Ethno-Medicinal Use of Animal Resources

Usha Kurre
(Asst. Professor, Zoology Govt. C.L.C. Arts And Commerce College Dhamdha .Dist. Durg. (C.G.))

Abstract: In modern society, zootherapy is considered as an alternative therapy for treatment of various diseases. Wild and domestic animals, their body parts like skin, hooves, feather, blood, milk, honey, excreta, urine, tusk, nails and several species internal body parts are being used for curing various ailments. In India, 15-20% of Ayurvedic medicine is of animal based product. Similarly in Brazil over 180 medicinal animals have been recorded. Rabary community of Rajasthan lead a migratory life uses domestic animals and its product as medicine for curing various diseases. They uses cow, sheep, camel, honey bee, for curing cold, cough, anal infection, blood purification, jaundice etc. For them animal product are the cheapest way for curing various diseases. Most of the species used as medicinal drug belong to family Bos gaurus gaurus (Mammalia), Buceros bicormis (Bucerotidae), Crocodylus palu (crocodilidae), Pavo cristalus (Phasianidae) Hystrix indica (Rodentia), Pterocarpus gigantus (Chiroptera), Sus scorofa domestica (Mammalia), C. apia indica.

I. Introduction
W.H.O. estimates that 80% of the world’s population depends on plant and animal based product for healing various ailments. Most of the people who spent their livelihood in remote areas and had no medical facility, for them animals are the cheapest way for curing various ailments. Unknowingly due to illiteracy and poor socio-economic condition various endangered species are also been exploited which is a serious problem for living world. Now an ecological imbalance is occurring which is a serious problem as many endangered animals are in the state of extinct stage. Here we discuss about some animals whose body part, its bye-product are used for healing various ailment.

II. Ecological Approach
World is facing a massive loss of wild life due to over hunting. Due to demand for traditional folk medicine there is over exploiting of many domestic and wild life species which is considered as endangered species. Over 50% of the commercially available drugs are based on bioactive compounds extracted from animals based components. Of 252 essential chemicals that have been selected by WHO, 11.1% come from plants, 8.7% from animals. About 150 prescribed drug currently used in USA, 27 has been animal origin. Monetary values of animals sold for medicinal purposes in the country increases at each level of trade and socio-economic profile of traders varies accordingly.

III. Sanitary Approach
Little research has been done to prove clinical efficiency of animal product used for medicinal purposes. Many infectious diseases can be passed on from animals to human due to unsafe use of animal product (zoonoses). While using several organ, tissue, including bone and bile, can be a sources of SALMONELLA infection causing chronic diarrhea and endotoxic shocks. Another wide spread diseases may be Tuberculosis or Rabies when infected tissue or its body parts is used for curing various type of aliments.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Zoological Name</th>
<th>Common Name</th>
<th>Parts Used</th>
<th>Ailments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Calotes versicolor</td>
<td>Garden lizard</td>
<td>Fat</td>
<td>Rheumatism; acute pain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apis mellifer</td>
<td>Honey bee</td>
<td>Honey sting</td>
<td>Tonic; paralysis; senselessness;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bos species</td>
<td>cow</td>
<td>Dung; urine; ghee</td>
<td>Skin infection; bone fever; memory loss</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cavia porcellus</td>
<td>pig</td>
<td>fat</td>
<td>Paralysis; joint pain; burn; healing wounds;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Climax species</td>
<td>Bed bug</td>
<td>Chewed live</td>
<td>Acute asthma</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Swami Shri Swaroopanand Saraswati Mahavidyalaya Hudco Bhilai
(SSSSMHBIH) (September – 2015)

Coccinella septempunctata  Lady bird beetle whole  Anemia; sexual tonic;
Columbia livia  Blue pigeon Flesh; ash feather  Paralysis; lymphatics ailments
Corvus macrorhynches  Jungle crow tongue  Improve memory
Desmodus rotundus  Common bat Flesh; fat  Breathing and hearing problem
Elephant maximus indicus  Elephant Dung; teeth past with honey on stone applied over gum  Skin infection; easy teething in kids
Funambulus pennate  Squirrel Flesh  Epilepsy
Manis crassicaudata  Indian pangolin Aqueous paste of scales  Swelling and inflammation

IV. Conclusion

Most of the tribal communities all over the world are totally dependent on domestic and wild animals, their body part for curing various ailments. Due to their poor socio-economic condition and lack of education, various endangered animals are also been exploited. So, judicious measure should be taken for conservation of domestic and wild animals. At the same time there should be awareness programs.

References