



## CLASSICAL REVIEW OF KANTAKARI

**Dr. Nidhi Garg\***

PhD scholar in Dravya guna, Dept. in Sri Ganganagar College of Ayurvedic Science and Hospital Sriganganagar. \*Corresponding Author

**Dr Om Prakash Sharma**

Professor and HOD of P.G dept of dravyaguna in Sri Ganganagar College of Ayurvedic Science and Hospital Sriganganagar.

**Dr. Akhil Jain**

Associate Professor in Shalakyta Tantra Dept. Uttarakhand Ayurvedic University Harrawala Dehradun.

**ABSTRACT**

Botanical name of kantakari is Solanum surattense and family is Solanaceae Kantakari is a widely used and easily available herb. Kantakari is a potent medicinal plant which is also widely used in single drug therapy for different diseases. In Charaka Samhita kantakari is mentioned in Kanthya, Hikkanigrahana, Kasahara, Shothahara, Sheetaprashamana, Angmardprashamana (Ch.Su.4) and Madhura-Skandha (Ch.Vi. 8) In Sushruta Samhita kantakari is mentioned in Brihatyadi, Varunadi and Laghupanchamoola Gana (Su. Su. 38). In Bhavprakash Acharya Bhavamishra described two types Shwetapushpi and Neelapushpi Kantakari in Guduchyadi Varga.. Kantakari is available widely but its part used is root.. According to classics, in laghupanchapanchmoola, the moola of kantakari is used. While in other formulations panchanga is to be used. Generally in market whole plant i.e. panchanga of kantakari is sold instead of root. Classically it is used in Swas, kasa, aruchi, jwara, aamdosha, haridyaroga, Pinasa, Parshvashool har Kapha, Vaatshamak, Ashmari, Mutrakricha, krimi, medoroga, sukrareshchaka. Modern studies have also explicitly revealed that kantakari has a wide range of pharmacological effects such as, anti-inflammatory, anti-bacterial activity, anti-fungal activity, antiasthmatic, anti fertility, hypoglycaemic, anthelmintic, molluscidal activity etc.. The present article attempts to provide comprehensive information on the classical uses of Yashtimadhu for further research.

**KEYWORDS :** antiasthmatic, hypoglycaemic, anthelmintic, molluscidal, aghupanchapanchmoola**INTRODUCTION**

Kantakari of the family Solanaceae is one of the dasamoola and commonly used drug in Ayurveda. Dasamoola literally means combination of ten plant roots together. It comprises roots of five big or major trees (Brihat panchamoola) and roots of five small or minor herbs (Laghu panchamoola). Kantakari comes under Laghu panchamoola. Dasamoola is an important compound formulation of Ayurveda and has been advocated with promising results in various diseases. Kantakari is widely used to treat respiratory diseases in Ayurveda. Ayurvedic classics categorized this plant under Kasahara, Sotha hara, Hikka nigrahana, Kantya, Anga marda prasamana, Sheetaprasamana dasemaanis (Group of ten drugs). It is used especially in treating kasa (cough), shwasa (bronchial asthma), jwara (fever) etc.

**Botanical Name:** Solanum surattense<sup>1</sup>**Family:** Solanace**CLASSIFICATION IN BRIHATRAI:**

In Ayurveda Name Brihatrai is used for charak samhita, sushruta samhita and Ashtang haridya. References of kantakari found in Brihatrayi are given below.

**Charaka Samhita:**<sup>2</sup>

- Kashahara mahakashaya
- Sothahara mahakashaya
- Hikkanigrahara mahakashaya
- Angmard prashaman mahakashaya

**Sushruta Samhita:**<sup>3</sup>

- Brhatyadi gana
- Varunadi gana
- Laghupanchmoola gana

**Ashtang Haridaya:**<sup>4</sup>

- Brhatyadi gana
- Varunadi gana

**Sanskrit Synonyms:**

Kantkari:	It is full of thorns
Shudra:	Smaller in size than brahati
Dusparsha:	Its touch create pain
Shudraphala:	Due to small fruit
Dhavni:	Due to straggling plant
Chirtaphala:	Due to variegated fruit

Kantki :	Due to thorny plant
Dravini:	Due to action of liquefies cough
Nidigdhika:	Due to its ushna, teekshna guna which spread all over in body very easily
Vyaghri :	Difficult to touch due to present thorns
Rastyika:	Grows on every soil or land

**Synonyms Of Kantakari In Brihatryi****Table Synonyms Charak samhita Susruta sanhita Ashtang Haridya**

Kantakari	+	+	+
Nidighika	+	+	+
Brihtya	+	+	+
Vyaghri	+	+	+

**HISORY OF DRUG -**

**1. Vedic Period** – In Vedic period there is no direct description or reference about kantkari. However in Atharvaveda plant name kanta is used for kantkari but not in context to kasahara drug (A.V.P.18/15)

**2. Samhita Period-** Samhita kala is the period in which the drugs are classified into various Ganas according to their properties and actions. Besides this, various drugs are mentioned in various Yogas for the treatment of diseases.

a) Charak Samhita (1000 B.C TO 4th century A.D):- In charak samhita acharya charak categorized Kantakari in kasahara, sothahara, kanthya and angamarda prashaman mahakashya. About 150 formulations of Kantkari are described by Acharya charaka

b.) Sushruta Samhita (1000 B.C. TO 5th CENTURY A.D.) First of all Acharya sushrut introduced misharaka gana on the basis of action of the dravya as well as its structure. The term Laghupanchmoola was mentioned by Acharya sushrut in his classification of dravya .

He described kantkari under Laghupanchmool Gana.

c) Ashtang Haridaya (700AD) In Ashtang haridya Acharya Vagabhatta describe kantakari in Brihatyadi and varunadi gana about 104 formulations are describe in by Acharya

**Classification Kantkari in Nighantus -**

- Bhavprakash : Guduchyadi Varga
- Raj Nighantu : Shatahvadi Varga
- Madanpal Nighantu : Abhayadi Varga

- Kaiyav Nighantu : Aushadi Varga
- Priya Nighantu : Haritkyadi Varga
- Nighantu Adarsh : Kanthari Varga
- Sodhal Nighantu : Guduchyadi Varga
- Dhanvantri Nighantu : Guduchyadi Varga

**NIGHANTU PERIOD:-**

1. Dhanvantri Nighantu:<sup>5</sup>This Nighantu is written by Mahendra bhogika in 10<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> century. Kantakari is described in Dhanvantri nighantu under guduchyadi varga with 8 synonyms.

1. Dushparsha,
2. kshudra,
3. vyaghri
4. Nidghika,
5. kantalika,
6. kantakini,
7. Dhavani,
8. Duspradhasini.

The properties of kantakari are tikta, katu-rasa, ushna-virya, kaphavattadoshagnata.

Action- Swas, kasa, aruchi jwara, aamdosha, haridyaroga nashak

Guna and Karma of kantakari Fruit- Tikt, katu and jwara, kandu, kustha, krimi, kapha, vaat hara.

2. Sodhala Nighantu:<sup>6</sup>-This Nighantu is written by Acharya shodhal in 12<sup>th</sup> century.

Acharya Sodhala also described kanatkari in Guduchyadi varga and mentioned synonyms and guna, karma of kantakari

1. Dusparsha
2. Ksudra
3. Vyaghri
4. Nidighika
5. Kantarika
6. Kantakini
7. Dhavini
8. Dupradhasini

Action-Kapha vataghna, kasa swashara

3. Madanapaal Nighantu:<sup>7</sup>-This Nighantu is written by Acharya Madanpal in 14<sup>th</sup> century. Madanvinod in Madanpala nighantu described kantakari in Abhayadivarga. Total 9 synonyms mentioned. It is advocated in kaphavatta disorders

1. Kantarika
2. Kantakini
3. Kantakari
4. Nidighika
5. Dusparsha
6. Dhavni
7. Kshudra
8. Vyaghri
9. Duspradhasini

Action-Kasa, Swas, Jwar, Kapha hara, Pinasa, Parshvshool har

4. Kaiyadeva Nighantu:<sup>8</sup>-This Nighantu is written by Acharya kaiyadava in 15<sup>th</sup> century. Kaiyadeva nighantu included kantakari under Aushadhi varga and described plant with 14 synonyms adding 5 new ones bahuguha, duhpradhasini, kantali, kshudrakantaki, vartaki. The properties mentioned are ruksha guna katu vipaka. Also the properties of phala given as katu, tikta rasa, laghu guna, vata-kaphagnadoshagnata.

1. Kantakini
2. Kantali
3. Kshudrakantki
4. Prachodini
5. Bahuguna
6. Kuli
7. Kshudra
8. Nidighika
9. Vartaki
10. Dhavni
11. Vyaghri
12. Dusprsha
13. Dupradhashini

14. Kantkari

**Synonyms of SvetaKantkari:-**

1. Sitasinghi
2. Chandrapushpa
3. Priyankari
4. Durlabha
5. Vanja
6. Kshudra
7. Dutika
8. Sweta lakshmana

Action- Kapha, Vaat, Jwar, Aruchi, Swas, Ashmari, Parshvshool, Mutrakricha, Pinasa roga hara.

Action of kantakari fruit: Kapha, Vaat, Kandu, Kasa, Krimi, Prameh, Jwar hara.

5. Bhavaprakash Nighantu:<sup>9</sup>- This Nighantu is written by Acharya Bhava Mishra in 16<sup>th</sup> century. Bhavaprakasha described kantakari with 8 synonyms under Guduchyadi varga. It is useful in the management of kapha vatta vikaras, kasa, swasa, pinasa, jwara, krimi, medoroga, sukrarechaka.

1. Dusparsha
2. Ksudra
3. Vyaghri
4. Nidighika
5. Kantalika
6. Kantakini
7. Dhavni
8. Brahti

Action: Kasa, Swasa, Kapha, Jwar, Pinasa, Parshva pida, Krimi hara.

6. Raj Nighantu<sup>10</sup>-

This Nighantu is written by Narhari Pandit in 17<sup>th</sup> century. Raj nighantu described kantakari under satahvadi varga with 14 synonyms and adding 7 new synonyms to its description like bahukanta, chitraphala, dhavani, duspradhasini, kshudrakanta, kshudrakantika, nidighda.

1. Kantkari
2. Kantakini
3. Dusparsha
4. Duspradhashini
5. Ksudra
6. Vyaghri
7. Nidighika
8. Dhavni
9. Kshudrakantika
10. Bahukanta
11. Ksudrakanta
12. Kshudrafala
13. Kantrika
14. Chitfala

Action: Deepana, Swas, Kasa nashak, Pratishaya peeda shamak, Kapha vaat, Jwar hara

**ADHUNIKA KALA:**

**Priya nighantu<sup>11</sup>** -Priya nigdhantu again by P.V.Sharma included it under Haritakyadi varga with katu, tikta rasa, and ushna-virya and kaphavatta properties.

**Nighantu Adarsha<sup>12</sup>** -On the basis of morphological structure Bapal vaidya in Nigdhantu Adarsha described kantakari under kantakari varga. He added a new synonym bhantaki to the total 5 synonyms. Also has highlighted is swasahara property.

**Dravyaguna Vigyan** -P.V.Sharma in Dravyaguna vignan included it under kasahara dravya with 5 synonyms. Similar to N.A. has included its swasahara property. He mentioned two variety of Kantakari one with nila pushpa and other sweta pushpa. Former is very commonly used whereas later is used as a substitute of lakshmana plant.

**Introduction of some synonyms of kantakari –**

- |             |   |   |
|-------------|---|---|
| Kantakari   | : | It is full of thorns                        |
| Dusparsha   | : | Its touch is painful                        |
| Kshudra     | : | It has smaller leaves                       |
| Khudraphala | : | Due to small fruit its called kshudrarafala |
| Kantki      | : | It is a horny plant                         |

Dhavni	:	It is straggling plant
Dravini	:	It liquefies the cough in body
Chitrapphal	:	Its fruits are variegate
Nidigdhika	:	It has ushna and teekshna guna and spread in body very well

#### Synonyms Of Kantkari Based On Kanta Fhala, Patra –

- Kantakari
- Kantakarika
- Kantakini
- Kshudrakantaka
- Bahukantaka
- Kantalika
- Dusparsha
- Kshudraphala
- Chitrapphala
- Bahuguha
- Kshudra

#### Synonyms of Kantkari based on Guna and Karma -

- Vyaghri
- Sinhi
- Prachodani
- Dravini
- Nidigdhika
- Dushpragharshani
- Kasaghi
- Rashtrika

#### CONCLUSION

Classical studies have also explicitly revealed that kantakari has a wide range of pharmacological effects such as Vedanasthapana (pain reliever), Shothahara (reduces swelling), Swedajanana (increases sweating), Jwaraghna (Anti-pyretic), Deepana (appetizer), Pachana (digestive), Rechana (purgative), Bhedana, Krimighna (anthelmintic), Amadoshanashaka, Raktashodhaka (blood purifier), Kasahara (relieves cough), Shwasahara, Kanthya, Hikkani-grahana, Mootrala, Garbhshayasanakochaka, Vajikarana (aphrodisiac) Modern studies have also explicitly revealed that kantakari has a wide range of pharmacological effects such as , anti-inflammatory, , anti-bacterial activity, anti-fungal activity, antiasthmatic , anti fertility, hypoglycaemic ,anthelmintic, molluscidal activity etc. This article concludes that herb has great pharmaceutical applications. And it requires further clinical evaluation of same. Further evaluation needs to be carried out in order to explore the concealed areas and their practical clinical applications, which can be used for the welfare of the mankind.

#### REFERENCES:

1. Prof.P.V.SHARMA Drvya Guna vijana vol.2<sup>nd</sup>,page no 280
2. Acharya Vidyadhar Shukla and Poff.Ravidatt Tripathi charak samhita part -1&2 Chaukhamba Sanskrit Pratishthan Dehli,Reprint 2015.Page no.69
3. Kaviraj Dr AmbikaDatt Shastri,Sushruta Samhita part 1&2 Chaukhamba Sanskrit Sansthan, Varanasi, reprint 2016.
4. Kaviraj Atridev Gupta, Ashtang Haridayam, Chaukhamba Prakashan, Varanashi, Reprint 2018.
5. Dr P.V Sharma and Dr. Guruprashad Sharma, Dhanvantri Nighantu, Chukhamba Orientalia, Varanasi, Reprint-1016, page no. 33.
6. e shodhal Nighantu Guduchyadi varga. Sloka no. 159-160.
7. e madanpal Nighantu, Abhyadi varga sloka no 67-70.
8. Dr P.V Sharma and Dr. Guruprashad Sharma, Kaidev Nigahntu, Chukhamba Orientalia, Varanasi, Reprint-1013, page no. 13.
9. Padmshri Prof. K.C Chuneekar A.M.S And Dr. G.S Pandey A.M.S, Bhavprakash Nighantu, Chaukhamba Bharti Acadmy, Varanasi Reprint -2015 Page no.276.
10. Dr Indradev Tripathi, Raj Nighantu, Chukhamba krishnadas Acadmy, Varanasi, Page no-67
11. Prof.P.V. Sharma, Priya Nighantu Chaukhamba Shubharti Prakashan, Varanasi Edition 2004, page no.12.
12. Bapalal G. Vaidya, Nighantu Adarsha Vol. 2 Chukhamba Bharti Acadmy, Varanasi, Reprint-2019 Page no.120.