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STUDY OF ETHNOBOTANICAL PLANTS OF KAPARADA TALUKA AND THEIR SIGNIFICANCE TO THE TRIBES

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ABSTRACT:

Vast ethnobotanical knowledge exists in India from ancient time. Written records of the use of plants for curing human or animal diseases in India can be tracked back to the earliest scripture of the HINDUS, the Rigveda. Ayurveda the Indian indigenous system of medicine, dating back to the Vedic ages, has been an integral part of Indian culture. Ethnobotanical investigation has led to the documentation of a large number of wild plants used by tribals for meeting their multifarious requirements. During the research work total 134 plants were found which were ethnobotanically important in research area.

KEY WORD: *Ethnobotany, tribals, Ayurveda, Kaparada.*

INTRODUCTION:

Valsad district in South Gujarat is situated in heavy rainfall zone so it is having good biodiversity. This district is having five taluka- Valsad, Pardi, Dharampur, Kaprada and Umbergaon. Kaprada taluka which is separated from Dharampur taluka in 1997 is not so far studied. The taluka of Kaprada is separated from Dharampur on 15th October, 1997. Kaprada taluka is situated on 20.43' – 20.13' North latitude and 73.42' – 73.01' East longitude. Its North boundary is shared with Dharampur taluka, North-West boundary with Pardi taluka while East and South East boundary with Maharashtra State and South-West boundary with Silvassa and Dadra and Nagar Haveli. Its geographical area is 936.62 Sq. Kms.

Study of Ethnobotany assumes great importance in enhancing our knowledge about the plants grown and used by tribal communities, the diversity produced and assembled by them through generations of informal breeding for their own sustenance and different traditional technologies, means and methods adopted by them for the conservation of plant diversity. These days greater emphasis is being laid on the traditional knowledge and the social and cultural aspects of the traditional and ethnic people imparting that knowledge and use that knowledge in bio prospecting of biological resources as a new source of food and medicine and other important industrial raw materials. Ethnobotanical survey is also leading to the study of diverse agro-ecosystems in world and their crop diversity and how these crop genetic resources are being used, managed and sustained by these tribal communities.

Hence major contribution of ethnobotanical study today is towards the understanding and bio prospecting of biodiversity which has assumed great economic, ecological, social and political significance for the modern civilization. There is a close link between ethnic diversity and biological diversity. Different ethnic societies use a particular plant species in their locality differently as a source of food or as a source of medicine or both. Different ethnic people use the same plants species for treatment of same or related human diseases.

MATERIALS AND METHODS:

The present study was mainly conducted in Kaparada taluka. The information of medicinal aspect of plants, particularly on medicinal value have been collected by means of arranging meeting, dialogues and discussion with rural, tribal and knowledgeable people from various villages of Kaparada taluka. The documental information was also verified by cross questioning with key information and elderly people of different villages. During our research work total 134 plants were found which were ethno botanically important in research area.

RESULTS:

***Abelmoschus esculentus* (L.) Moench. (BHINDA) [Malvaceae]**

Ripe seeds are roasted for use as coffee substitute. Seeds yield fatty edible oil. Flowers eaten in soup. Dry plants are used as fuel. Tender capsules are used as a vegetable.

***Abrus precatorius* L. (CHANOTHI) [Fabaceae]**

Roots diuretic, tonic and emetic. Roots and leaves contain glycyrrhizin. Fresh leaves or dried leaves are chewed to cure mouth sores.

***Abutilon indicum* (L.) Sweet. (KHAPAT, KANSHAKI) [Malvaceae]**

Bark astringent and diuretic. The root paste is applied externally on boils. Seed paste is used as ointment in piles. Crushed leaf powder mixed with fodder is given once daily against diarrhea in cattle.

***Acacia chundra* (Roxb. ex Rottl.) Willd. (KHAIR) [Mimosaceae]**

Wood used for beams, posts and agricultural implements. A small amount of *KATHA* is applied over ulcer in the mouth for fast healing. *KATHA* is used in pan-masala as a dye. Dry stem is used as a fire wood and dry branches are used as fencing.

***Acacia nilotica* (L.) Del. subsp. *indica* (Benth.) Brenan. (DESHI BAVAL) [Mimosaceae]**

Fresh leaves are chewed twice a day in mouth sores and mouth ulcers. Twigs used as 'datan' for cleaning teeth. Steam bark is boiled with water and used to clean wounds of cattle. Leaves and pods are eaten by grazing animal like goats and sheep's. Stem is used as a fire wood. Dry branched are used as farm fencing. Wood is used to prepare hub and wheel of cart.

***Acanthopsernum hispidum* DC. (GOHKRU) [Asteraceae]**

The plant part possesses antifungal and antibacterial activity. Leaves decoction is taken orally for treatment of yellow fever.

***Achyranthes aspera* L. var. *aspera* (ANDHEDI) [Amaranthaceae]**

Leaf paste is applied on scorpion sting and insects bite. Plant ash mixed with sesame oil is used for treatment of ear diseases. Fresh leaves are taken on empty stomach in cases of sexual debility. Fresh seeds mixed with ghee and sugar is boiled to make into slurry for treating stomach swelling.

***Adansonia digitata* L. (RUKHDO) [Bombacaceae]**

The bark yields a soft fibre. Fruit pulp is diaphoretic, gives relief in bronchial asthma. Seeds are crushed in water and given to cure enteritis.

***Aegle marmelos* (L.) Corr. (BILI) [Rutaceae]**

Ripe fruit is eaten to cure constipation. Unripe fruit is taken orally to cure diarrhea & dysentery. Fruit pulp is applied locally to cure mouth diseases of cattle.

***Alangium salvifolium* (L. f.) Wang. (ANKOL) [Alangiaceae]**

The juice of root bark is given orally to cure worm. Leaves are boiled in water to take bath with it to relief in rheumatism. Roots are rubbed with water and applied on the poisons animal sting. Wood is used as a plough and tool handles. Wood is used in preparation of musical instruments and toys.

***Albizia lebeck* (L.) Bth. (SIRIS) [Mimosaceae]**

Crushed seeds along with honey prevent lymph node swellings in children. Stem is used as a fire wood.

***Allium cepa* L. (DUNGRI, KANDA) [Liliaceae]**

Paste of bulb is externally applied on boil & blisters. Juice of onion mixed with milk or curd along with sulphur powder is applied on infected skin of animal. Bulb and leaves are used as vegetable.

***Aloe vera* (L.) Burm. f. (KUWARPATHU) [Liliaceae]**

Pulp of leaves applied on burns, also given orally in sunstroke. Extract of leaves is given in pain during menstruation. Fresh leaf juice is applied to skin to kill ticks and parasites of animals. It is also used to treat rheumatism in camels.

***Alysicarpus bupleurifolius* (L.) DC. (KHADSAMARVO) [Fabaceae]**

Leaves are taken orally twice a day for one month for blood purification.

***Amaranthus spinosus* L. [Amaranthaceae]**

Leaves are useful in treatment of boils and burns. Plant is prescribed as a cattle feed for milking cattle to increase lactation.

***Anacardium occidentale* L. (KAJU) [Anacardiaceae]**

Latex is applied in foot diseases. Its seeds are used as a dry fruit.

***Anisomeles indica* (L.) O. Ktze. (CHODHARO) [Lamiaceae]**

Dry stem is used as a fire wood. The plant ash mixed with Jaggery and makes an extract. It is taken orally to reduce mucus.

***Anogeissus latifolia* (Roxb.) Wall. (DHAVIDO) [Combretaceae]**

Wood used as timber wood for preparation of agricultural implements and tool handle. The gum is tonic and given during winter in weakness. Decoction of stem bark is given orally twice a day in colic complaints.

***Argemone mexicana* L. (DARUDI) [Papaveraceae]**

Yellow milky juice is applied on blisters. Root decoction is given in skin disease. Leaves paste is used to cure eczema. Crushed roots are applied over body for the treatment of eczema in domestic animals.

***Argyreia nervosa* (Burm. f.) Boj. (SAMUDRA SHOSH) [Convolvulaceae]**

Young fresh leaves, hairy side applied on boils for ripening and pus formation and then smooth side for healing wound.

***Aristolochia bracteolata* Lam. (KIDAMARI) [Aristolochiaceae]**

Leaf paste applied on the head while taking bath relieves dandruff and other infections. Paste of green leaves is applied to kill ticks & maggots and also applied locally to cure foot diseases in cattle.

***Asparagus racemosus* Willd. var. *javanica* (Kunth.) Baker. (SATAVRI) [Liliaceae]**

Powder of dry root is to cure urinary troubles. Root decoction is taken by women as a tonic after delivery.

***Bacopa monnieri* (L.) Pennell. (BAM) [Scrophulariaceae]**

Decoction of leaves is taken to cure urinary diseases.

***Bambusa arundinacea* Willd. (VANS) [Poaceae]**

Clum is used in the construction of roof and wall of the hut. Clums are also used in basketry, other handicrafts, fishing implements and agricultural implements etc.

***Barleria prionitis* L. (PILO KANTASELIYO) [Acanthaceae]**

Powder of leaves with crushed leaves of *Clerodendrum inerme* and few drops of edible oil is applied on heels to remove scratches. Root extract is applied on skin to expel out spine from the skin.

***Bauhinia racemosa* Lam. (RAKTA KANCHNAR) [Caesalpinaceae]**

Decoction of leaves is mixed with stem decoction of *Tinospora cordifolia*, is given in malarial fever. Leaf paste is given to cure dysentery.

***Boerhavia repens* L. var. *diffusa* (L.) Hook. f. (SATODI) [Nyctaginaceae]**

Juice of leaves is useful to cure Jaundice.

***Bombax ceiba* L. (SHIMLO) [Bombacaceae]**

Root decoction is taken orally twice a day for a week to cure urinary troubles. Decoction of flowers is given twice a day to cure dysentery.

***Butea monosperma* (Lamk.) Taub. (KHAKHRO) [Fabaceae]**

Flower is used for bathing juvenile child. Seed paste is taken orally along with fresh cow milk early in the morning to cure asthma. Juice of flower is given in treatment of burning urinary tract. Dye obtained from the flowers is used in 'Holi'. Leaves are used in making Dishes called *PATRADA*.

***Calotropis gigantea* (L.) Ait. (SAFED AKADO) [Asclepiadaceae]**

Dried powdered flowers with honey are given to cure cough. Fresh milky latex is applied locally to cure scabies. Flowers are offered *LORD HANUMAN* by people.

***Cardiospermum halicacabum* L. (KAGDOLIYO) [Sapindaceae]**

Leaves are fried and applied to the pubes to increase menstrual flow.

***Carissa conjesta* Wt. (KARAMDI) [Apocynaceae]**

Fruits are edible and pickl is also made from its fruit.

***Cassia fistula* L. (GARMALO) [Caesalpiniaceae]**

Root juice is taken to cure fever. Powder of seed is given to cure diabetes. Ash of fruit along with honey is given in whooping cough.

***Cassia tora* L. (KUVADIYO) [Caesalpiniaceae]**

Leaf paste is used in skin diseases like dermatocycosis. The massed leaves of this plant mixed with lemon juice is used for curing blemishness.

***Catunaregam spinosa* (Thunb.) Tirveng. (MINDHAL) [Rubiaceae]**

The fruits are used by *HINDUS* at the time of marriage ceremonies.

***Celastrus paniculatus* Willd. (MALKANGANI) [Celastraceae]**

Seed oil mixed with mustard oil in equal quantities and applied externally to cure eczema.

***Centella asiatica* (L.) Urb. (BRHAMI) [Apiaceae]**

The leaves are used in hair-oil as cooling agent and sedative to nerves and brain.

***Chenopodium album* L. (CHILL NI BHAI) [Chenopodiaceae]**

Leaves are used as a vegetable.

***Cissampelos pareira* L. var. *hirsuta* (Buch.-Ham. ex DC.) (VENIVEL) [Menispermaceae]**

Juice of aerial part is taken orally twice a day before meals to treat headache.

***Cissus quadrangularis* L. (HADSANKAL) [Vitaceae]**

Stem juice is applied on swellings of bone fracture.

***Cocos nucifera* L. (NARIEL) [Arecaceae]**

Ash of pericarp is applied for treatment of piles. Endosperm of fruit is edible. Leaves midribs used as a broom. Leaves used for thatching the roof of houses. Dried fruit is used on several religious and social occasions.

***Convolvulus arvensis* L. (KHETRAU PHUDARDI) [Convolvulaceae]**

The leaf paste is used to remove warts from the skin.

***Corchorus aestuans* L. (CHHUNCH) [Tiliaceae]**

Infusion of crushed fruit is given in fever and pneumonia.

***Cordia dichotoma* Forst. f. Prodr. (VAD GUNDO) [Boraginaceae]**

Stem is used for making churning rod. The ripe fruits are eaten and unripe fruits are used to make pickle.

***Cordia gharaf* (Forsk.) Ehrenb. & Asch. (NANI GUNDI) [Boraginaceae]**

Stem bark juice is given to cure dysentery. Ripe fruits are edible. Woods are used as third support of the cart.

***Crotalaria juncea* L. (SHAN) [Fabaceae]**

Leaf decoction is very useful in blood purification. Fiber from plant bark is useful to make cordage. Dry stem is used as shelter and housing. Whole plant is used as green manure.

***Cuscuta chinensis* Lam. (NANI AMARVEL) [Cuscutaceae]**

The whole plant is boiled in water and used for taking bath, is believed to be a useful remedy for skin infections.

***Dalbergia latifolia* Roxb. (SISAM) [Fabaceae]**

Leaf extract is useful in dysentery. Stem is useful in making furniture. Woods are used in making cart axles and plough.

***Dalbergia sissoo* Roxb. (MOTO SISAM) [Fabaceae]**

Wood is used for furniture and construction. Wood is also used for agricultural implements.

***Delonix regia* (Boj.ex Hook) Raf. (GUL MOHOR) [Caesalpiniaceae]**

Stem is used as fire wood.

***Dendrocalamus strictus* Nees. (VANS) [Poaceae]**

Leaf juice is given orally during child birth for easy delivery. Strips of bamboo are tied on fractured bone of leg and water is sprayed over it. Stem is used as walking stick.

***Dendrophthoe falcata* (L. f.) Ettn. var. *falcate* (VANDO) [Loranthaceae]**

Plant paste applied on veterinary fracture.

***Dentella repens* (L.) J.R. & G. Forst. [Rubiaceae]**

Paste of whole plant is applied to cure sores.

***Dioscorea alata* L. (RATALU) [Dioscoreaceae]**

Paste of tubers is applied on affected part to cure piles.

***Dioscorea bulbifera* L. (KANAK) [Dioscoreaceae]**

About one fourth of tuber is chewed twice a day to cure cough and cold.

***Diospyros melanoxylon* Roxb. (TIMBRU) [Ebenaceae]**

The fruits are edible. Wood is used for housing purpose and firewood. Dried leaves are used to make "BIDIES"

***Eclipta prostrata* (L.) L. Mant. (BHANGRO) [Asteraceae]**

Leaves boiled in coconut oil and applied to remove dandruff and for blackening grey hair. Juice of leaves is given orally to children in diarrhea.

***Ehretia laevis* Roxb. (DANTRANGO) [Boraginaceae]**

2-3 drops of leaf extract is put in to eyes to cure conjunctivitis and night blindness.

***Emblica officinalis* Gaertn. (AMBLA) [Euphorbiaceae]**

Powder of dried fruit is given twice a day to cure diarrhea. Fruit is uses in preparations of Jams and mouth fresheners. Dry fruit powder is used in hair cleaner and hair dye.

***Euphorbia hirta* L. (WADI DUDHI) [Euphorbiaceae]**

Leaf paste mixed with goat milk consumed for stomach upset and dysentery.

***Ficus benghalensis* L. (VAD) [Moraceae]**

Paste of bark and root is applied on the fractured parts. Stem is used as fire wood. Adventitious root twig is used as toothbrush.

***Ficus racemosa* L. (UMBARO) [Moraceae]**

Paste of bark is applied twice a day to cure swellings of foot and hands. Bark decoction is gargled to cure mouth ulcer. Fruit is edible. Dry branches are used as fire wood.

***Ficus religiosa* L. (PIPALO) [Moraceae]**

Latex is applied externally on wounds to stop bleeding. Decoction of leaves is given to animals in throat infections. Plant is worshipped as a symbol of GOD VISHNU and water is offered on particular days to get blessings.

***Flacourtia indica* (Burm. f.) Merr. (GARGUGAL) [Flacourtiaceae]**

Infusion of leaves given thrice a day to cure cough.

***Garuga pinnata* Roxb. (KAKAD) [Burseraceae]**

Decoction of leaves is given to cure asthma. Fruits are edible.

***Gloriosa superba* L. (VACHHNAG) [Liliaceae]**

Root paste is applied on external injury for relief pain.

***Gmelina arborea* Roxb. (SHEVAN) [Verbinaceae]**

Decoction of ripe fruit is given twice a day in fever. The timber is used for furniture. The plant is considered symbolic for ceremonial sacrifices.

***Grewia hirsuta* Vahl. (KHAD DHAMNI) [Tiliaceae]**

A piece of root is rubbed on stone with water and applied in eyes to cure white spots in children.

***Hedyotis corymbosa* (L.) Lam. (PARPAT) [Rubiaceae]**

Decoction of leaves is given orally in jaundice.

***Helicteres isora* L. (MARDA SHING) [Sterculiaceae]**

Plant powder is given orally with water to cure diarrhea.

***Heliotropium ovalifolium* Forssk. (HATHI SUNDHI) [Boraginaceae]**

2-5 leaves given orally in the early mornings to cure ulcers.

***Hemidesmus indicus* (L.) Schult. (ANANTMUL) [Periplocaceae]**

Paste of root is applied in rheumatic pains.

***Holarrhena pubescens* (Buch.-Ham.) Wall. ex G.Don (KADVO INDRAJAV) [Apocynaceae]**

Dried bark powder with boiled and cooled water is used twice a day in amoebic dysentery.

***Holoptelea integrifolia* (Roxb.) Planch. (KANJI) [Ulmaceae]**

Infusion of root and bark are applied to cure rheumatism. Seeds are edible. Fresh branches used as shelter and housing. Stem is used in preparation of big sieve. The bark is blood purifier.

***Hygrophila schulli* (Buch.-Ham.) M.R. & S.M. (AEKHARO) [Acanthaceae]**

Infusion of whole plant is taken orally to cure urinary complaints.

***Impatiens balsamina* L. (TANMANIA) [Balsaminaceae]**

Dyes obtained from leaves and flowers are used for coloring palm.

***Indigofera cordifolia* Heyne ex Roth (GALI) [Fabaceae]**

2-5 leaves are chewed in mouth ulcers.

***Ipomoea aquatica* Forsk. (JALGAMINI) [Convolvulaceae]**

Leaves are used as fodder.

***Jatropha curcas* L. (RATAN JOT) [Euphorbiaceae]**

Latex mixed with water is taken orally to cure leukemia. Seed oil is used in making bio-fuel.

***Kigelia africana* (Lam.) Bth. (TOPGOLA) [Bignoniaceae]**

Bark paste is smeared on inflamed part to cure rheumatism. Roasted seeds are edible.

***Lawsonia inermis* L. (MENHDHI) [Lythraceae]**

Fresh leaf paste is applied on the fractured bones of camel. Paste of leaves is applied to cure foot and mouth diseases. Dry leaves are used as dye.

***Madhuca indica* J. F. Gmel. (MAHUDO) [Sapotaceae]**

Paste of fallen dry flowers is applied on wounds. The seeds are crushed to yield oil called 'Vegetable Butter' which is edible and used by tribal.

***Martynia annua* L. (VINCHHUDO) [Martyniaceae]**

Fruit paste applied on scorpion sting which is very effective.

***Medicago sativa* L. (LACHKO) [Fabaceae]**

Plants are cultivated as fodder.

***Mimosa pudica* L. (LAJAMANI) [Mimosaceae]**

Decoction of leaves is given orally in urinary infection.

***Mimusops elengi* L. (BORSALI) [Sapotaceae]**

Seed powder with water is taken in piles. Ripe fruits are edible.

***Mitragyna parviflora* (Roxb.) Korth. (KADAMB) [Rubiaceae]**

Decoction of stem bark used as mouth fresheners. Stem is used in preparation of agricultural implement viz. *KHAPO*, *PERANI*.

***Moringa concanensis* Nimmo. (KADVO SARAGVO) [Moringaceae]**

Seed yield oil is applied externally on rheumatism.

***Moringa oleifera* Lam. (SARAGVO) [Moringaceae]**

Extract of leaves is applied on eye twice a day in cases of inflamed tumor on the eyelid. Paste of leaves and stem bark is fed with sugar to increase lactation. Fruits used as vegetable.

***Morus alba* L. (SHETUR) [Moraceae]**

Leaves are chewed in sore throat. Fruits are edible.

***Mucuna pruriens* (L.) DC. (KAVACH) [Fabaceae]**

“*KAUCHA PAK*” is prepared from seeds It is used to improve sexual urges.

***Murdannia nudiflora* (L.) Brenan. (MURDANNIA) [Commelinaceae]**

Plant extract is taken in stomach pain.

***Nyctanthes arbor-tristis* L. (PARIJATAK) [Oleaceae]**

Seed crushed and applied to scalp to remove dandruff. Decoction of leaves is mixed with honey, it is given in stomatitis. Flowers used in worship of LORD VISHNU.

***Ocimum basilicum* L. (DAMRO) [Lamiaceae]**

Flowers used by Muslim community for worship.

***Ocimum tenuiflorum* L. (TULSI) [Lamiaceae]**

Leaf paste is applied externally on forehead to get relief from headache. Leaf decoction with ginger juice is given to cure cough and fever. Leaves are used in worship of GOD.

***Opuntia elatior* Mill. (PHAPHDO THOR) [Cactaceae]**

Whole plant is used as farm fencing.

***Oxalis corniculata* L. (NAVARI) [Oxalidaceae]**

The juice of whole plant is rubbed gently on the skin against skin allergies. 2-3 drops of leaf juice is put in the eye to relieve redness caused by dust allergy.

***Pandanus odoratissimus* L.f. (KEVDO) [Pandanaceae]**

Extract of leaves is taken in leucoderma. Root juice is given orally to cure prolapsed of uterus. The plant is worshipped by HINDU.

***Parkinsonia aculeata* L. (RAM BAVAL) [Caesalpiniaceae]**

Fresh roots are rubbed with fresh water on rabbi's bite for a week. Dry branches are used as a fuel.

***Passiflora edulis* Sims. (KRUSHNAKAMAL) [Passifloraceae]**

Leaf paste is applied on forehead to cure headache.

***Pedaliium murex* L. (UBHU GOKHARU) [Pedaliaceae]**

Decoction of fruits is given in cases of night discharge.

***Pentatropis capensis* (L. f.)Bullock (SHINGROTI) [Asclepiadaceae]**

Whole plant is used in treatment of skin diseases.

***Pergularia daemia* (Forssk.) Choiv. (CHAMAR DUDHELI) [Asclepiadaceae]**

Juice of leaves is given orally in diarrhea.

***Phoenix sylvestris* (L.) Roxb. (KHAJURI) [Aracaceae]**

Ripe fruits are edible. Leaves are used for making brooms, basketry, brushes, mats, and for thatching.

***Pithecellobium dulce* (Roxb.) Bth. (GORAS AMLI) [Mimosaceae]**

Aril is edible. Leaves eaten by goats. Stem is used as fuel.

***Plumbago zeylanica* L. (CHITRAK) [Plumbaginaceae]**

Root powder mixed with Ghee and given orally for a week to cure piles.

***Plumeria rubra* L. (KHAD CHAMPO) [Apocynaceae]**

A piece of young root is inserted in to vagina; it should be done at night and kept whole night for abortion. Latex is applied in toothache.

***Rauvolfia tetraphylla* L. (SARPGANDHA) [Apocynaceae]**

Dried root powder taken orally twice a day in the morning with milk is effective to control blood pressure.

***Rhynchosia minima* (L.) DC. (DARIYA VEL) [Fabaceae]**

Whole plant is used as fodder for goat and camel.

***Ricinus communis* L. (ARANDI) [Euphorbiaceae]**

Seed oil is applied as coolant in case of sunstroke. Oil with ginger juice is given in rheumatoid arthritis. Castor oil is given to sick goats against fever. Seed oil is given to sheep to cure throat problems. Seed oil is used in preservation of cereals.

***Salvadora persica* L. (PILUDI) [Salvadoraceae]**

Fruits are eaten as an effective treatment for enlarged spleen. Stem is used as fuel. Seed oil is used in soap making.

***Sapindus laurifolius* Vahl. (ARITHA) [Sapindaceae]**

Mixture of fruit pericarp and bark powder of Acacia catechu is roasted and ground and tablets made of that mixture is taken with butter orally to cure piles. Foam of fruit is applied on snake bite and fruit juice is given orally. Fruits are used to clean cloths and hairs as alternative of soap.

***Saraca asoca* (Roxb.) de Wilde. (ASHOK) [Caesalpiniaceae]**

Flowers of *Saraca* pounded and mixed with water are useful in hemorrhagic dysentery.

***Sesbania grandiflora* (L.) Poir. (AGATHIYO) [Fabaceae]**

Paste of leaf and flower is used in treatment of wounds.

***Sida acuta* Burm.f. (BALA) [Malvaceae]**

Root paste is applied on effected parts of body to relief pain. Fiber is useful in making cordage.

***Sida cordata* (Burm. f.) Borss. (BHOYA BALA) [Malvaceae]**

Leaf extract with cow milk is taken as cooling agent. Decoction of whole plant is taken in weakness to get strength.

***Solanum anguivi* Lam. (MOTI RINGNI) [Solanaceae]**

Root decoction is taken orally in dry cough.

***Solanum nigrum* L. (KANGANI) [Solanaceae]**

Fresh fruit juice is applied over forehead to get relief from headache. Juice is given in treatment of chronic enlargement of liver. Extract of leaves is applied over eye to cure conjunctivitis. Ripe berries are eaten by children.

***Spilanthes calva* DC. (AKKALGARO) [Asteraceae]**

The flower heads chewed to get relief from toothache.

***Sterculia urens* Roxb. (KADAYO) [Sterculiaceae]**

Gum is applied in eczema. Gum is taken orally to cure dysentery. The roasted seeds are eaten. The dry branches are used as fuel. Bark used as cordage. Wood is light in weight hence it is used in preparation of toys and musical instruments.

***Syzygium cumini* (L.) Skeels. (JAMBU) [Myrtaceae]**

Fruits are edible. Wood durable for construction, agricultural implements, etc.

***Tamarindus indica* L. (KHATI AMLI) [Caesalpiniaceae]**

The powder of stem bark mixed with curd and given early morning to cure bleeding piles. Decoction of stem bark is useful to cure diarrhea. Pods and leaves mixed with water are fed to animal to treat the stomach pain after eating castor. Fruit has various uses in edible preparations like chutneys, pickles, etc. Wood is used as firewood.

***Tephrosia purpurea* (L.) Pers. (SARPANKHO) [Fabaceae]**

Paste of root bark is taken in small quantity to relief stomach pain. Roots are fed to animals against general swellings. Whole plant is used to making brush.

***Terminalia bellirica* (Gaertn.) Roxb. (BAHEDA) [Combretaceae]**

Fruit powder is given for the treatment of cough with honey. Fruit powder an ingredient of Ayurvedic preparation “*TRIPHALA*” used for respiratory and gastric disorders. Pounded fruit is applied in foot and mouth diseases.

***Terminalia cuneata* Roth. (ARJUN SADAD) [Combretaceae]**

Bark decoction is taken for a week in ulcer. It is useful as timber and firewood.

***Terminalia chebula* Retz. (HARDE) [Combretaceae]**

Fruit powder is given at night to cure constipation. Crushed fruits are given orally to cure asthma. Fruit powder is ingredient of Ayurvedic preparation “*TRIPHALA*”.

***Thespesia populnea* (L.) Soland. ex Corr. (PARAS PIPLO) [Malvaceae]**

3-4 leaves extract ground with an equal quantity of cow milk. This mixture is taken on empty stomach early in the morning for seven days, for jaundice.

***Tinospora cordifolia* (Willd.) Miers ex Hk. f. & Th. (GALO) [Menispermaceae]**

Decoction of stem is given thrice a day in fever. Decoction of stem is taken orally once a day to control diabetes. Aerial root is given to animal to increase lactation.

***Tribulus terrestris* L. (GOKHRU) [Zygophyllaceae]**

Fruit powder is taken orally with water for month to cure kidney stone.

***Tridax procumbens* L. (PARDESHI BHANGRO) [Asteraceae]**

Leaf paste is applied on cuts for stop bleeding.

***Triumfetta rhomboidea* Jacq. (GOL ZIPTI) [Tiliaceae]**

Plant paste is applied to cure pimples.

***Urena lobata* L. (JUNGLI BHINDO) [Malvaceae]**

Powder of seed with hot water is taken twice a day after meal for 7 days to cure diarrhea and dysentery.

***Vitex negundo* L. (NAGOD) [Verbenaceae]**

Root decoction is applied in joint pain. Leaf juice is applied on swollen body parts. Mouth of cattle is washed with leaf decoction of *Vitex negundo* for the treatment of a very prevalent common disease *KHARVA-MOVA*. Leaf juice is applied to remove lice in children.

***Withania somnifera* (L.) Dunal. (ASHVAGANDHA) [Solanaceae]**

Root powder is taken with milk twice a day in cases of general debility. Powdered roots are mixed with husk of Isabgoal in 1:1 ratio and given with milk twice a day in cases of spermatorrhoea.

DISCUSSION:

The traditional knowledge of tribal communities of Kaparada taluka has high ethnobotanical importance. They utilize numerous plants and their various parts, viz., roots, leaves, stems, flowers and fruits in various ways. A total of 134 species are used in day to day life of the Kaparada tribes. Now-a-days due to modernization and easy availability of needed items in the nearest market, the dependence on wild

resources is decreasing rapidly. But in remote villages where no communication facilities are available, the tribal population is still dependent on wild resources for their daily needs.

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