

PASHANBHEDA: A VALUABLE MEDICINAL PLANT

¹G. S. Indoriya,

²Sharma Ashwini Kumar,

³Tanwar Pankaj

1. Principal, Pt.M.M.M.Government Ayurved College,Udaipur Rajasthan.
2. Associate professor, (P.G.Department Dravya Guna) Pt.M.M.M.Government Ayurved College,Udaipur Rajasthan.
3. P.G. Scholar Pt.M.M.M.Government Ayurved College,Udaipur Rajasthan.

ABSTRACT :

The word Pashanbheda is made of two words first is Pashan means a stone and second is Bheda means to break. Means one which breaks the stones. Stones means renal and bladder stones or ordinary stones disintegration of the calculi in the bladder and kidney. There are so many plants that are used by this name like *Saxifraga ligulata*, *Aerva lanata*, *Aerva javanica*, *Homonium riparia* etc. due to their diuretic and lithotriptic activities. One of such plant that is widely accepted under the name of *Pashanbheda Bergenia ligulata Syn. Saxifraga ligulata*. The rhizomes of this plant are used to prevent and expel urinary stones.

Key words: *Bergenia ciliata*, disintegration, urinary bladder, *pattharachoor*, Renal stone.

INTRODUCTION: *PASHANBHEDA* (*Bergenia ciliata*) grows up by breaking stones and its very interesting that it also used for removal of renal stones by breaking them. It synonymously called velvet leaf. It also known by the common names *pattharaachata*, *pattharachoor*, *silphora* etc. *pashanbheda* has a special place in Ayurveda as it is a main drug for stone of kidney and urinary bladder. It is an evergreen plant the concentration of alkaloids remain good in winter season. The native place of ciliate Central Asia. It is mostly found in Himalayas region and Khasia hills of Meghalaya. It can survive even extreme condition even in stones without soil. It is wonderful that leaves produces new plants that come contact with an suitable climate. It is a small perennial herb with red coloured flower. The leaves of this plant resemble very much banyan tree. The pieces of root of this plant are sold as *pashanbheda* in Gujarat and North India market. It grows in the temperate

Himalayas from Kashmir to Bhutan between 7500 to 10000 ft. and Khasia hills. 2,3,4,7

Ayurvedic properties and Pharmacological action: According to ayurveda literature *Pashanbheda* is *kasaya* (Astringent) and *Tikta* (bitter) in rasa, *Laghu* (light) and *Snigdha* (smooth) in *guna* (properties) *sita* (cold) in *virya* (potency) and *katu* (Pungent) in *vipaka* (metabolism). Due to these properties, it pacifies *tridosha* *Vat*, *Pitta* and *Kapha*. It has *mutra virechaniya* (diuretic) *karm* (action).

Local/Vernacular Names: *Patharachat*, *Asmabhedaka*, *Silibheda*, *Patharakuchi*, *Himsagara*, *Patrankur*, *Pakhanbheda*, *Silpbheda*, *Hiitoaga*, *Pasanberu*, *Hittulaka*.

Hindi – *Dakachru*, *Pakhanbheda*, *Patharcua*, *Silpbheda*.

Assamese – *Patharkuchi*

Bengali – *Himasagara*, *Patharchuri*, *Patrankur*.

Gujrati - *Pakhanbheda*, *Pashanbheda*.

Kashmiri - Pashanbheda.

Kannad – Alepgaya, Hittaga, Hittulaka, Pahanbhedi, Pasanberu.

Malayalam – Kallurvanchi, Kallurvanni, Kallorvanchi.

Marathi - Pashanbheda.

Mizoram – Khamdamdawi, Pandamdawi.

Oriya – Pashanbhedi.

Punjabi – Batipa, Dharposh, Kachalu.

Tamil – Sirupilai.

Telugu – Kondapindi, Telanurupindi.

Urdu – Krchalu, pakhanbheda.

Synonyms –

Asmaghana, Upalabhedaka, Sailodbheda.¹

Species of pasanbheda uses in different parts of India-(1)

S.N.	BOTANICAL NAME	FAMILY	LOCAL NAME & PLACE WHERE USED	Useful part
1	<i>Aerva lanata</i> Juss.	<i>Amaranthaceae</i>	Sirupeeli or sirupoolai (Tamil), Cherubula (Malayalam), Pindiconda (Telugu),Rajasthan	Whole plant but the siddha physicians used only roots.
2.	<i>Aerva javanica</i> Juss.	<i>Amaranthaceae</i>	Gorakha-Ganjo (Gujarat)	
3.	<i>Ammania bacifera</i> Linn.	<i>Lythraceae</i>	Kerala , Agiyo (Gujarat) , Kalluruvi (Tamil, Malayalam and Kannada) , Neermale neruppu (Tamil), Agni – vednapaku (Telugu)	
4.	<i>Rityka aquatic</i> Lour	<i>Ehretiaceae</i> or <i>Boraginaceae</i>	Mysore	
5.	<i>Bergenia ligulata</i> (wall)or <i>Saxifraga ligulata</i>	<i>saxifragaceae</i>	Patharaachura (Kashmir) Kashmir to Bhutan , Khasia hills. (root pieces of this plant are sold as Pashanbheda in Gujarat and north India.	Used special for lythophytic action.
6.	<i>Coleus aromaticus</i>	<i>Labiatae</i>	Bengal	Useful part is root
7	<i>Bryophyllum calicynum</i> Salisb. Or <i>Kalanchoe pinnata</i>	<i>Crassulaceae</i>	Bengal	Zakhme Hayat in Unani means leaves juice is best styptic, stops bleeding and cures the

				wound.
8.	<i>Bridelia Montana</i>	<i>Euphorbiaceae</i>	Also called Fater –food (stone crusher) in Goa	
9.	<i>Homania riporia</i> <i>Lour</i>	<i>Euphorbiaceae</i>		
10.	<i>Ocimum basilicum</i>	<i>Labiatae</i>		

Pharmacological action of pasanbheda is *Mutrakrcch hara* , *Asmarihara* (remove renal stone), *Prameh hara* (anti diabetic) , *yonirog hara* (effective in vaginal diseases) , *Plihodara* (effective in spleen disorders) , *Hridrog hara* (effective in cardiac disorders) and *Gulm.* ^{1,2,7}

Classical references – ^{5,6,7}

Acharaya Charaak has cauterized it in *Mutra virechaniya Mahakasaya.*

Acharaya Susruta and Vagabhatta include it in *Virtarvadi Gan.*

Useful part – Root

Dosage – powder – 3 to 6 gm. , Decoction – 50 -100 ml.

Important formulation – *Pasanbhedadi ghrat* , *Pasanbhedadi churna* , *Pasanbhedadi kavtha(Decoction)*

Chemical constituents:

1- Berganin alias cuscutin is trihydroxybenzonic acid glycoside. It possesses o- demethylated derivative , so called nor bergenin . it has some extraordinary effects in boosting immunity.

2- B – sitosterol is plant sterols. It is an analgesic component. It increases the pain tolerance by 300 percent . it is structurally similar to cholesterol . they are hydrophobic and alcohol soluble.

3- B – sitosterol –D- glucoside is basically having some analgesic effect . we can increase pain tolerance 157 percent by use of it .

4- Leucocyanidin is used for the treatment of many diseases. It has antiseptic, anti convulsant, anesthetics and anti asthmatic property.

5- Gallic acid- It is a type of phenolic acid or a type of organic acid . It is also known as gallates . It is found in many plants .Mainly it is used in ink industry and pharma industry .

6- Methyl gallate – it is well known anti oxidant. It reduces the aging process.

7- Catechin – it is a chemical that effects on the B M I . it is beneficial in obesity and reduces extra fat. Usually it reduces subcutaneous fat .

8- Mucilage – it is a common thick , gluey substance, which is found in most of the plants. Plants use it as food storage agent . it is useful in gastro intestinal inflammatory disorders.

Medicinal properties and uses of it –

1- It acts as a very good diuretic. It can be used for many diseases like cardiac asthma, renal failure etc.

2- Breaks and rebreaks the kidney stones and that is the drug of choice of the urinary tract disease or infection.

3- It works as hepatoprotective agent and commonly found in many herbal liver products.

4- It acts as a very good anti oxidant and usually used in many herbal preparations.

5- It is widely used for the treatment of obesity. It reduces the subcutaneous fats.

6- It is effective in jaundice or hepatitis.

7- It has anti-aging ability and that can help us in keeping ourselves fresh and energetic.

8- It is a good medicine for disease of genital area and often use in homely medications.

9- It acts as very good renal tissue protective agent.

10- It is useful as an antidote in opium poisoning.

11- It helps in breakdown of renal stones and it is specialist for this purpose.

12- It is helpful in hydronephrosis and keeps the kidneys safe.

13- It is helpful in chronic renal diseases.

14- It helps in controlling of diarrhea and dysentery.

15- It works as antimicrobial agent.

16- It helps in controlling diabetes and reduces the chance of diabetic renal disease.

17- Root powder of Pashanbheda described for turbid urine of children. (i)

18- Decoction of root powder of its 5 gm. with honey 10 gm. is useful in Amebic dysentery, Opium toxicity, Leucorrhoea, Menorrhagia, Dysmenorrhoea, Renal pain and Calculi.

19- Mix powder of *Pashanbheda* root, *Glycyrrhiza glabra*, *Pedaliium murex*, *Hygrophila auriculata*, *Bamboo manna*, 1-1 part, sugar 5 parts with cow milk two times a day for Seminal weakness, Premature ejaculation, Spermatorrhea.

Research:

1 – The aqueous, alcoholic and acetone extracts of roots (20 mg./kg i v.) produced transient fall in B P of anaesthetized dogs.

Only alcoholic extract potentiated pentobarbitone – induced hypnosis in mice in a dose of 50 mg/ kg. An oral dose of 0.5g/kg of alcoholic extract showed a significant diuretic activity in rats.(Sharma,1970).

2 – Alcoholic extract of rhizome showed anti-cancer activity in walker carcinosarcoma 256 in rats. It also showed anti- protozoal activity against Ent. Histolytica.(Dhara et al.1968).H

3- The aqueous extract had some diuretic effect in rats and insignificant anti – lithic activity in male rats (Maurya et al.1972)I

4 – In silico Antiuro lithiatic screening of *aerva lanata* (L) Isolated constituents - Basavraj M Dinninath and Sunil S Jaldpure . Indian Journal of Pharamaceutical Education and Research / Vol. 49 /Issue -2 / April – June -2015 Page – 126- 133.

5 – Enoeavour Of Pashanbheda (*Bergenia Ligulata* (Wall.) In Urolithasis Prakash Sanjay Page 158-164

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6- Critical analysis of herbs acting on Mutravah Srotas . Savitha O Bhat , B. K. Ashok , Rabinaryan Acharaya . Ayu Volume 31 , Issue -2 . Page - 167-169

7 -Studies on Antimicrobial Potentials of *Aerva lanata* Fractions

B M Dinnimath And S S Jalalpure²

Kleu's college of pharamacy, Nehrunagar, Belgaum-590010

CONCLUSION: In the present era, herbs are being rediscovered, as people around the world seek a healthier and more natural life style and Pashanbheda is one of the important herbal plants. *Bergenia ligulata* is an important medicinal plant used for the treatment of various diseases specially in renal stone and urinary tract infection. Pashanbheda is used in vitiated condition of vata pitta and kapha.

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Corresponding Author: Dr.G. S. Indoriya, Principal, Pt.M.M.M.Government Ayurved College,Udaipur Rajasthan.
Email: drashwinisharma1972@gmail.com

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