

MONTH: MAY- JUNE 2014

VOL: 2, ISSUE: 3

ISSN: 2348-1846



PunarnaV

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**AN INTERNATIONAL PEER REVIEWED AYURVED JOURNAL
ON LINE BI-MONTHLY AYURVED JOURNAL**

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IDENTIFICATION OF MADHURASKANDHA DRUGS W. S. R TO ABHIDHANARATNAMALA (SHADRASA NIGHANTU)

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ABSTRACT:

In the medieval period, a branch of literature came into existence that deals with study of plants in various aspects with special reference to their identification based on Paryayas (synonym) and further their use in various disorders by knowing their Rasapanchaka (Rasa, Guna, Veerya, Vipaka and Prabhava). Abhidhanaratnamala is a synonym based nighantu, written by elder brother of Chatura. Author name is not available. Time period of this nighantu falls under 12th to 13th century. Though various nighantukaras have not followed the proper method of classification of drug, this author had adopted rasa based classification of drugs from brihatrayi. Therefore it is also known as Shadrasa nighantu. This is comparatively less known in North India while in South India it is popular work. Among this nighantu, more number of drugs were mentioned in Tiktaskandha (128), followed by Kashayaskandha (115) and Madhuraskandha (102). The number of drugs described in this Madhuraskandha is more comparing to Brihatrayi. Authors had quoted drugs of plant, animal as well as mineral in origin. The drugs of Madhuraskandha were botanically identified with the help of the synonym as well as referring books like Bhavaprakasha nighantu, Rajanighantu and Glossary of vegetable drugs in Brihatrayi by Thakur Balawant Singh. Reviewing these drugs of Madhuraskandha, it was observed that there are 87 identified drugs, 15 are controversial and 6 drugs are of unknown in origin. This classification of dravyas according to rasa is the most practical one and has highest utility in the field of therapeutics as Rasa is the most important among guna of the dravya which on one side indicates the Bhautika composition of the drug and on the other side helps to predict its action on the Dosha, Dhatu and Mala. Further details about the controversial and unidentified drugs are given in the paper.

KEY WORDS: Abhidhanaratnamala, Chatura, Madhuraskandha, Shadrasa nighantu,

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INTRODUCTION

Abhidhanaratnamala or Shadrasa Nighantu is one of the Nighantu written based on synonym only. This is comparatively less known in North India while in South India it was published for more than once (Madras 1881, 1928,

1938). But looking to the fact that the text requires further modification. There are three copies of manuscripts available in Government oriental Mss Library, Madras; K 6245 Buhler 245 of India Office Library, London and Indian Institute of History of Medicine, Hyderabad.¹

AUTHOR & TIME PERIOD OF THE WORK

There is no specific indication about the author name. However, the following verse found in one of the manuscripts gives some idea about the author. 'Sakalanighantusarasamudradatnanyadaya ityabhidhanaratnamalayam chaturarachitagrajena tadeva likhitam' (Abhidhanaratnamala). It suggests that the work was composed by a person who was elder brother of Chatura.

As regard to time of this work, the most important clue is that the quotation of the work 'Jambu soorabhipatraa charajajamburmahaphalaityabhidhanaratnamalayam' (Shishupalavadha 1/19) was quoted by commentator Mallinatha for more than once in his work which shows its popularity at that time. The time of the commentator Mallinatha has been fixed as 14 A.D. On the basis of this, the work of Abhidhanaratnamala has been placed during 12th to 13th A.D. Most of the descriptions are similar to that of Ashtanganighantu which has been considered as in 8th century work.²

CONTENT OF BOOK

Classification of drugs in six groups has been done according to ancient works of

Samhita like Charakasamhita, Sushrutasamhita, Ashtangasangraha and Ashtangahridaya. In these Samhitas drugs are categorized as Rasaskandha and Rasavargas respectively.

The subject matter of abhidhanaratnamala is arranged in six chapters called as 'Skandhas' according to Rasas that is why the work commonly known as "Shadrasa nighantu". In this text, in the beginning of every Skandha, drugs are listed and thereafter they are described one by one in the same order with synonyms. Rasa being the criteria of classification of all types of drugs i.e. vegetable, animal products as well as mineral origin drugs are included in respective skandhas.

- | | |
|--------------------|-----|
| 1. Madhuraskandha: | 102 |
| 2. Amlaskandha: | 32 |
| 3. Lavanaskandha: | 11 |
| 4. Katuskandha: | 70 |
| 5. Tiktaskandah: | 128 |
| 6. Kashayaskandha: | 115 |

Drugs included in Madhuraskandha of Abhidhanaratnamala or Shadrasanighantu can be classified according to origin of it i.e. Sthavaradravya (Herbal origin drugs) containing Shookadhanya, Kshudradhanya (Group of Corn with bristle) Shimbidhanya varga (Group of pulses), Shakavarga (Group of Vegetables), Phalavarga (Group of Fruit), Jangamdravya (Animal origin drug) and Parthivadravya (Mineral origin drugs). The list of the drugs according to category is listed below:

Table no.1. List of herbal drugs of Madhuraskandha

No.	Drugs	Synonym	Botanical source	I/C/U
1.	Vidari	Gajavajishta, Svadu, Vrishya, Ikshugandhika, Shrigalika, Vrishyavalli, Shuklakanda, Payasvini	Pueraria tuberosa DC	I
2.	Kshiravidari	Kshirekshuvallikanda, Kshirashukla, Payasvini, Vallipalashika	Ipomoea digitata Linn	I
3.	Shatavari	Phanijhaka, Keshyabhiru, Peevaru, Vari,	Asparagus racemosus	I

		<i>Sukshmapatra, Dvipishatru, Shatamooli, Tungini, Bahuputra, Dvipini, Urdhvakantaka</i>	Willd.	
4.	<i>Kakoli</i>	<i>Veera, Kabari, Madhura, Vayasolika,</i>	<i>Roscoeia procera</i> Wall	C
5.	<i>Kshirakakoli</i>	<i>Kshirakakolika, Kshirashukla, Jivakolika</i>	<i>Roscoeia procera</i> Wall	C
6.	<i>Kapikachhu</i>	<i>Rushyaprokya, Mahagupta, Kapiromaphala, Markati, Aatmagupta, Kandura, Kapikachhu, Rushabhi, Jangali, Kanduri, Shardulavigraha</i>	<i>Mucuna pruriens</i> DC	I
7.	<i>Gopatanaya</i>	<i>Kanya, Gopi, Krishnavalli, Sariva, Phanijivhika, Sugandhimoola, Bhadra, Sugandha, Gopavalli, Kalanusari, Bastantri, Chandanotpalasariva, Pratanika, Sharada, Kushtakopa</i>	<i>Hemidesmus indicus</i> (L.) R. Br.	I
8.	<i>Meda</i>	<i>Shalyaparni, Manichhidra, Medasamudbhava</i>	<i>Polygonatum verticillatum</i>	C
9.	<i>Mahameda</i>	<i>Devamani, Vasuchhidra, Jivani, Mahapurushadanta, Vriksharuha</i>	<i>Polygonatum verticillatum</i>	C
10.	<i>Jivanti</i>	<i>Jeevani, Jeeva, Shakashreshtha, Sumangala, Shringariti, Payasya, Potagala, Arkapushpika</i>	<i>Leptadenia reticulata</i> W & A	C
11.	<i>Madhooka</i>	<i>Dolaphala, Tikshasara, Gudapushpaka, Madhupushpaka, Lodhrapushpa, Vanaprastha, Madhudruma, Gaurivasa, Hrasvapushpa, Madhushtila, Madhulika</i>	<i>Madhuca indica</i> J. F. Gmel.	I
12.	<i>Mashaparni</i>	<i>Simhavinna, Pishachi, Mahasaha, Svadumasha, Hamsamasha, Panduromashaparnika</i>	<i>Teramnus labialis</i> Spreng	I
13.	<i>Mudgaparni</i>	<i>Kakamudga, Kshudrasaha, Hrasva, Mahasupyaparni, Marjaragandhika</i>	<i>Phaseolus trilobus</i> Ait	I
14.	<i>Shalaparni</i>	<i>Vidarigandha, Amshumati, Sthira, Dhruva, Triparni, Triguha, Saumya, Mahaklitanika</i>	<i>Desmodium gangeticum</i> DC	I
15.	<i>Prishniparni</i>	<i>Pruthakparni, Kalashi, Klitani, Guha, Shrugalavinna, Languli, Koshtropuchhi, Mahaguha,</i>	<i>Uria picta</i> Desv	I
16.	<i>Kusha</i>	<i>Veeranashreni, Mridudarbha, lava</i>	<i>Desmostachya bipinnata</i> Stapf	I
17.	<i>Shara</i>	<i>Ikshukusuma, Bana, Kandashara, Ikshuka</i>	<i>Saccharum munja</i> Roxb.	I
18.	<i>Kasha</i>	<i>Ikshvalika, Kashekshu, Kandeckshu, Vayaseckshu, Shwetachamaraka, Gundra, Guchhapushpika</i>	<i>Saccharum spontaneum</i> Linn	I
19.	<i>Sharkara</i>	<i>Sharkara, Matsyandika, Abhichhatra, Sikata, sita,</i>	-	I
20.	<i>Sitopala</i>	<i>Madhuttha, Makshiki, Madhusharkara</i>	-	I
21.	<i>Yavasa-sharkara</i>	<i>Yasasharkara</i>	<i>Alhagi pseudalhagi</i> (Bieb.) Desv.	I
22.	<i>Bala</i>	<i>Vatyalaka, Vatyapushpi, Rushyaprokta, Bhadraudani</i>	<i>Sida cordifolia</i> Linn.	I
23.	<i>Atibala</i>	<i>Vatyayani, Bharadvaji, Suparnika,</i>	<i>Abutilon indicum</i> Linn	I
24.	<i>Mahabala</i>	<i>Varshapushpi, Peetapushpi, Brihatbala</i>	<i>Sida rhombifolia</i> Linn	I
25.	<i>Nagabala</i>	<i>Gangeruki, Kharagandha, Nishankusha, Vishwadeva, Jhasha, Kala, Hrasvagavedhuka</i>	<i>Grewia hirsuta</i> Vahl. <i>Grewia tenex</i> (Forsk.) Aschers & Schwf.	I
26.	<i>Shweta Doorva</i>	<i>Sita, Golomi, Sahastraveerya, Sitananta, Ganapriya</i>	<i>Cynodon dactylon</i> Pers.	I
27.	<i>Neela doorva</i>	<i>Harita, Shadvala, Asita</i>	-	U
28.	<i>Ganda doorva</i>	<i>Gandali, Mahadoorva, Varuni, Shakulakshika</i>	-	U
29.	<i>Gokshura</i>	<i>Trikantaka,, Shvadranshta, Kantakashura, Vyaladanshtra, Kantaphala, Sthalashringataka</i>	<i>Tribulus terrestris</i> Linn	I
30.	<i>Twakshiri</i>	<i>Tuka, Shubhra, Vanshakhya, Vanshya, Vansharochana, Trunakesari, Vainavi, Tugakshiri</i>	<i>Bambusa bambos</i> (L.) Voss.	I
31.	<i>Ridhhi</i>	<i>Shravanapushpi, Mahashravani</i>	<i>Habenaria edgeworthii</i> Hook. f. ex Collett.	C
32.	<i>Vridhhi</i>	-	<i>Habenaria intermedia</i>	C

			D. Don.	
33.	<i>Jivaka</i>	<i>Kurchashirsha, Hrasvanga, Chirajivi</i>	<i>Microstylis wallichii</i> Lindl	C
34.	<i>Rishabhaka</i>	<i>Vishani, Kakuda, Shrimana, Vrishanamaka</i>	<i>Microstylis muscifera</i> Lindl	C
35.	<i>Padmaa</i>	<i>Charati, Padmacharini,</i>	<i>Prunus cerasoides</i> D. Don.	I
36.	<i>Shitivara</i>	<i>Shrihastini, Kurataka, Pichuka</i>	<i>Celosia argentea</i> Linn.	I
37.	<i>Mastaka- manjairi</i>	<i>Kokilaksha, parvamulekshura, Sthulakantaka, Krishnasukshmaphala</i>	<i>Asteracantha longifolia</i> Nees	I
38.	<i>Nalika</i>	<i>Vidrumalata, Kapotanghri, Nati, Nali</i>	~ <i>Litsea</i> or <i>Cinnamomum</i> species	C
39.	<i>Khtwa</i>	<i>Dadhipushpa, Paryankapalika</i>	<i>Trichosanthes anguina</i> Linn.	I
40.	<i>Dravanti</i>	<i>Nyagrodhva, Parvashreni, Rushi, Shravani, Rusha, Randa, Pratyakshreni, Shrava, Shambhari</i>	<i>Croton tiglium</i> Linn.	C
41.	<i>Utkata</i>	<i>Sukshmapatra, Deerga, Lohitapatrika, Shataveerya, Svarnapushpi, Kharavriksha, Sudha</i>	<i>Sesbania bispinosa</i> (Jacq.) Faucet & Rendle.	U
42.	<i>Deva</i>	<i>Sahadeva, Devasaha, Deva, Gandhotpalavhaya</i>	<i>Vernonia cinerea</i> Less.	I
43.	<i>Nala</i>	<i>Mridupushpa, Shunyamadhya, Nalika, Nalaka</i>	<i>Arundo donax</i> Linn.	I
44.	<i>Yashti-madhu</i>	<i>Yashtyavha, Madhuka, Klitakavhaya</i>	<i>Glycyrrhiza glabra</i> Linn.	I
45.	<i>Lakshmana</i>	<i>Putrajanani, Raktabinduchhada</i>	~ <i>Ipomoea sepiaria</i> Koen. Ex Roxb.	C
46.	<i>Shoolini</i>	<i>Matsyakshi, Nagini, Lakshmi</i>	<i>Alternanthera sessilis</i> (Linn.) R. Br. ex DC.	I
47.	<i>Karpasi</i>	<i>Vatya, Vamini, Aachhadanaphala</i>	<i>Gossypium herbaceum</i> Linn.	I
48.	<i>Priyasatya</i>	<i>Pattura, kakapushpi,</i>	-	U
49.	<i>Ananta</i>	<i>Yavasa, Ananta, Deerghamula, Samudranta</i>	<i>Alhagi pseudalhagi</i> (Bieb.) Desv.	I
50.	<i>Satinachhada</i>	<i>Vishnukranta, Neelapushpi, Satinachhada</i>	<i>Evolvulus alsinoides</i> Linn.	I
51.	<i>Vatsadani</i>	<i>Sudarshanakhya, Chakangi, dridhavallika</i>	<i>Tinospora cordifolia</i> (Willd.) Miers ex Hook. f. & Thoms	I
52.	<i>Sthauneyaka</i>	<i>Charati, Barhichooda, Tailapitaka</i>	<i>Taxus baccata</i> Linn.	C

C- Controversial, I- Identified, U- Unidentified drugs

Ashtavarga is a group of eight drugs, about which definite identity is not established. *Bhavamishra* described that drugs of this group are difficult to procure even by the King; hence physician should make use of substitutes of the drugs possessing similar properties. In the absence of the two *Meda*, two *Jivaka*, two *Kakoli* and two *Riddhi*, *Shatavari*, *Vidarikanda*, *Ashvagandha* and *Varahikanda* respectively are suggested as substitutes³

Two varieties of *Doorva*- white and green have been recognised and used. They are correctly identified; therefore they have been used in their places as substitutes or as real source plants.

Nalika is unidentified aromatic plant. The bark being used at present as *Naaluka* is derived either from some species of *Litsea* or *Cinnamomum* species⁴

Dravanti has not been identified satisfactorily. Its description in *nighantus* is confusing due to the description of *Undurakarni* and *Mushakakarni* as its synonym. There is a possibility that these words were at sometimes wrongly

interpreted in place of *Udumbaraparni* and *Moolakaparni* which may be correct descriptive names for *Danti* and *Dravanti*. *Danti* has been identified with *Baliospermum montanum*. *Bhavamishra* had described that *Kshudradanti phala* is sweet in *Rasa* (taste) and *Vipaka* (after digestion). After that immediately he explained about *Jayaphala* having synonym as *Dantibeeja* and *Tintidaphala*, which possesses *Guru*, *Snigdha* properties and drastic purgative action. It is wrong to call *dantibeeja* (seeds of *danti*) as *Jayaphala*. These are actually the seeds of *Brihatdanti* or *dravanti* i.e. *Croton tiglium* Linn⁵

Lakshmana had described as one looking like *Bastagandha* and having red blots on leaves simulating figure of male child. It is said to have flowering and fruiting during September and October. The white variety

of *Solanum xanthocarpum* Schard & Wendl, has been used in its place. There are other related species like *Lasia spinosa*, *Ipomoea sepiaria*, *Mandragora autumnalis* Spreng, *Aralia quinquefolia* called as ginseng in China.⁶

On the basis of famous name *Thuneraka* mentioned by *Dalhana* and *Bhavamishra*, *Taxus baccata* Linn, was suggested to be *Sthauneyaka* in *Vanaushadhi darshika*. Its leaves when dried emits a fragrance and used as *Talisapatra*. *Granthiparni* is mentioned as synonym for *Sthauneyaka*, while according to *bhavamishra* it is the variety of *Sthauneyaka*. It is felt that *granthiparni* may be better identified with any species of *Valerian* or *Angelica* rather than considering it to be the same as *Sthauneyaka*⁷

Table no.2 List of Shakadravya (vegetable drugs) in Madhuraskandha

No.	Drugs	Synonym	Botanical source	I/C/U
1.	<i>Agastya</i>	<i>Muninama, Madhushigru</i>	<i>Sesbania grandiflora</i> (L.) Poir.	I
2.	<i>Swastika</i>	<i>Sunishhna, Chaturdala, Sukshmapatra,</i>	<i>Marsilea minuta</i> Linn	I
3.	<i>Upodaki</i>	<i>Vayasi, Upodi, Karkatapriya</i>	<i>Basella alba</i> Linn. var. <i>rubra</i> Stewart.	I
4.	<i>Tanduliya</i>	<i>Bhandira, Ghananamaka, Tundabhata</i>	<i>Amaranthus spinosus</i> Linn.	I
5.	<i>Mushaka</i>	<i>Vastuka, Mushaka, Chakravastuka</i>	<i>Chenopodium album</i> Linn.	I
6.	<i>Raktanala</i>	<i>Chili, Jivantika, Chillika, Romasha</i>	<i>Chenopodium ambrosioides</i> Linn.	I
7.	<i>Kasheruka</i>	<i>Kapittha, Sapushpa, Madhura</i>	<i>Scirpus kysoor</i> Roxb.	I
8.	<i>Bhukanda</i>	<i>Sarpachhatra, Bhookavacha, Bhoosphota</i>	<i>Agaricus campestris</i> Linn	I
9.	<i>Kakubhanda</i>	<i>Kushmandaki, Koshotpala, Sheernaroma, Dhoomasahva, Shukachhada, Pushpalata, Mahaphala</i>	<i>Cucurbita pepo</i> Linn	I
10.	<i>Mootrala</i>	<i>Trapusa, Gajadantaphala, Karkaruki, Rajaputri, Romasha, Vyalaputrika</i>	<i>Cucumis sativus</i> Linn.	I
11.	<i>Kalinga</i>	<i>Ervaruka, Pandupatrachhatraravuni</i>	<i>Citrullus vulgaris</i> Schrad.	I
12.	<i>Alaabu</i>	<i>Pindaphala, Tumbi, Pushpaphala</i>	<i>Lagenaria vulgaris</i> Ser.	I
13.	<i>Dhamargava</i>	<i>Rajakoshataki, Koshaphala, karkotaki, Peetapushpi, Mahajali</i>	<i>Luffa acutangula</i> Roxb.	I

C- Controversial, I- Identified, U- Unidentified drugs

Bhavamishra had described six types of *Shaka* i.e. *Patra*, *Pushpa*, *Phala*, *Naala*, *Kanda* and *Sansvedaja*. Each succeeding variety is heavier to digest than its preceding one.⁸ *Patra shaka* like

Tanduliyaka, *Vastuka*, *Upodaka*, *Swastika*; *Phala Shaka* like *Kushmadaki*, *Ervaruka*, *Alabu*, *Dhamargava* and *Kanda shaka* i.e. *Kasheruka* and *Samsvedajashaka* namely *Bhukanda* are described in this text.

Table no. 3 List of Shooka, Kshudra and Shimbidhanya of Madhuraskandha

No.	Drugs	Synonym	Botanical source	I/C/U
Shookadhanya				
1.	<i>Shooka</i>	<i>Shaali, Sugandhaprasava, Raktashali,</i>	<i>Oryza sativa</i> Linn	I
2.	<i>Godhuma</i>	<i>Vrishya, Mlechhabhojana, Satvagamika</i>	<i>Triticum aestivum</i> Linn.	I
3.	<i>Yava</i>	<i>Sthoolamadhya, Sthoolamajja, Asipatraka,</i>	<i>Hordeum vulgare</i> Linn.	I
Kshudradhanya				
4.	<i>Neevara</i>	<i>Akrushtapaki, Shakunta, Rushibhojana</i>	<i>Hygroryza aristata</i> Nees	I
5.	<i>Priyangu</i>	<i>Kanguka, Sara, Peetatandula</i>	<i>Prunus mahalab</i> Linn <i>Aglaia roxburghiana</i> Miq <i>Callicarpa macrophylla</i> Vahl.	C
6.	<i>Shyamaka</i>	<i>Munibhakshya, Trrunabeeja, Gajapriya</i>	<i>Echinochloa frumentacea</i> Link.	I
7.	<i>Koradoosha</i>	<i>Maharuksha, varaka, Kodrava</i>	<i>Paspalum scrobiculatum</i> Linn.	I
8.	<i>Yavanaala</i>	<i>Jurna</i>	<i>Sorghum vulgare</i> (Linn.) Pers.	I
Shimbi dhanya				
9.	<i>Mudga</i>		<i>Vigna radiata</i> (Linn.) Wilczek.	I
	<i>Sharadamudga</i>	<i>Harita, Harimastaka</i>		U
	<i>Krishnamudga</i>	<i>Vasanta</i>		U
10.	<i>Masha</i>	<i>Dhanyamasha</i>	<i>Vigna mungo</i> (Linn.) Hepper.	I
	<i>Rajamasha</i>	<i>Alasandra</i>	<i>Vigna catieng</i> Walp	I
11.	<i>Chanaka</i>	<i>Tripata</i>	<i>Cicer arietinum</i> Linn	I
12.	<i>Kulatha</i>	<i>Kalavrinta</i>	<i>Dolichos biflorus</i> Linn	I
	<i>Aranyakulattha</i>	<i>Chakshushya</i>	<i>Atylosia scarabaeoides</i> (L.) Benth.	I
13.	<i>Nishpava</i>	<i>Shwetabinduka</i>	<i>Dolichos lablab</i> Linn	I
14.	<i>Adhaki</i>	<i>Tuvari</i>	<i>Cajanus indicus</i> Spreng	I
15.	<i>Kalaya</i>	<i>Harenu, Satina</i>	<i>Pisum sativum</i> Linn	I
	<i>Lanka (Khesari)</i>	<i>Kalaya</i>	<i>Lathyrus sativus</i> Linn.	I
16.	<i>Tila</i>	<i>Snehaphala, Snehapooraka, Phalaka</i>	<i>Sesamum indicum</i> Linn.	I

C- Controversial, I- Identified, U- Unidentified drugs

Setaria species is the source of the food grain different from the drug *Priyangu*. They may be called as *Dhanyapriyangu* and *Aushadhapriyangu*. The *ausdhadhapriyangu* has been a subject of controversy since long and fruits of *Aglaia roxburghiana* Miq and *Callicarpa* species

or the nuts of *Prunus mahalab* Linn have been in use in different parts of country. The flower buds of *Callicarpa macrophylla* are aromatic in nature therefore they are considered as *Gandhapriyangu*. And other two may be used as substitutes⁹

Table no.4 List of Phalavarga of Madhuraskandha

No.	Drugs	Synonym	Botanical source	I/C/U
1.	<i>Kharjuri</i>	<i>Duraroha, Kharaskandha, Swadumastaka</i>	<i>Phoenix dactylifera</i> Linn.	I
2.	<i>Parooshaka</i>	<i>Mriduphala, Ropana, Dhanvanachhada</i>	<i>Grewia asiatica</i> Auct. non L.	I
3.	<i>Chocha</i>	<i>Narikela, Tryaksha, Sutunga, Kurchakeshara, Neerandhra, Dridhaphala, Karira, Phalini</i>	<i>Cocos nucifera</i> Linn.	I
4.	<i>Akshoda</i>	<i>Parvatiya, Phalasneha, Gidashraya, Keereshtha, Karparala, Svadumajja, Pruthuchhada</i>	<i>Juglans regia</i> Linn.	I
5.	<i>Rajavriksha</i>	<i>Rajadana, Vanareshtha, Kshiri, Rajavhayadruma</i>	<i>Mimusops hexandra</i> Roxb	I
6.	<i>Sushavi</i>	<i>Priyala, Rajarajaa, Paniyavalli, Kharaskandha, Bahulavalkala</i>	<i>Buchanania lanzan</i> Spreng	I
7.	<i>Ikshu</i>	<i>Paandraka, Ghanamoola, Gudamoola, Asipatraka, Kantara, Rasalaka, Karkatika</i>	<i>Saccharum officinarum</i> Linn.	I
8.	<i>Parevata</i>	<i>Raivataka, Rakta, Asravaka</i>	~ <i>Psidium guajava</i> Linn.	C
9.	<i>Panasa</i>	<i>Snigdghaphala, Svargabhu, Bahukantaka, Mahasvadumoolaphala, Bahirgandhi, Mahaphala</i>	<i>Artocarpus integrifolia</i> Linn. f.	I
10.	<i>Trunarat</i>	<i>Lekhyapatra, Deerghatarudhvaja, Taala, Chirapaki, Hintali, Mahatali, Kutali, Trunapushpika, Bahuskandha, Mrituphala, Gudhapaki, Shilaphala</i>	<i>Borassus flabellifer</i> Linn	I
11.	<i>Draksha</i>	<i>Kalamansi, Mriduphala, Kashmiraja, Mridvika, Gostani, Svadupura, Phalottama</i>	<i>Vitis vinifera</i> Linn.	I
12.	<i>Kadali</i>	<i>Rambha, Mocha, Vrittapushpa, vishanika, Sukumara, Kandaruha, Deerghapatrika, Nissara</i>	<i>Musa paradisiaca</i> Linn.	I
13.	<i>Shringataka</i>	<i>Trishringa, Jalabindu, Trikantaka</i>	<i>Trapa bispinosa</i> Roxb	I

C- Controversial, I- Identified, U- Unidentified drugs

Paravata is said to be some kind of acid fruit, sweetish in taste and reddish grey in colour on ripening. According to Dalhana it is found in *Kamarupa* (Assam). Some believe it to be guava fruit *Psidium guajava* Linn, *Amaruda* which is exotic in origin.¹⁰

Table no.5 List of Jangam dravya of Madhuraskandha

No.	Drugs	Synonym	English name	I/C/U
1.	<i>Ghrita</i>	<i>Aajya, havi, Sarpi, Pavitra, Amrita</i>	Clarified butter	I
2.	<i>Madhu</i>	<i>Pushparasodbhoota, Saragha, Madhu, Makshika</i>	Honey	I
3.	<i>Tilotha</i>	<i>Tilya, Tvachya, Tilarasa, Tilataila,</i>	Oil	I
4.	<i>Dugdha</i>	<i>Kshira, Paya, Stanya,</i>	Milk	I
5.	<i>Navaneeta</i>	<i>Dadhija, Hayangaveena, Ghrityajya</i>	Butter	I
6.	<i>Ambho</i>	<i>Ap, Paniya, Keelala, Neeraka, Salila, Jala</i>	Water	I
7.	<i>Siktha</i>	<i>Madhuchhishta, Vikasa, Makshikamala</i>	Bee wax	I

C- Controversial, I- Identified, U- Unidentified drugs

Table no.6. Dhatu (Metal) included in Madhuraskandha

No.	Drugs	Synonym	Latin name	I/C/U
1.	Hema	Jambunada, Hiranya, Jatarupa, Hataka, Chamikara, Charupushpa, Suvarna, Svarnakanchana, Tapaniya, Shantakumbha, Rukma, Kanaka	Aurum (Au)	I

C- Controversial, I- Identified, U- Unidentified drugs

DISCUSSION

The text though containing only synonyms is valuable because it serves new information about *dravya*. Its *Rasa* based classification plays an important role in the field of *Dravyaguna*.

Rasa is the most important among *guna* of the *dravya* which on one side indicates the *Bhautika* composition of the drug and on the other side helps to predict its action on the *Dosha*, *Dhatu* and *Mala*. The extraordinary privilege of *rasa* is its perceivable nature which distinguishes it from other properties and also serves as useful tool for pharmacodynamics explanation. A physician having perceived a *rasa* of *dravya* can easily predict its

action in most cases. Therefore, the classification of *dravyas* according to *rasa* is the most practical one and has highest

utility in the field of therapeutics. Therefore this *Abhidhanaratnamala* or *Shadrassa nighantu* is an important work of *Dravyaguna*.

More number of drugs are mentioned in this *Madhuraskandha* compared to *Brihatrayi* viz. *Charakasamhita*, *Sushrutasamhita*, *Ashantagasamgraha* and *Ashtangahridaya*. These works have mentioned in total 84, 55, 71, 58 drugs respectively. This classification includes *dravya* belonging to *Shookavarga*, *Shimbivarga*, *Phalavarga*, *Shakavarga*, *Jangam* and *Parthiva* origin.

Ashtavarga, *Jivanti*, *Nalika*, *Dravanti*, *Lakshmana*, *Sthauneyaka*, *Priyangu* and *Parevata* are 15 controversial drugs while *Neeladoorva*, *Gandadoorva*, *Utakata*, *Priyasatya*, *Shardamudga* and *Krishnamudga* are unidentified drugs.

CONCLUSION

The *Madhuraskandha* of *Abhidhanaratnamala* contains 102 drugs. Further drugs can be classified according to Herbal, Animal and Mineral origin drugs. Herbal drugs contain *Aushadhi* and *Aharadravya* (*Shooka*, *Kudhanya*, *Shimbi*,

Shaka and *Phalavarga*); 62 *aushadhi dravya* and 42 *Aharadravya* (*Shooka* 3, *Kudhanya* 5, *Shimbi* 8, *Shaka* 13, and *Phala* 13) had been described. Among them in total 87 *dravyas* are identified, 15 are Controversial and 6 yet to known botanically.

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