



REVIEW OF SHARANGDHAR SAMHITA W.S.R. TO AGADTANTRA

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ABSTRACT

Bruhatrayee and *Laghutrayee* are the six basic texts of *Ayurveda*. *Sharangdhar Samhita* is a part of *Laghutrayee* which is divided in three parts that is *Purvakhanda*, *Madhyakhanda* and *Uttarkhanda*. *Sharangdhar Samhita* is the first *Ayurvedic* text which is written in style of drug manual. *Agadtantra* is the branch of *Ayurveda* which deals with *Ayurvedic* perspective of toxicology. This knowledge of *Agadtantra* is scattered in *Sharangdhar Samhita*. This review article will describe *Agadtantra* at a glance in *Sharangdhar Samhita*.

KEYWORDS: *Sharangdhar Samhita*, *Agadtantra*, *Visha*, *Upavisha*, *Panchakarma*.

1. INTRODUCTION

Ayurvedic is the oldest recognized system of medicine which is divided into eight clinical branches.^[1] Out of these eight clinical branches one branch is *Agadtantra*, which describes *Ayurvedic* aspect of toxicology.^[2] In the developmental stream after *Veda*, *Samhita* came with elaborated description of different branches of *Ayurvedic* in a systemic manner. *Samhita* had been divided into *Brihatrayee* and *Laghutrayee*. *Charak Samhita* *Sushrut Samhita* and *Ashtang Hridaya* considered as *Bruhatrayee* whereas *Madhav Nidana*, *Sharangdhar Samhita* and *Bhavprakash* are considered as *Laghutrayee*.^[3] *Sharangdhar* himself quotes that in this book, he has compiled the formulations specified by the ancient *Purvakhanda* along with many new formulations which are practiced by physicians as per their rationality.^[4] *Sharangdhar Samhita* divided in three parts that is *Purvakhanda*, *Madhyakhanda* and *Uttarkhanda*. *Purvakhanda* includes seven chapters, *Madhyakhanda* includes twelve chapters and *Uttarkhanda* includes thirteen chapters. Total thirty two chapters and two thousands and six hundreds verses are described in whole *Sharangdhar Samhita*.^[5] *Agadtantra* i.e. *Ayurvedic* aspect of toxicology is scattered in *Sharangdhar Samhita*. So this is an attempt to collect scattered part of *Ayurvedic* toxicology in this article which includes definition of *Visha*, classification of *Visha*, *Shodhana* of *Visha-UpaVisha* and formulations of *Visha-UpaVisha*. *Vishaghna* yoga and *panchakarma* in treatment of poisoning also reviewed in this article.

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1. Definition of Visha

The substances having properties like *Vyavayi*, *Vikasi*, *Sukshama*, *Chedi*, *Madavaha*, *Agneya*, *Jivitahara* and *Yogwahi*, are called as *Visha*.^[6]

2.2. Classification of Visha (Poison)

Visha (poison) are classified into three types *Sthavara*, *Jangama*, and *Kritrima Visha*. *Sthavara Visha* includes *Kalkutadi* nine *Visha* (poisons). There are various types of *Jangama Visha* which includes *Bhujanga*, *Vrischika*, *Mushaka* and *Keeta*. Each *Jangama Visha* is divided in four types. *Adhisthana* of *Jangama Visha* are *Damshtra*, *Nakha*, *Kesha*, *Shringa*, *Asthi*, *Mutra*, *Purisha*, *Shukra*, *Drushti* and *Nishwas*. *Lala sparshajanya Visha* is called as *Shanka Visha*.

Kritrim Visha is of two types, *GaraVisha* and *DushiVisha*. *Dhatu Visha* and *Upadhatu Visha* are seven. *UpaVisha* are seven. *Dushta neera Visha* (polluted water), *Digdhaj Visha* (hot weapons are submersed in water) are also included in poison. *Kapikacchu*, *dushtaneera* and *suran* causes *kandu* while *Bhallataka* shows *kandu* and *shotha*. *Mada* (intoxication) is caused due to consumption of four *dravya* like *puga*, *mada*, *bhanga*, *aksha* and *kodrava*. *Mada* is also caused due to consumption of *phala* (fruits), *twak* (bark), *mula* (roots), and *patra* (leaves) of poisonous plants.^[7]

Vishajanya shotha

Sharangdhar has described nine types of *Shotha*, out of which one is *Vishanjanya shotha*.^[8] *Bhallataka sparsha* causes *shotha*.^[9]

2.3. Shodhana (purification) of Visha and UpaVisha

Shodhana of Visha and UpaVisha described in Sharangdhar Samhita by various procedure is shown in table no.1

Table 1: Shodhana (purification) of Visha-UpaVisha described in Sharangdhar Samhita.

Sr. No.	Visha-UpaVisha	Shodhana dravya (media) used	Procedure	References
1.	Jaypal (<i>Croton tiglium</i> Linn.)	Buffalo's dung, Lemon juice	After removing <i>beejaankur</i> , Jayapal seed soaked in buffalo dung and treated with <i>Nimbu Ras</i>	S.M.K.12/290
2.	Vatsanabha (<i>Aconitum ferox</i> Wall.)	1)Cow Urine 2)Goat milk or Cow milk	1)Immersion in <i>Gomutra</i> for 3 days 2) <i>Swedan</i> in <i>Aja Dugdha/ Godugdha</i> by <i>Dolayantra</i>	S.M.K.12/291-294
3.	Ahiphen (<i>Papaver somniferum</i> Linn.)	<i>Adrak swarasa</i> (Ginger juice)	21 <i>Bhavna</i> of <i>Adrak swarasa</i> (Ginger juice)	S.M.K.12/296
4.	Bhanga (<i>Cannabis sativa</i> Linn.)	<i>Babbul Twak Godugdha</i>	<i>Swedana</i> in <i>Babbula twaka kwath</i> (<i>Acacia Arabica bark decoction</i>) by <i>Dolayantra</i>	S.M.K.12/297
5.	<i>Kuchala</i> (<i>strychnous nux vomica</i> Linn.)	<i>Kanji</i> (sour gruel)	<i>Swedana</i> in <i>Kanji</i> (sour gruel) by <i>Dolayantra</i>	S.M.K. 12/298
6.	<i>Langali</i> (<i>Gloriosa superba</i> Linn)	<i>Gomutra</i>	Immersion in <i>Gomutra</i> for one day.	S.M.K.12/299
7.	<i>Karvir</i> (<i>Nerium odorum soland</i>)	<i>Godughda</i>	<i>Swedana</i> in <i>Godugdha</i> by <i>Dolayantra</i>	S.M.K. 12/300

2.4. Visha-UpaVisha kalpa (Formulations of Visha and UpaVisha)

Out of nine Visha only Vatsanabh found, hence formulations of Vatsanabha and formulations of seven

UpaVisha are described in table no.2 and table no.3 respectively.

Table 2: Formulations of Vatsanabh in Sharangdhar Samhita.

Vatsanabha Formulations	References
1. <i>Sanjivani vati</i>	S.M.K.7/18-21
2. <i>Dhattur tailam</i>	S.M.K. 9/199-210
3. <i>Marichadi taila</i>	S.M.K. 9/149-152
4. <i>Hemgarbha pottali rasa</i>	S.M.K. 12/97-106
5. <i>Mahajwarankusha rasa</i>	S.M.K. 12/114-116
6. <i>Anandbhairav rasa</i>	S.M.K.12/117-120
7. <i>Laghusuchikabharan rasa</i>	S.M.K. 12/121-126
8. <i>Panchavaktra rasa</i>	S.M.K. 12/131-134
9. <i>Swachandabhairav rasa</i>	S.M.K. 12/167-169
10. <i>Hansapottali rasa</i>	S.M.K. 12/170-171
11. <i>Mahataleshwar rasa</i>	S.M.K. 12/175-179
12. <i>Agnitundi vati</i>	S.M.K. 12/222-223
13. <i>Ajirnakantaka rasa</i>	S.M.K. 12/224-226
14. <i>Kanaksundar rasa</i>	S.M.K. 12/233-238

Table 3: Formulations of UpaVisha in Sharangdhara Samhita.

Sr. No.	UpaVisha formulations	References
1	Arka	
	1. Bindu ghruta	S.M.K.9/161-165
	2. Kasisadya taila	S.M.K. 9/142-145
	3. Arka tailam	S.M.K. 9/147
	4. Vajra taila	S.M.K. 9/185-189
	5. Varnya lepa	S.U.K. 11/13
	6. Karna shula yoga	S.U.K.11/132
	7. Karnashulaha yoga	S.U.K. 11/137
	8. Marichadi taila	S.U.K.9/148-152
	9. Dantyadi lepa	S.U.K. 11/85
2	Snuhi	
	1. Narayan churna	S.M.K.6/83-91
	2. Bindu ghruta	S.M.K. 9/61-65
	3. Kasisadya taila	S.M.K.9/142-145
	4. Vajra taila	S.M.K. 9/185-189
	5. Hemgarbhapottali rasa	S.M.K.12/97-106
	6. Dantyadi lepa	S.U.K.11/85
	7. Karnashulaha yoga	S.U.K.11/137-138
3	Bhallataka	
	1. Darvyadi kwath	S.M.K.2/110-111
	2. Nyagrodhadi Kwath	S.M.K.2/111-115
	3. Pippalyadi kalka	S.M.K.5/16
	4. Panchanimbha churna	S.M.K.6/148-153
	5. Bahushalgud	S.M.K.7/6-12
	6. Sanjivani vati	S.M.K.7/18-21
	7. Vruddhadaru modak	S.M.K.7/25
	8. Surana vataka	S.M.K.7/29-33
	9. Triphala modak	S.M.K.7/88-94
	10. kutaaj awaleha	S.M.K. 8/38-44
	11. Prasarani taila	S.M.K. 9/119-123
	12. Bruhatyadi (Indralupta) lepa	S.U.K. 11/21
	13. Dantyadi lepa	S.U.K. 11/85
4.	Jaypal	
	1. Narayan churna	S.M.K. 6/83-91
	2. Karviradi tailam	S.M.K. 9/190
	3. Dhatur tailam	S.M.K. 9/199-210
	4. Panikalyanak ghruta	S.M.K. 9/38-43
	5. Bindughruta	S.M.K. 9/61-65
	6. Sannipatanjan rasa	S.M.K. 12/136-137
	7. Icchabhedi rasa	S.M.K. 12/141-142
	8. Mahavanhi rasa	S.M.K. 12/207-211
	9. Jaypal vartika	S.M.K. 13/121-122
5.	Dhatura	
	1. Dhatur tailam	S.M.K. 9/199-210
	2. Vajrataila	S.M.K. 9/185-189
	3. Mahajwarankusha rasa	S.M.K. 12/114-116
	4. Panchavakra rasa	S.M.K.12/131-134
	5. Dhaturadi lepa	S.U.K.11/103
6.	Karvir	
	1. Karviradi tailam	S.M.K.9/190
	2. Dhatur tailam	S.M.K.9/199-210
	3. Marichadi taila	S.M.K.9/149-152
	4. Karviradi taila	S.M.K.9/190
	5. Karviradi lepa	S.M.K.11/105
	6. Yonidravan lepa	S.U.K.11/116

	7. <i>Karanjadi taila</i>	S.M.K.9/156
7.	Langali	
	1. <i>Langali tailam</i>	S.M.K. 9/198
	2. <i>Kasisadya taila</i>	S.M.K. 9/142-145
	3. <i>Mruganka pottali rasa</i>	S.M.K. 12/114-116
	4. <i>Kanaksundar rasa</i>	S.M.K. 12/233-238
	5. <i>Kitaghna lepa</i>	S.U.K. 11/8
8.	Gunja	
	1. <i>Loknath rasa</i>	S.M.K.12/59-83
	2. <i>Bruhadyadi(Indralupta) lepa</i>	S.U.K. 11/21
	3. <i>Grudhrashyadishu (Gunja) lepa</i>	S.U.K.11/101
	4. <i>Oil extracted or prepared from Gunja</i>	S.U.K.8/46
9.	Ahiphen	
	1. <i>Akarkarabhadi churna</i>	S.M.K.7/162-164
	2. <i>Vatanashan rasa</i>	S.M.K. 12/230-232
10.	Kuchala	
	<i>Agnitundivati rasa</i>	S.M.K. 12/222-223

2.5. Vishaghna Yoga

Some *Vishaghna yogas* which are described in *Sharangdhar Samhita* w.s.r. to treatment poisoning are shown in table no.4.

Table 4: Vishaghna Yoga described in Sharangdhar Samhita w.s.r. to treatment of poisoning.

Sr. No.	Poisoning	Vishaghna Yoga	References
1.	<i>Vishaghna</i>	<i>Nyagrodhadi Kwatha</i>	S.M.K. 2/111-115
2.	<i>Vishahar</i>	<i>Ankot kalka</i>	S.M.K.5/23
3.	<i>Sthavara and Jangama Visha</i>	<i>Kalka of Vandhyakarkotika mool or Patala mool or Bilva mool</i>	S.M.K.5/24
4.	<i>Visha Roga</i>	<i>Trigandha and Chaturjat churna</i>	S.M.K.6/15
5.	<i>Sarpa damshtra</i> (Snake bite)	<i>Sanjeevani vati</i>	S.M.K.7/18-21
6.	<i>Luta Visha</i> (spider bite)	<i>Kasisadya Ghruta</i>	S.M.K.9/51-57
7.	<i>Luta Visha</i> (spider bite), <i>kita Visha</i> (stings of poisonous insect), <i>Vishahara</i> (Antipoisonous)	<i>Gouradi ghruta</i>	S.M.K.9/72-74
8.	<i>Vishahari</i> (Antipoisonous)	<i>Suvarna Bhasma</i>	S.M.K.11/20
9.	<i>Sarpadashta</i> (snake bite)	<i>Laghusuchikabharan Rasa</i>	S.M.K.12/121-126
10.	<i>GaraVisha</i>	<i>Kanak sundar Rasa</i>	S.M.K.12/233-238
11.	<i>Visha-visphota</i>	<i>Dashang Lepa</i>	S.U.K.11/4-6
12.	<i>Bhallataka Shotha</i>	<i>Vishaghna lepa</i>	S.U.K.11/7
13.	<i>Kita damshajanya Visphota</i>	<i>Kita damshajanya shothaghna lepa</i>	S.U.K.11/8
14.	<i>Sarpadashta Visha</i>	<i>Jaypal vartika-Anjana</i>	S.U.K.13/121-122
15.	<i>Vishahar</i>	<i>Patoladigan kwath</i>	
16.	<i>Sthavar and Jangama Visha</i>	<i>Narayan churna</i>	S.M.K.6/89
17.	<i>Sthavar and Jangama Visha</i>	<i>Paniyakalyanak ghruta</i>	S.M.K.9/38-43

2.6. Aushadha sewan kal in Visha chikitsa (Drug consumption period in Treatment of Poisoning)

According to different condition of the disease *Acharya Sharangdhara* described five different *Aushadha sewan kala* (Drug consumption period). Out of these five consumption period, fourth consumption period is described in *GaraVisha chikitsa*, in which drugs are given *Muhurmuhu* (frequently) or along with food.^[10]

2.7. Panchakarma and other procedure described in Sharangdhar Samhita w.s.r. to Visha (poison)

1. Vamana

Vamana Chikitsa (emesis) is indicated in *Visha* (poison).^[11]

Visha does not affect a person who has had undergone a good emesis therapy.^[12]

2. Virechana

Virechana should not be given in *Madatyaya*. Person suffering from *GaraVisha* (Artificial poison) need *Virechana* (purgation therapy).^[13]

Milky sap of *Snuhi* and *Dantiphala*(*Jaypal*) is used as a *Virechaka dravya* in *krur koshta* (hard bowel).^[14]

3. Nasya

Nasya is contraindicated in *Gara Visha* (Artificial poison).^[15]

4. Raktamokshana

Raktamokshana (Bloodletting) as a method of treatment is indicated in Rakta (blood) vitiated with Visha (poisons).^[16]

5. Gandush

Ghrita is used for gargle in case of poisoning.^[17]

6. Lepa

Vishaghna lepa of thickness 1/3 Anguli is prescribed for topical application in case of poisoning.^[18]

3. DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

Sharangdhar Samhita is the first Ayurvedic basic text which is written in style of drug manual. It is included in Laghutrayee (three lesser triad of Ayurvedic basic textbook) along with Madhav Nidana and Bhavaprakasha. It is divided in three part Purvakhanda, Madhyamkhanda and Uttarkhanda. In all three part of Sharangdhar Samhita toxicological information is scattered. While defining poison Sharangdhar give importance to eight Guna of Visha. Sharangdhar classified Visha (poison) in three types i.e. Sthavara, Jangama and Kritrima. In Kritrima Visha he included both GaraVisha and DushiVisha. Sharangdhara also mentioned seven Dhatu Visha, seven Upadhatu Visha and seven UpaVisha.

Shodhana process of Visha dravya and its scattered formulations are collected in one place in this article. As a part of treatment of poisoning different Vishaghna yoga (antipoisonous formulations) are described in table no.4. Panchakarma and other procedures specially described in poisoning are found in third part of (Uttarkhanda) Sharangdhara Samhita.

Hence we can conclude this article by saying that the Ayurvedic perspectives of toxicology are scattered in Sharangdhara Samhita as it is a basically a drug manual. But being a drug manual Sharangdhara Samhita highlighted Visha (poisons), its classification, formulations and Shodhana process. In treatment of poisoning different Vishaghna yoga (antidote), panchakarma and other procedures are also highlighted.

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