Review article



MIMUSOPS ELENGI LINN:A REVIEW Anuradha.S.N¹, Arunkumar.S²

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ABSTRACT

Malaysia has diverse population combined by three races with their traditional system of medications. Large fraction of this population still depends mainly on traditional medicine. Use of herbal products is getting familiar in the growing generation as awareness on personnel healthcare has become a way of life. The naturally available plant products proved to be a no side effect medication foe a numerous diseases conditions. One of the traditional Indian system of medicine, Siddha uses the bark, fruit and seeds of Mimusops Elengi, which has several medicinal properties. Various plant parts(root, bark, leaves, flowers, fruit & seeds) have been found to be useful as cardio tonic, alexipharmic, stomachic, hypotensive, antibacterial, anthelmintic, antiulcer, teeth strengtheners and renewable source of energy.

Keywords: Mimusops Elengi Linn, Phytoconstituents, Pharmacological Activites

INTRODUCTION

Traditional medicinesare being practiced from the early human civilizations. Based on hundreds of years of belief, observations, and analysis the pharmacological action of these medicines were established. Different parts of the plant have different pharmacological actions, which is evaluated and used in development of modern medicine. Interest on use of herbal drugs is widely growing nowadays. This interest is basically upon the belief that herbal medicines are safe, comparatively less expensive and have less adverse side effects. Even today, nearly 80 percent of people depend mainly on traditional medicines as reported by the World Health Organization. Natural products are known to play an important role in Ayurveda and Allopath. Plants are an important source of medicine from thousands of years. In fact, many of the current synthetic drugs either it have mimic naturally occurring molecules or similar structures that are fully or in part derived from natural motifs[1]. Plants are considered as chemical factories which biosynthesize a variety of chemical compounds such as alkaloids, glycosides, saponins, resins, lactones and oils which act on human body in different ways. Due to the presence of specific phytochemicals synthesized in different parts of the medicinal plants, they exhibit the biological property. These phytochemicals can be invaluable to health of

Address for correspondence: Anuradha.S.N, Lecturer, Facult of pharmacy, AIMST University, Semeling, Bedong, Malaysia. Email: anuharisiva@gmail.com researches on the medicinal plants about their medicinal values have forced scientists to search for plant-derived drugs for treatment of illness. Therefore, there has been growing interest among scientists to isolate and study the pharmacological properties of the phytochemicals. Herbal medicines are widely used to cure a wide variety of healthrelated problems ranging from treatment of common colds to treatment of cancer.

*Mimusopselengi*Linn. (*M. elengi*) is an evergreen ornamental tree of the family *Sapotaceae*with pleasant fragrant flowers. It carries a variety of names such as Bakul (Hindi and Bengali), Spanish cherry, West Indian Medlar or Bullet wood tree (English), Bakula (Sanskrit) *etc.* in different languages [2,3,4].

Minusops elengi is considered as a sacred plant with fragrant flowerswhih is considered as symbol of love and beauty [5,6] Mimusops elengi Linn. (M. elengi) is a large glabrous evergreen trees 12-15 m high, with a compact leafy head and short erect trunk, bark smooth, scaly, and gray, Leaves 6.3-10 by 3.2-5 cm, elliptic shortly acuminate, glabrous, base acute or rounded, petioles 1.3-2.5 cm long, flower white, fragrant, nearly 2.5 cm across solitary, buds ovoid, acute; pedicels 6.20 mm long. Calyx 1 cm long, stamens 8, opposite to the inner circle of lobes. Ovary appressedly silky-pubescent, fruit berry about 2.5 cm long, ovoid, yellow when ripe, solitary, ovoid, compressed, seed brown. shining[7]. It has made important contribution to the field of science from ancient times as also to modern research due to its large number of medicinal properties [8,9,10]. Mimusopselengi contains a variety of active components possess various kinds of biological and pharmacological activities. It has some biological and pharmacological activities such as antibacterial, antifungal, anti-carcinogenic, antihyperglycemic, antiviral, anti-hemorrhoidal and cytotoxic activities. It is also reported as antiulcer, anti-inflammatory, antianxiety, anti-hyperlipidemic, anticonvulsant, analgesic, antipyretic, antioxidant, cytotoxic, anti-diabetic, diuretic and hypotensive activity (Table 1) [11, 12] Some of the traditional and modern uses of the different parts of the plant mimusops elengi linn is listed in Table 1.

TAXONOMY AND NOMENCLATURE:

Kingdom: Plantae,

Order: Ericales, Family: Sapotaceae,

Family. Sapolaceae

Genus: Mimusops,

Species: M. elengi L.,

Binomial name: Mimusopselengi (L).

It is distributed throughout South India and Andaman Islands in evergreen forests and grown as avenue tree[7].

PLANT MORPHALOGY[40, 41,42,43]

Mimusops elengi Linn tree has origin of western peninsula. The tree also found in South India in dry evergreen forests, hills up to 20 meter height, **Table-1: Uses of** *Mimusopselengi* Linn

western coast and in evergreen forests. It is seen in Andaman, Martaban, Tenasserim, Burma and the Western Ghats and in dry areas of Eastern Ghats.

The Mimusops Elengi widely spread in India. It is planted for its flower and decorative appearance in the garden. It gives good shade in front of house. Cultivation could be done by germination of seeds. The seeds are soaked in the warm water for at least one day before pretreatment to increase the germination capacity. Pre-treatment of seeds involves soaked into 0.5 - 1.0% solution of thio-urea and the efficiency of total germination increased to 75%. After pre-treatment, seeds take 12 - 15 days for germination it is left into polythene bags for one month. The growth of the plant is very slow which take nearly 18 months in the initial stage before field plantation.

MACROSCOPY AND MICROSCOPY

Macroscopical and microscopical characteristics of mimusops elengi linn are presented in Table 2.

PHYTOCHEMICAL SUBSTANCES PRESENT IN MIMUSOPS ELENGI LINN

Different parts of plant has different phytoconstituents are listed in Table 3.

Root	Stem	Bark	Leaf	Flower	Fruit	Ripe fruit	seed
	P100404-20		Real of the second s	Louise .	(unripe)		
Aphrodisiac	Antiprotozoal ¹³	Tonic	Anthelmintic ^{19,20}	Wound healing	Protect loose teeth	Aphrodisiac	Constipation
Diuretic	Anti diabetic ²⁴	Strengthen teeth	Anti pyretic ²¹	Brain tonic	Antioxidant 25	Diuretic	Fix loose teeth
Astringent for bowel	Wound healing ³⁵	Odontopathy	Anti inflammatory ^{21,22}	Cephalagia		Astringent for bowel	burning
Strengthen gums		Urethrorrhoea	Antioxidant ²⁵	Expectorant		Strengthen gums	Mollucicidal ^{37,} 38
Gonorrhea		Cystorrhoea	Antihypertensive	Liver problems		Gonorrhea	
Gargle for teeth and gums		Diarrhea	Anti diabetic ²⁸	Nose problems		Chronic Dysentery	
antipyretic		Dysentery	Analgesic ²⁹			Facilitate delivery	
		Analgesic	Cytotoxic ³²			Anti pyretic	
		Antipyretic	Mollucicidal ^{37,38}			Source of food	
		Geneto urinary diseases					
		Anti microbial ^{14,15}					
		Antiviral ^{16,17}					
		Antiulcer ¹⁸					
		Anti inflammatory ²²					
		Anti hyperlipidemic ²³					
		Anti hyperglycemic ²⁴					
		Antioxidant 26					
		Antiurolimiatic ²⁷					
	-	Antianxiety ²⁴					
		Anticonvulsant ²⁴					
		Cytotoxic ^{30,31}					
		Diuretic ^{33,34}					
		Wound healing 35					
		Larvicidal ³⁶					
		Mollucicidal ^{37,38}					

Table -2: Macroscopy & Microscopy of Mimusopselengi Linn

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Part of plant	Macroscopy	Microscopy	figures
Stem bark	The fresh bark is gravish black, channelled, occurs in pieces of 15-25 cm long and 10-15 cm broad. Externally rough due to the presence of vertical lenticels, cracks and longitudinal fissures. The dried bark is black, curved, thin, fibrous and longitudinally striated fracture along ⁴⁰	Transverse section of bark shows 5-6 layers of cork cells, 2-3 layers of phellogen, 2-3 layers of phelloderm followed by cortex. The cork originates in the sub epidermis or second layer of cortex. Pericycle is represented by a discontinuous ring consisting of thick walled fibers and parenchyma. The secondary phloem is a wide zone of tissue composed of sieve tubes, companion cells, phloem parenchyma, alternating with strands of phloem fibers transverse by phloem rays which are filled with latex. Secretary cells are present, they are elliptical in shape and lined by epithelial cells ^{5,40,44}	T.S of Bark ⁶⁵
Fruit and Seed	Berry ovoid, 2.5 cm long with. It turns yellow and it tastes astringent and sweet. Fruits occur in rainy season, when ripe containing 1, rarely 2 seeds. Seeds are grayish brown, solitary, ovoid, compressed, shining ^{6,9}	Transverse section of seed shows pericarp which is composed of exocarp, mesocarp and a hard endocarp; presence of secretory canals lined with 5-7 epithelial cells is a characteristics. The mesocarp consist of a broad parenchymatous zone, most of the cells of which are filled with masses of rubber like substances. Numerous vascular bundles are scattered in the mesocarp region. The endocarp cells are thick walled. The seed lies enclosed within the endocarp. The testa is 1-1.5 mm thick and is distinguished into five distinct concentric regions. Thin perisperm separates the testa from endosperm. The endosperm and cotyledonous cells are thin walled ^{5, 40, 45}	T.S of seed ⁶⁵
Leaves	The leaves are glossy and are dark green when old with 6.3 - 10 cm in long and 3.2 - 5 cm in wide. The new leaves mostly appear in February when the trees often appear bright vivid green. Leaves are variable, elliptic, oblong or oblanceolae, short or long acuminate, margin undulate, closely but faintly veined. Petioles 1.2 - 2.5 cmlong, whereas the dried leaves are Blackish green in color. ⁴⁰	Transverse section of leaf shows a dorsiventral structure, heavily thickened and strongly striated with ridged cuticle on both surfaces. The stomata, present on the lower surface, are ranunculaceous or rubiaceous and striationsemanate from the sides of stomata. The glands are present only on upper surface. Trichomes are always two armed, each arm being pointed. Mesophylls consist of 2-3 layers ofpalisade tissues and 5-6 layers of spongy parenchyma. The hypodermal cells are thick walled. Vascular bundle is capped by sclerenchymatous fibers. Laticiferous cells containing latex, solitary crystals of calcium oxalate, tannin and brownish contents are present. Stomatal index-10.36, palisade ratio-5, vein islet number- 11, vein termination number-12. ^{9,46}	T.S of leaf ⁶⁵ Color close Task Task Task Task Task Task Task Task Task Task Task Task Task Task

Different Phytoconstituents adle -3:

	Bark [47-51.64]	Seeds [52-60]	Root [61.63]	Flowers	Leaves [62.12]	Fruit [60]
Tannins	X		[01,00]		X	X
Saponins	Х	Х	Х		Х	Х
Triterpenoids	Х	Х		Х	Х	
Phytosterols	Х	Х	Х		Х	
Fattyacid	Х		Х			
esters						
Saturatered fatty acid		Х				
Glycoside	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	
Amino acid	Х				Х	Х
Sugar				Х	Х	Х
Alcohol	Х			Х		
Volatile	X			X		
organic matter						

X – indicates presence of chemicals

REPORTED RESEARCH WORKS IN *MIMUSOPS ELENGI* **LINN**

Till the date more than 20 pharmacological activites are reported in *Mimusops elengi* linn are listed in Table 4.

Table -4: Pharmacological Activites

S.No	Pharmacological activity	Part of plant	Type of extract
1	Anthelmintic	Leaves	Ethyl acetate fraction of methanolic
			extract[20]
		bark	Methanolic extract[66]
			Aqueous & Ethanolic extract[67]
2	Anti anxiety	Bark	Methanolic, Aqueous & n-butanol[68]
3	Anti hyperlipidemic	Bark	Methanolic[23,69]
4	Anti ulcer	Bark	Alcoholic &pet.ether[18]
			Ethyl acetate fraction of n-butanol &
			methanolic extract[70]
5	Anti convulsant	Bark	Methanolic, Aqueous &n-butanol
			extract[71]
6	Anti inflammatory, analgesic	Leaves	Methanolic extract[32]
	& anti pyretic		Ethanolic extract[72]
		bark	Ethanolic extract[22]
7	Anti oxidant	Bark	pet.ether, chloroform & alcoholic
			extract[27]
			methanolic extract[/3]
		1	chloroform extract[26]
		leaves	methanolic extract [/4]
			crude methanonc[75]
		Unring fruit	exulacis[70,52]
8	Anti urolithiatic	Bark	pet ether, chloroform & alcoholic
0	Anti uronunaue	Dark	extract[27]
9	Anti arthrosclerotic	Leaves	Methanolic extract[78]
10	Anti microbial	Bark	Methanolic & Aqueous extract[79]
10		Leaves	Pet.ether& acetone[80]
		Fruit	Ethanolic extract[81]
11	Antibacterial	Seed	Ethyl acetate fraction of aqueous
		Leaves	&pet.ether[82]
			Toluene, methanol, ethanol
			& chloroform[83]
			Ethyl acetate & methanol[84]
		Bark	Aqueous & acetone[85]
			Acetone -water, ethanol-water, methanol -
			water[15]
			Ethanolic extract[86]
			Chloroform extract[87]
10			Aqueous & Ethanolic extract[88]
12	Antifungal	Leaf & bark	Sterile & nonsterile extracts[89]
10			Aqueous extract[84]
13	Cognitive enhancing activity	Flower	Alcoholic extract[90,91]
14	Cyto toxic activity	Bark	Methanolic extract[30]
		T C	Ethanolic extract[31]
		Leat	Niethanolic extract[32]
		Flower	Ethanolic extract[92]

15	Anti diabetic	Leaves Bark Flowers & leaf	Alcoholic & Aqueous extracts[28] Methanolic extract[73] Aqueous extract[93] Methanolic extract[94]
16	Anti tyrosinase	Bark, flower, fruit & leaves	Methanolic extract[95]
17	Immuno-stimulatory	Bark	Methanolic extract[96]
18	Larvicidal activity	Bark	Hexane & ethyl acetate extracts[36]
19	Spermicidal activity	Seeds	Crude extract[97]
20	Diuretic	Bark	pet.ether, chloroform & alcoholic extract[34] Ethyl acetate fraction of ethanol & water extract[33]
21	Wound healing effect	Bark	Methanolic extract[35]
22	Anti viral		Aqueous & methanolic extracts[17]

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CONCLUSION

In spite of our great dependence on modern medicines and tremendous advances in synthetic drugs, a large portion of humankind still prefers the drugs of plant origin. The plant products prove to be safer and healthier. Since 200 BC from the Sushrut Samhita Period, Minusops elengi linn has been used therapeutically. Most of the parts of this plant such as leaf, fruit, seed, bark and flowers have medicinal properties and used to cure a variety of diseases. Many pharmacologically active compounds with different chemical structures are present in this plant making it a unique source. This reported information's gathered in this review will be useful for further identification, isolation and evaluation of the active moiety and to standardize the use. The identified active moieties structural similarities can be a research topic in evaluation of the disease conditions and the pharmacological actions. Nowadays, development of modern drugs from natural origin is encouraged hence a deeper and thoughtful research study on Mimusops Elengi Linn can be emphasized to study the biological and pharmacological actions to cure various diseases conditions.

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