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Ethnobotanical survey of Bolangir district of Odisha, India

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ABSTRACT

Unlike the modern medication that developed during the last two to three centuries now, the use of plants has been known to mankind since time immemorial. In India, the concept of Ayurveda has existed from the time of Indus valley civilization. Some scholar also believes that Ayurveda is the oldest healing science. Unlike modern synthetic medicines, medicinal plants being the bulk of Ayurvedic therapy are considered harmless. The forests remain as the chief source of medicinal plants. The tribal people of the Bolangir district depend solely, on medicinal plants. A total of 23 plants belonging to 19 families were documented during the survey. Out of that Fabaceae is dominated followed by Euphorbiaceae and Meliaceae. The various tribal populace of Bolangir uses medicinal plants to cure diseases such as malaria, diarrhea, worm infection, malnutrition, anemia, skin diseases, respiratory diseases etc.

INTRODUCTION

Ayurvedic medicine, unlike modern synthetic medicine, relies heavily on the vegetation, i.e. the bulk is obtained from the forest and so why the vegetation is searched, identified, collected, and stored. The forest is its main source of resources ([Sahoo and Mahalik 2020](#)). Bolangir is a district in

Odisha. Named after the headquarter town of Bolangir, this district was formed on 1st November 1949 ([Anonymous 2010](#)). Although technology has advanced by many folds since the last 2 decades still a various of the villages are still in remote areas where the communication and transport