers adorned	>Bh.Ni
			>	Karnabharana	by the garland	, 2,,,,,,
				Kanaonarana	>Flowers are used	>R.Ni.
						PR.IVI.
					as ear ornaments	
		Saccharum	>	Tula	> Flossy flowers	<i>≻K.Ni.</i>
13	Ikshu	officinarum	>	Mrityupushpa	>Appearance of	<i>≻K.Ni.</i>
		(Gramineae)		J 1 1	flower indicates the	
		, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,			death of the plant	
		Citrullus	>	Peetapushpi	➤ Yellow colored	> <i>R.Ni</i> .
14	Indravaruni	colocynthis		τεταρασηρί	flowers	PR.IVI.
		(Cucurbitaceae)				
15	Udumbara	Ficus glomerata		Dugler agle o omig	>No apparent	<i>≻R.Ni.</i>
13	<i>Oaumbara</i>	(Moraceae)	>	Pushpashoonya	flowers seen	
					>Flowers are	
1.0	T 1	Ricinus communis	>	Vyaghrapuccha	arranged in	≽Bh.Ni.
16	Eranda	(Euphorbiaceae)		, , ,	beautiful racemes	
					like tiger's tail	
					>Because of large	
			>	Brihatpushpa	inflorescence	<i>≻K.Ni</i> .
17	Kadali	Musa paradisiaca	>	Mrityupushpa	>Inflorescence	> K.Ni.
1 /	Kaaati	(Musaceae)		ттиуиризпра	indicates the end of	PR.IVI.
					the plant	
			>	Padma	➤ Beautiful flowers	≽Bh.Ni.
			>	Rajiva	>Flowers having	>Bh.Ni.
				J	numerous stamens	
		Nelumbo nucifera	>	Nalina	➤ Fragrant flowers	<i>>Bh.Ni.</i>
18	Kamala	(Nelumbonaceae)	>	Tamarasa	>Flowers produce	>Bh.Ni. >Bh.Ni.
		(INCIUMIDOMACEAE)	_	า นากนา นรน	profuse nectar	PDII.IVI.
				Chatnatus	➤ Numerous petals	Dh M:
			>	Shatpatra	can be found	>Bh.Ni.
			>	Sahastrapatra	➤Same as above	<i>>Bh.Ni.</i>
				TT 1 1 1	>Because of	>A.Ni.
			>	Udakirya	scattered flowers.	>A.Ni.
			>	Lajapushpaka	>Flowers seems like	× 1101100
19	Karanja	Pongamia pinnata			parched paddy	<i>≻K.Ni</i> .
19	Karanja	(Papilionaceae)	>	Gucchapushpaka		/IX.1¥t.
			>	Karaja		D1. M:
			>	Naktamala	bunches	>Bh.Ni.
					➤ Nail shaped flower	>Bh.Ni.

				>Flowers bloom	
				during night	
20	Karira	Capparis decidua	> Shakapushpa	>Flowers are used	>Dh. Ni.
		(Capparidaceae)		as vegetable >Flowers look like	
		Gloriosa superba	> Agnishikha	fire's flame	<i>⊳Bh.Ni.</i>
21	Langali	(Colchicaceae)	AgnishikhaAgnijihva	>Flowers are tongue	> So.Ni.
		(Colcincaceae)	Agnijinva	shaped at the tip	> 50.1 v i.
				>Flowers like those	
			> Ikshukusuma	of sugarcane	
		Saccharum	I RSHURUSUHU	> White colored	>Dh. Ni.
22	Kasa	spontaneum	> Swetachamaraka	flowers looking like	>Dh. Ni
	Tresser	(Gramineae)	, swellenentententent	chowrie	
		(014111110410)	> Sharada	>Blooming occurs	<i>⊳R.Ni.</i>
				in autumn	
		C		➤ Saffron is obtained	
23	Kumkuma	Crocus sativus	> Kusumodbhava	from the flowers	>So.Ni.
		(Iridaceae)		(anthers)	
			Mahagan dha	>Fragrant flowers	≻R.Ni.
		Holarrhena antidysenterica (Apocynaceae)	MahagandhaPravrishneya	▶Blooming in early	>R.Ni. >R.Ni.
24	Kutaja		> Pravrishneya	rainy season	>Bh.Ni.
24	Kutaja		Mallikapushpa	>Jasmine like	PDII.IVI.
		(Apocynaccae)	Girimallika	flowers	<i>▶Bh.Ni.</i>
			7 Girimanna	➤Same as above	PBILITE.
				>Saffron colored	
	Kusumbha	Carthamus tinctorius (Asteraceae)	Vahnisikha	flowers	<i>▶Bh.Ni.</i>
				>Flowers are used	4 77
25			Maharajana	for dyeing clothes	<i>>A.Ko</i>
				Same as above	. D1. M:
			> Vastraranjaka	>Color of its flower	<i>≽Bh.Ni</i> .
			> Kamalottara	resemble with that	
		Daninaasa hisinida		of Kamala > Yellow colored	
26	Kushmanda	Benincasa hisipida (Cucurbitaceae)	Peetapushpa	➤ Yellow colored flowers	≽Bh.Ni.
		(Cucuibitaceae)		>Fragrant flowers.	
				>Flowers are	<i>≻K.Ni.</i>
		Pandanus	Sugandha	covered with pollen	>Ni.Sh.
27	Ketaka	odoratissimus	Rajahapushpa	grains	
		(Pandanaceae)	Suchikapushpa	>Pin pointed shape	<i>≽Bh.Ni.</i>
				of flowers	
20	C11	Gmelina arborea	. M.1. 1 1	>Due to long	. D1. 37°
28	Gambhari	(Lamiaceae)	Mahakusumaka	inflorescence	<i>>Bh.Ni.</i>
		A house presentative	> Shikhandi.	>Fiery looking	>So.Ni.
29	Gunja	Abrus precatorius	> Angarvalli	flowering.	<i>≻A.Ni.</i>
		(Papilionaceae)		➤ Cresty flowering	
30	Chakramarda	Cassia tora	> Meshaksikusuma	>Flowers resemble	>Dh. Ni.
30	Спактататаа	(Caesalpiniaceae)		sheep's eye	
		Jasminum	> Chetaki	➤ Fragrant flowers	≽Bh.Ni.
31	Jati	officinale	> Sumana	➤Same as above	<i>⊳Bh.Ni.</i>
		(Oleaceae)	Hridyagandha	>Its fragrance	≽Bh.Ni

			> Malati	pleases the heart >Because of beautiful flowers	. >Bh.Ni. >K.Ni.
			> Ratripushpi	Flowers bloom during night	► K.IVI.
32	Jyotishmati	Celastrus panniculatus (Celastraceae)	AgnibhaSuvarnalatika	➤ Flowers look like fire➤ Golden yellow flowers	>Ni.Sh. >Dh. Ni.
33	Tulsi	Ocimum sanctum (Lamiaceae)	ChakrapushpiBahumanjariDevadundubhi	 ➤ Flowers are set densely in circles ➤ Numerous spikes in inflorescence ➤ Trumpet like inflorescence and beloved by God 	> K.Ni. > Bh.Ni. > Bh.Ni.
34	Trivrita	Operculina turpethum (Convolvulaceae)	KotaravahiniKutarana	>Funnel shaped flowers >Same as above	>A.Ni. >K.Ni.
35	Danti	Baliospermum montanum (Euphorbiaceae)	> Madhupushpa	>Flowers are full of nectar	≽R.Ni.
36	Dadima	Pumica granatum (Punicaceae)	> Lohitapushpaka	>Red colored flowers	≽Bh.Ni.
37	Daruharidra	Berberis aristata (Berberidaceae)	> Pitadru	➤ Yellow colored flowers	≽Bh.Ni.
38	Dhattura	Datura meter (Solanaceae)	 Ghantapushpa Tripushpa Shivpriya	 ➤ Funnel shaped flowers ➤ Flowers are present in a bunch of three ➤ Favourite of Lord Shiva 	>Ni.Sh. >A.Ni. >Bh.Ni.
39	Dhanvana	Grewia tiliifolia (Malvaceae)	> Raktakusuma	>Reddish voilet colored flower	≽R.Ni.
40	Dhataki	Woodfordia fructicosa (Lythraceae)	 Gucchapushpa Bahupushpika Dhatupushpi Vahnipushpa Sidhupushpi Madahetu Madyavasini 	➤ Flowers occur in bunches ➤ It bears flowers profusely ➤ Flowers have red color similar to that of gairika dhatu ➤ Reddish colored flowers resembling flame ➤ Flowers are used in preparation of sidhu (alcohol type) ➤ Flowers are used in alcoholic	>R.Ni. >R.Ni. >Bh.Ni. >Dh. Ni. >K.Ni. >A.Ni. >Dh. Ni.

				formulations >Same as above	
41	Dhanyaka	Coriandrum sativum (Umbelliferae)	ChatradhanyaChatra	➤ Umbrella shaped inflorescence found in flowers ➤ Same as above	>Dh. Ni. >Bh.Ni.
42	Nagakesara	Mesua ferrea (Guttiferae)	 Naga Nagapushpa Kanchanahvaya Champeya Hemapushpa 	 ➤ Flowers are there with hooded petals ➤ Same as above ➤ Golden yellow colored stamens ➤ Same as above ➤ Same as above 	> Bh.Ni. > Bh.Ni. > Bh.Ni. > Bh.Ni. > A.Ni.
43	Nilini	Indigofera tinctoria (Papilionaceae)	GandhapushpaphalaVrintika	➤ Aromatic flowers and fruits ➤ Long pedunculated flower.	> So.Ni. > So.Ni.
44	Padmaka	Prunus cerasoides (Rosaceae)	 Peetarakta Padmavarnaka Patalapushpavarnak a 	 ➤ Flowers have yellow red color ➤ Flowers resemble with that of lotus ➤ Flowers look similar to patala flower 	> Dh. Ni. > So.Ni. > Dh. Ni.
45	Palasha	Butea monospermum (Papilionaceae)	RaktapushpakaVakrapushpakaKinshuka	>Red colored flowers >Curved flowers >Flowers resemble parrots's beak.	>Bh.Ni. >So.Ni. >Bh.Ni.
46	Patala	Stereospermum suaveolens (Bignoniaceae)	 Kachasthali Krishnavrintkusuma Kumbhipushpi Tamrapushpi 	>Flower with black peduncle >Same as above >Flowers looks like pitcher or kumbhi flowers >Copper colored flowers	>Bh.Ni. >K.Ni. >K.Ni. >Bh.Ni.
47	Punarnava	Boerhavia diffusa (Saxifragaceae)	> Raktapushpika	>Red colored flowers	≽R.Ni.
48	Prishniparni	Uraria picta (Papilionaceae)	KroshtukapucchikaSimhapucchi	➤ Dense terminal cylindrical racemes resembling tail of jackal ➤ Inflorescence similar to that of tail of lion	>M.Ni. >Bh.Ni.

49	Bakula	Mimusops elangi (Mimosaceae)	 Simhakesaraka Kesara Surabhi Chirapushpa Gudhapushpa Sthirakusuma Madyagandha Madhugandha Sharadika 	> Stamens resemble lion's mane > Same as above > Fragrant flowers > Flowers last long > Fragrance retains for a long time > Same as above > Flower with aroma of wine > Same as above > Flowers stay upto autumn (Sharada)	> Bh.Ni > K.Ni. > R.Ni. > Dh. Ni. > R.Ni. > Dh. Ni. > Bh.Ni. > R.Ni.
50	Bala	Sida cordifolia (Malvaceae)	> Peetapushpi.	➤ Yellow colored flowers	≯A.Ni.
51	Bibhitaka	Terminalia bellerica (Combretaceae)	> Vasanta	>Flowering occurs in spring	≽Dh. Ni.
52	Madanaphala	Randia spinosa (Rubiaceae)	> Vishpushpaka	➤ Because of its toxic flowers	>Bh.Ni.
53	Madhuka	Madhuca indica (Sapotaceae)	 Lodhrapushpa Koshapushpa Madhuka Gudhpushpa Madhukoshtha Madhusthila Madhusrava Madhudruma Madhava	> Cream colored flowers like those of lodhra > Due to presence of cavities within flowers > Flowers are full of sweet juice like honey > Same as above > Same as above > Same as above > Flowers are used as basic material for preparing wine > Flowering occurs in spring season	>A.Ni. >Ni.Sh. >Bh.Ni. >Bh.Ni. >K.Ni. >Bh.Ni. >Bh.Ni. >A.Ni. >A.Ni. >Dh. Ni.
54	Mundi	Sphaeranthus indicus (Asteraceae)	 Aruna Kadambapushpi Mundi Munditika Bhikshu Tapodhana 	> Reddish violet colored flowers > Flowers resemble with those of kadamba > Flowers with compound head inflorescence > Same as above > Same as above > Same as above	> Bh.Ni. > P. > Bh.Ni. > Bh.Ni. > Bh.Ni. > Bh.Ni. > Bh.Ni.

55	Methika	Trigonella foenum (Papilionaceae)	>	Chandrika	>Due to whitish yellow flowers.	≽Bh.Ni.
56	Rohitaka	Tecomella undulata (Bignoniaceae)	A A A	Rohitaka Raktapushpaka Dadimapushpaka	> Reddish flowers > Same as above > Flowers resemble with those of dadima	>Bh.Ni. >A.Ni >Bh.Ni.
57	Vasa	Adhatoda vasica (Acanthaceae)	> >	Vajidanta Simhasya Vrisha.	> White colored flowers > Bilabiate flowers like opened mouth of lion > Flowers producing profuse nectar	>Bh.Ni. >Bh.Ni. >Bh.Ni.
58	Shatpushpa	Anethum sowa (Umbelliferae)	A	Shatapushpa Shatahva Pitika Chatrapushpa Chatra Shatachatra	> Plant with numerous flowers > Same as above > Yellow colored flowers > Due to umbrella shaped umbels > Same as above > Same as above	>Bh.Ni . >Bh.Ni. >Dh. Ni. >P.Ni >Bh.Ni. >A.Ni.
59	Shalamali	Salmalia malabarica (Bombocaceae)	A A A	Raktapushpa Salmali Kukkuti	> Beautiful red colored flowers > Same as above > Same as above	>Bh.Ni. >Bh.Ni >Dh. Ni.
60	Sunthi	Zingiber officinale (Zingiberaceae)	>	Ahicchatraka	Flowers are in the form of radical spikes on long peduncles like serpent's hood	≽Bh.Ni.
61	Syonaka	Oroxylum indicum (Bigoniaceae)	A A	Sonaka Putivriksha	> Dark red colored flowers > Foul smelling flowers.	>A.K >So.Ni.
62	Slesmataka	Cordia dichotoma (Boraginaceae)	A	Gandhapushpa Vasantakusuma	>Fragrant flowers >Flowering in spring	> R.Ni. > K.Ni.
63	Saptaparna	Alstonia scholaris (Apocynaceae)	> > >	Madagandha Guchapushpaka Shiroruka Sharada	>Intense odoured flowers >Flowers occur in clusters >Pungent odour causes headache >Flowers bloom in autumn	>R.Ni. >A.Ni. >Ni.Sh. >Bh.Ni.
64	Sariva	Hemidesmus indicus (Asclepiadaceae)	>	Sharadi	>Flowers appear in autumn	≽Bh.Ni.

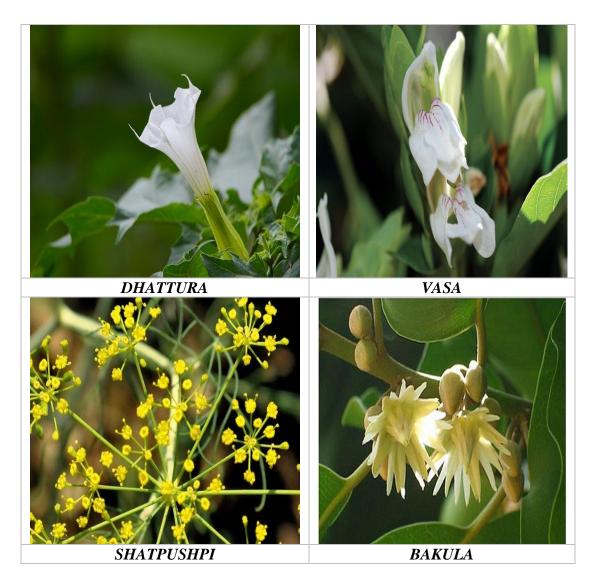
65	Saunf	Foeniculum vulgare (Umbelliferae)	>	Chatra	>Due to its inflorescence	≽Bh.Ni.
66	Chandrashur a	Lepidium sativum (Cruciferae)	>	Vasapushpa	>White colored flowers, resemble with that of vasa	≽Bh.Ni.
67	Granthiparna	Polygonum aviculare (Polygonaceae)	>	Neelapushpa	>Because of its light blue colored flowers	≽Bh.Ni.
68	Kanchnara	Bauhinia variegata (Caesalpiniaceae)	>	Shonapushpaka	>Whitish flowers	≽Bh.Ni.
69	Kovidara	Bauhinia purpurea (Caesalpiniaceae)	>	Tamrapushpa	➤ Because of its reddish pink flowers ➤ Due to short	>Bh.Ni
		-	>	Swalpakesari	heighted stamens	≽Bh.Ni.
70	Nirgundi	Vitex negundo (Verbenaceae)	>	Neelapushpi	>Bluish flowers	≽Bh.Ni.
71	Vetasa	Salix caprea (Salicaceae)	>	Abhrapushpa	>Flowers resemble with that of clouds	≽Bh.Ni.
72	Mahabala	Sida rhombifolia (Malvaceae)	>	Peetapushpa	>Yellow colored flowers	>Bh.Ni.
73	Juhi	Jasminum auriculatum (Oleaceae)	>	Hemapushpa	>Golden coloured flowers	≽Bh.Ni.
74	champa	Michelia champaca (Magnoliaceae)	*	Hemapushpa	>Due to its golden yellow colored flowers	≽Bh.Ni.
75	Kubjaka	Rosa moschata (Rosaceae)	A A	Vritapushpa Atikesara	➤ Flowers are round in shape➤ Because of numerous stamens	>Bh.Ni. >Bh.Ni.
76	Sinduri	Bixa Orellana (Bixaceae)	>	Raktapushpa	>Flowers are bloody red in color	≽Bh.Ni.
77	Shanpushpi	Crotolaria verrucosa (Papilionaceae)	>	Shanpushpasamakriti	>Flowers resemble with shan pushpa	≽Bh.Ni.
78	Drona	Leucas cephalotes (Labiatae)	>	Dronapushpi	>Flowers are similar to drona in shape	≽Bh.Ni.
79	Marubaka	Origanum majorana (Lamiaceae)	>	Prasthapushpa	>Flowering on the top	≽Bh.Ni.
80	Shirisha	Albizzia lebbeck (Fabaceae)	>	Shukapushpa	>Flowers resemble bird's beak	≽Bh.Ni.
81	Putrajihva	Putranijva roxburghii (Euphorbiaceae)	>	Yashtipushpa	>Star shaped small flowers	≽Bh.Ni.
82	Kumbhi	Careya arborea (Lecythidaceae)	>	Swadupushpa	>Flowers are sweet in taste	≽Bh.Ni.

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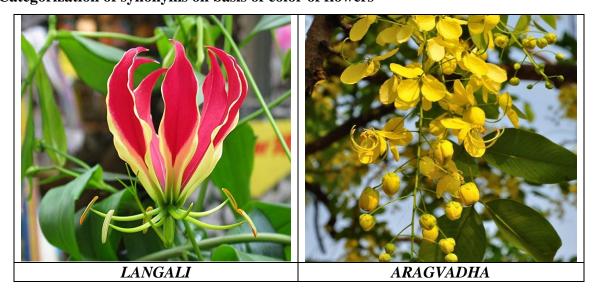
83	Koshataki	Luffa acutangula (Cucurbitaceae)	>	Peetapushpa	>Flowers are yellow in color	≽Bh.Ni.
84	Priyangu	Callicarpa macrophylla (Verbenaceae)	>	Shyama	➤Because of its dark purplish black color	>Dh. Ni.
85	Mahabhari vacha	Alpinia galanga (Zingiberaceae)	>	Sugandha	>White colored fragrant flowers	≽Ni.R.
86	Shaileya	Parmelia perlata (Parmeliaceae)	>	Sheelapushpa	As it grows on hard surface like stone	≽Bh.Ni.
87	Punnaga	Calophyllum inophyllum (Guttiferae)	>	Padmakesara	➤ Use of floral buds as substitute of nagakesara	≽R.Ni.
88	Champaka	Plumeria alba (Apocynaceae)	>	Swetacampa	>White colored flowers similar to champa flowers	≽K.Ni.
89	Ksirakakoli	Lilium polyphyllum (Liliaceae)	>	Kaveri	>Due to variegated flowers	≽K.Ni.
90	Lavanga	(Syzygium aromaticum	*	Teekshnapushpa	Sharp and pungent flower bud	≽Bh.Ni.
91	Patha	Cissampelos pareira (Menispermaceae)	>	Tiktapushpa	➤Bitter flowers	≽Bh.Ni.
92	Kadamba	Anthocephalus cadamba (Rubiaceae)	>	Vasantapushpa	>Flowering occurs in vasanta ritu	≽Bh.Ni.

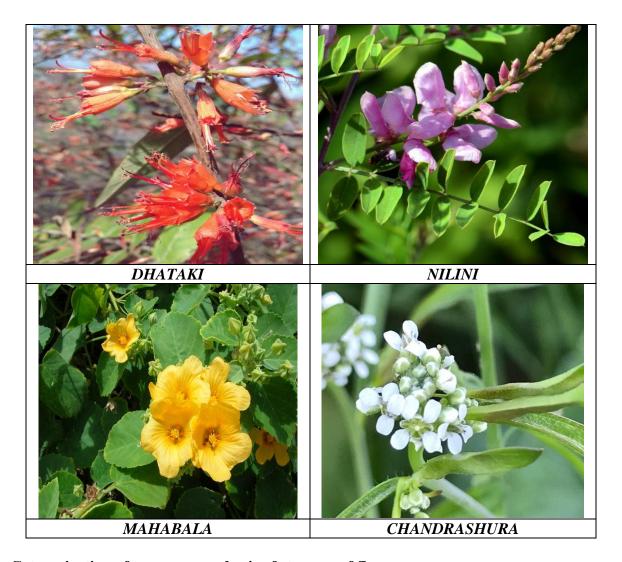
Categorization of synonyms on basis of shape of flowers



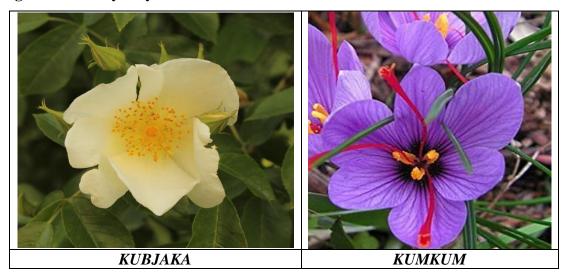


Categorization of synonyms on basis of color of flowers





Categorization of synonyms on basis of stamens of flowers



DISCUSSION

Based on the above study we can make out that the ancient physicians and scholars gave much emphasis on the morphological identification of the plants in which flowers play a

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distinctive role. The savants not only distinguished flowers on the basis of their colors but also based on their shape, size, inflorescence, floral representation as per the calyx, corolla, androecium and gynoecium, flowering season, ethnobotanical use and cultural utility, their resemblance with other flowers and their habitat.

These parameters indicate that flowers played a significant role at that time. Their nomenclature as described by them has played an important role in the identification and use of the plants. Even though this nomenclature is vague enough to create a standardized plant identification parameter and may lead to controversy or misidentification of plants. On the contrary this nomenclature revealed the close connection of humans and plant life which proved that plants were an integral part of their lives. It also shows they were scintillating observerants. Though much has been done in today's time for naming the plants based on their taxonomical classification—but still the morphological way of naming the plants has its own significance till date.

CONCLUSION

Naming a plant not only adds to its identification, it also provides a medium for communication and reference. These names not only throw light on the closeness of humans with nature but were beautiful enough that people used these names in daily life for referring to a god, goddess and even their close ones.

As in this paper synonyms related to the floral parts of the plants are compiled and studied. We conclude that the kind of naming system given by the ancient scholars was not only simple but easy to remember and a distinct name was a clear identification of the plant. Thus, synonyms are the boon in the traditional system of medicines specially the Materia medica. It must be promoted and further research work must be done to study in depth the logic and reasoning behind these synonyms and nomenclature.

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