

Review of Haritaki (Terminalia chebula Retz.) in Harita Samhita

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Abstract: Haritaki (Terminalia chebula Retz.) belonging to family Combretaceae is auoted to be the best among all drugs and is being widely used in traditional Indian medicine system i.e. Ayurveda. It is described in most of the classical Ayurveda texts. Harita also emphasized on its significance and elaborated it in detail in Haritakikalpaadhyaya. Their origins, rasapanchaka, formulations, types, originspecific action- color of different types have been indicated. Its most common formulation, i.e. Triphala has also been discussed in particular. Apart from that, it is scattered all over the text, being a part of many formulations due to its efficacy in various disorders. Modern Researches unveiled its various chemical components and pharmacological actions, its leading phytochemicals being chebulic acid, gallic acid, corilagin, ellagic acid, chebulagic acid, chebulinic acid, triterpenoids, anthraguinones and leading pharmacological actions being antimicrobial, anti- inflammatory, antioxidant, antidiabetic, cardioprotective, hepatoprotective. Alongwith that, five rasa except Lavana, Madhuravipaka and Ushnaveeryajustify its various pharmacological actions. Although different reviews have been done on Haritaki but consideration of Harita samhita in particular is a novel concept and was planned to explore its minute and unique applications so that one may use it for society in a better way.

Keywords: Haritaki, Terminalia chebula, Harita, pharmacological, rasapanchaka.

Introduction: Haritaki is a profusely used herb used for ample of diseases in Ayurveda and is considered to be analogous to mother for all living beings. It is said at times even mother can be unhappy with the child but Haritaki never turns apathyakaraka [Ha. Ka. 1/9]. it is believed to be pathyatama for everyone as it destroys all diseases and gives Ayu, Tushti, Medha, Varna, Oja, Teja, Smriti. It pacifies all the three doshaand helps in elimination of the waste. [Ha. Ka. 1/ 20, 21] It emphasizes the beneficience of the drug in concern which has been described profusely in Vedic literature, Classical Ayurveda texts and Lexicons on medicinal plants. There is a thorough account of Haritaki in the Harita Samhita as well. The first chapter of Kalpa Sthana, named "Haritaki kalpa," is devoted to the Haritaki where Haritaki kalpa is guoted to be the best among other Kalpa. [Ha. Ka. 1/4] Mythologically, it is said to be originated from drops of Amrita which fell on earth while God Indra was drinking it. [Ha. Ka. 1/5] Its characteristics, place of origin, range of effects, medicinal applications,

and contraindications are all illustrated in detail. It is said that *Haritaki* is the "Rasayana of Poors."[Ha. Ka. 3/ 7]

Synonyms: The use of different synonyms was a mode of describing the plants in Ayurveda texts. Different synonyms used for *Haritaki* in Harita samhita were *Pathya*, *Abhaya*, *Vaapi*. It is designated as *Pathya* due to its suitability or acceptability in different diseases while *Abhaya* as it relieves the fear of diseases.

Rasa of Haritaki: It is having five rasaviz. Kashaya, Amla, Katu, Tikta, Svadu; with the only exception of Lavanarasa.

Texts such as the *Harita Samhita*, *Shodhala*, *Raja nighantu*, *Kaiyadev*, and *Bhav PrakashNighantu* have all provided precise information regarding the

location of a specific *rasa* in the fruit of *Haritaki* plant *Harita*identified

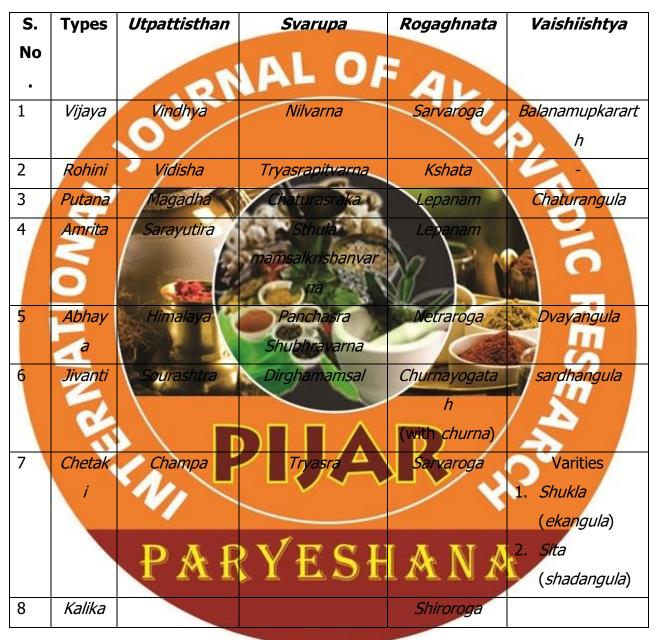
Kashayarasa in *Meda*, *Amlarasa* in *Medoantar, Katurasa* in *Tvak*, and *Madhurarasa* in *Asthi*.[Ha. Ka. 1/ 6, 7]

Types:It follows the widely accepted concept of seven varieties with addition

of a new variety under the name of *Kalika*. (Table 1)

Table 1: Seven varieties & identifying character of Haritaki

[HS.pancham kalpasathana1/11,12,13,14,15,16,17, 18page 499, 500]



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JIV	anti – Dirgha mamsa	al Chetaki – Krishna (Ekangula)
Ritu Haritaki	Different Anupana of	the with the widely approved <i>Ritu Haritaki</i> of
herb is prescri	ed to be used in diffe	rent Bhav Prakash. [Ha. Ka. 3/ 10, 11].
seasons which	is slightly inconsistent	(Table 2)
Table 2: <i>Ritu</i>	Haritaki of Harita a	
Ritu	Anupana (Harita)	Anupana (Bhav Prakash)
Sharada 🧹	Sita	Sharkara
Himakala 🛛	Shunthi Guda	
Shishira	Saindhava Pippali	Pippali
Vasant	Trikatu Guda	Madhu
Greeshma	Sita Nagar, R	TOP SHANA
Varsha	Saindhava	Saindhava
Hemant	-	Shunthi

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Haritaki Prayoga

According to Harita, it lessens Vata because of Amlata, Pitta because of Madhura, Tiktarasa, Kapha because of Katu, Kashayarasa and is hence Tridoshashamaka.[Ha. Ka. 1/8]

It is used with Guda- Nagar- Saindhava to cure digestive disorders. It cures all the diseases when used with Ghrita and reported to be pathya when cooked with castor oil. [Ha. Ka. 3/ 12] Apart from these, different Anupana are indicated for different diseases.

For Pandu, Haritaki cooked in Dhanyakanji,[Ha. Ka. 3/ 15] and Haritaki Churna with an equal amount of Sharkara is recommended.[Ha. Ka. 3/ 18] For a number of illnesses, singly haritiki with different anupana has been suggested.

One of the most common and most significant formulation i.e. Triphala has been detailed in a separate chapter which is purported to be Ayushya, Deepan, Chakshushya, Vranashodhan, Varnakara, Drishtiprada and is indicated

in Kaphapittavikara, Mahakushtha, Vishamajvara, Kandu, Vami, Gulma, Arsha. [Ha. Ka. 2/3,4] Its different Anupana are being prescribed for use in different diseases. *Triphala* is beneficial in all diseases and is used with Gudanagara, Sasharkara- ksheera, Shunthi in Sheeta, Ushna and Varsharitu respectively. [Ha. Ka. 2/15,

Trikatuadi Churna is prescribed in Kaphajrog. [HS.tri.2/140, P- 197] Aaragwadhapanchaka, [HS.tri.2/101, P-191 Kshudradipachana, [HS.tri.2/102, P-1911, Parpatakyadikwatha HS.tri.2/103, P- 191] are indicated in Kaphavatai, Vatakaphaj, Vatakaphaj jyara espectively, Sajirakamyoga [HS.tri.2/203,P-206]and Ashtangadhoop [HS.tri.2/205, 208, P- 206] in

Vishamiwara.

Pathyadikwatha[HS.tri.3/9, P-213], Formulations: Balakadi kalka [HS.tri.3/34, P- 216],

Trayushanadi pachana [HS.tri.3/51, P-219], Amrita vataka[HS.tri.3/65, P-222], Haritakyadi kalpana [HS.tri.34/12, P-403] are indicated for Atisara.Pathyadikwatha[HS.tri.3/10, P-213] is suggested inAmatisara whereas

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Dadimadi kwatha[HS.tri.3/56, P- 220]

and guda bilvadi yoga[HS.tri.3/57,P-

leha[HS.tri.3/98, P- 226] and Abhayadi taila[HS.tri.40/27, P- 427] in Shiroroga.

220] in Raktatisara. Abhayadi

Other formulations have been enlisted in **Table 3.**

S. No.	Yoga	Indications	Reference
1	Haritakiyadi kwatha	Gulma roga	HS.tri.4/22
2	Haritakiyadi kwatha	Gulma roga	HS.tri.4/23
3	Haritakiyadi vati	Mandagni	HS.tri.6/26
4	Yawani churna	Mandagni	HS.tri.6/27
5	Saindhavadi churna	Vatajshoola	HS.tri.7/28
6	Hingvadi churna	Vatajshoola	AS.tri.7/29
7	Erandamooladikwatha	Vatajshoola	HS.tri.7/32
8	Brahatahingu churna	Vatajshoola	HS.tri.7/33
9	Dhatriphaladi churna	Pittajshoola	HS.tri.7/40 HS.tri.7/41
10	Dadimadi churna	Pittajshoola	HS.tri.7/41
11	Yavanyadi churna	Tridoshajparinamashoo	HS.tri.7/64
		la	
12	Hingwadigutika	Sarwashoola	HS.tri.7/65
13	Chyawanprash	Kaphajshoola	HS.tri.9/48
14	Agastaharitakipaka	Durbalyaindriya	HS.tri.9/63
15	Haritaki paka	Durbalyaindriya	HS.tri.9/66
16	Adusakwatha and	Raktapitta S H 🖌	HS.tri.10/28
	kalka	~ 4 4 ~ 44 4	
17	Pipaliyadi churna	Raktapitta	HS.tri.10/32
18	Jambuadi churna	Raktapitta	HS.tri.10/50
19	Mridveekadi ghrita	Raktapitta	HS.tri.10/52
20	Eladi churna	Yonipravaha	HS.tri.10/81
21	Pachanakwatha	Arshroga	HS.tri.11/29

22	Patradikwatha	Gudaroga	HS.tri.11/32
23	Bhallatakachatushtya	Shoola	HS.tri.11/35
24	Kankayangutika	Chhayaroga	HS.tri.11/50
25	Mustadya vataka	Rajayakshma	HS.tri.11/68
26	Phalatrika churna 💋	Kaphajvamana	HS.tri.12/52
27	Karchuradi churna	Tridoshajvamana	HS.tri.12/53
28	Trikatuadichurna	Vamana	HS.tri.12/59
29	Matulungadi churna	Pittajvamana	HS.tri.12/62
30	<u> </u>	Tridoshajtrishna	HS.tri.13/25
31	Daadim kola	Tałushosha	HS.tri.13/29
32	Pathyakwatha	Madatyaroga	HS.tri.16/12
33	Guduchyadi churna	Amavata	HS.tri.21/24-25
34	Vidangadi churna	Amavata	HS tri.21/34
35	Guduchyadi churna	Amavata	HS.tri.21/36
36	Palashadikshar	Guima	HS.tri.21/36 HS.tri.26/18 HS.tri.28/16
37	Abhayadi churna	Prameha	HS.tri.28/16
38	Haridradikwatha	Prameha	HS.tri.28/40
39	Neelotpaladikwatha	KaphajPrameha	HS.tri.28/41
40	Amlakayadi churna	Pittajprameha 🖌 🗼	HS.tri.28/43
41	Pashanbhedadi	mutrakrichha	HS.tri.29/9
	kwatha		
42	Pathya +guda 🔬 👘	Mutravrodha	HS-tri-30/19
43	Kadambadi lepa	NetraRoga D H X	HS.tri.40/20
44	Haritakyadi churna	Tridoshajnetraroga	HS.tri.45/18
45	Haritakiyadi lepa	Netraroga	HS.tri.45/27
46	Haritaki + guda	Kaphajdantaroga	HS.tri.46/12
47	Haritakiyadi kwatha	Malavrodh	HS.tri.51/10
48	Haritakiyadi churna	Yonishodhana	HS.tri.53/1

49	Haritakiyadi churna	Dugdhavardhna	HS.tri.53/4
50	Pathyadi churna	Bala kasa	HS.tri.54/16
51	Haritakiyadi churna	smaranashakti	HS.tri.54/23
52	Kapooradi lepa	Visha chikitsa	HS.tri.56/30
53	Pathyalepa+guda	Vrana shodhana	HS.tri.57/9
54		AL OF	HS.Chatuthasth
	118		ana.1/11

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SALA

panchan

Haritaki (myrobalan) dietary is (pathyasvarupa) for every living being because it is a complete disease destroyer. It gives longevity, satisfaction, memory, complexion, strength and radiance. This resolves Vata, Pitta and Kapha – all three. It is a gratifier(Tushtikarak) for the senses, removes faeces and urine etc. and is a

cure for all diseases. It should be

utilized to the best at different doses

forms,

and

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combinations

anupana.

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Discussion:

(HS

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