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Review of Malahara Kalpana of Rasa Tarangani

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ABSTRACT

The word Malahara or Malhama is derived from unani system of medicine. Yogaratnakara mentioned this first by the name of Malahara Kalpana. It derives its name as it removes Mala (residue etc.) from Vrana (wounds), Vidradhi (abscess) etc. This is similar to ointments in modern pharmaceutics. Malahara Kalpana is the ointment preparation which has Siktha Taila (bees wax and oil mixture) or Ghrita, as the basic constituent. The other ingredients may include herbal, metal, or mineral contents depending upon the usage. Malahara has a property like Snehana (oelation), cleansing, Ropana (healing), Lekhana (scaraping), and Varnya (beautifying), depending on the drugs used in the preparation. Rasa Tarangani a Rasa Shastra treatise of 20th century by Acharya Sadananda Sharma has enumerated various types of Malahara Kalpana taking mainly Siktha Taila as a base. Though this Kalpana holds firm roots in treating diseases the mention and explanation of this particular topic is scattered in this treatise. Hence the present article is an attempt to elucidate and unfold the Malahara Kalpana of Rasatarangani.

Key words: Malahara Kalpana, Siktha Taila, Rasa Tarangani.

INTRODUCTION

Medicines are broadly classified into two categories one Antaparimarjhana i.e. for internal usage such as Churna (powders), Vati (tablet), Kwatha (decoction), etc. and the other called Bahiparimarjhana for external usage such as Malahara, Lepa (creams and ointments), Varti (suppositories). Malahara Kalpana is quite similar to cream, ointments used in modern pharmaceutical science. Malahara has two chief ingredients one is the Aadheya Dravya i.e. the medicine and the other is the Upadhan Dravya i.e. the Dravya which converts the medicine into Malahara such as Shatadhauta Ghrita, Siktha Taila (bees wax

As described earlier Malahara Kalpana comprises of mainly two components one is the base while other is the *Dravyas* providing or enhancing medicinal property of Malahara Kalpana. Rasa Tarangani has described Siktha Taila as when Siktha (bees wax) is combined with Tila Taila (sesame seed oil) in an appropriate ratio and after it attains Navneeta (butter) like consistency it is called Siktha Taila.[2]

and oil), Siktha (bees wax), sesame seed oil.[1] This formulation is easy to apply and easy to store having

good shelf life period. Rasa Tarangani has

enumerated various types of Malahara Kalpana in his

treatise, here he has used mainly Siktha Taila (bees

wax) as base, and other is Ghrita, Navneeta

Method of preparation of Siktha Taila

(butter/Shatadhauta Ghrita).

MATERIALS AND METHODS

1 part Siktha Taila, 6 parts Tila Taila is taken. Tila Taila is subjected to heat in a pan over gas stove, once it gets heated Siktha (bees wax) is added to it. After the wax gets mixed properly in oil, the pan is taken out of gas stove and again this mixture is mixed with spoon or pestle until a uniform consistency is obtained.

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Again the author has clarified that above ratio of bees wax and *Taila* is for winter season,^[3] if *Siktha Taila* is prepared in summer then it has to be 1:5 respectively.^{[4],[5]}

For preparing any *Malahara* the drug prescribed are added to above *Siktha Taila* when it is in liquefied stage and subjected to constant stirring till a homogenous mixture is obtained.

Various *Malahara Kalpana* described by *Rasa tarangani* are tabulated as follows.

Table 1: Showing *Malahara Kalpana* of *Rasa Tarangan*i

SN	Name of <i>Malahara</i>	Ingredients	Indications
1.	Rasa Pushpa Malahara ^[6]	Rasa Pushpa - 4 Ratti (500 mg) Navneeta, washed 100 times with water (butter) - 1 Tola (12 gm)	Phiranga (Syphilitic ulcer)
2.	Rasa Pushpadhya Malahara ^[7]	Siktha Taila - 1 Tola (12 gm) Rasa Pushpa - 4 Ratti (500 mg)	Phiranga (Syphilitic ulcer), Vicharchika (eczema), Nail injury or bite by carnivorous animals. ^[8]
3.	Kajjalikodhya Malahara ^[9]	Siktha Taila - 48 Tola (576 gm) Kajjali (Black sulphide of mercury) - 2 Tola (24 gm) Purified Mruddarshrunga (Lead oxide) - 4 Tola (48 gm) Kampilaka (Mallotus philippensis) - 8 Tola (96 gm)	Heals non-healing ulcers that are difficult to be healed by various other types of Malahara.

		Purified <i>Tuttha</i>	
		(Copper sulphate) - 3 Masha (3 gm)	
4.	Dadru Vidravana Malahara ^[10]	Siktha Taila - 12 Tola (144 gm)	Relives <i>Dadru</i> (tinea
		Purified <i>Gandhaka</i> (Sulphur) - 1 <i>Tola</i> (12 gm)	infection) within seven days
		Purified <i>Tankana</i> (Borax) - half <i>Tola</i> (6 gm)	
		Chakramarda seeds (Cassia tora) - half Tola (6 gm)	
		Laksha Churna (Laccifer lacca) - half Tola (6 gm)	
5.	Gandhakaad hya	Siktha Taila - 6 Tola (72 gm)	Relives chronic
	Malahara ^[11]	Purified <i>Gandhaka</i> - half <i>Tola</i> (6 gm)	nature of <i>Paama</i>
		Purified <i>Sindhura</i> (Lead sulphide) - half <i>Tola</i> (6 gm)	(Scabies)
		Purified <i>Tankana</i> - 2 <i>Masha</i> (2 gm)	
		Karpoora (camphor) - 2 Masha (2 gm)	
6.	Hinguladhya Malahara ^[12]	Siktha Taila - 12 Tola (144 gm)	<i>Phiranga</i> (Syphilitic
		Purified <i>Sindhura -</i> half <i>Tola</i> (6 gm)	ulcer)
		Purifies <i>Hingula</i> (Cinnabar) - half <i>Tola</i> (6 gm)	
7.	Hingula Amrita Malahara ^[13]	Siktha Taila - 12 Tola (144 gm)	Heals and purifies non-healing type of wound.
		Purified <i>Hingula -</i> 6 <i>Masha</i> (6 gm)	
		Purified <i>Mruddarshrunga -</i> 2 <i>Masha</i> (2 gm)	Also useful for <i>Nadi</i> <i>Vrana</i> (sinus

		Purified Tankana - 2 Masha (2 gm) Karpoora - 2 Masha (2 gm) Rasa Karpoora - 2 Masha (2 gm) Purified Sphatika (alum) - 2 Masha (2 gm) Purified Sindhura - 2 Masha (2 gm)	tracts) and Fistula tracks.
8.	Talokadhya Malahara ^[14]	Siktha Taila - 30 Tola (360 gm) Purified Hartala (orpiment) - 2 Tola (24 gm) Kajjali - 1 Tola (12 gm) Hareetaki Churna (Terminalia chebula) - 1 Tola (12 gm) Khadirashara (Acacia catechu) - 1 Tola (12 gm) Purified Gairika (red ochre) - 1 Tola (12 gm) Purified Girisindoora (HgO) - 1 Tola (12 gm) Purified Manahshilla (Realgar) - Half Tola (12 gm)	Vrana of various etiology, Vicharchika (eczema), Dadru (tinea infection), Paama (Scabies), Vishphotaka (erysipelas), and especially effective in Nadi Vrana (sinus track).
9.	Tankan Amrita Malahara ^[15]	Siktha Taila - 12 Tola (144 gm) Purified Tankana - 2 Tola (24 gm) Sarjikshara (Potassium nitrate) - half Tola (6 gm) Purified Kasisa (Ferrous sulphate)	Dusta Vrana (non-healing ulcer)

	I		
		- half <i>Tola</i> (6 gm) Kshara of Ashwatha (Ficus religiosa) tree bark - 2 Masha (2 gm)	
10.	Tankana Amla Malahara ^[16]	Siktha Taila - 9 Tola (108 gm) Tankana Amla - 1 Tola (12 gm)	Vrana Shodhana, Agnidagdha Vrana (burn) and Bhutaghana (anti- microbial).
11.	Yasada Amrita Malahara ^[17]	Siktha Taila - 3 Karsha (36 gm) Agni Jarit Yasada (Zinc calx) - 1 Tola (12 gm)	Vrana Ropana (healing) Vicharchika (eczema), and Agnidagdha Vrana (burn) ^[18]
12.	Tuttha Amrita Malhara ^[19]	Siktha Taila - 10 Tola (120 gm) Purified Tuttha - 20 Ratti (2.5 gm)	Cures chronic <i>Paama</i> (scabies) ^[20]
13.	Tutthadhayo Malahara ^[21]	Cow's Ghrita - 2 Tola (24 gm) Raala Churna (Shorea robusta) - 1/8 Tola (1.5 gm) Purified Tuttha - 1/8 Tola (1.5 gm) Kapardika Bhasma (cowries shell) - 1/8 Tola (1.5 gm) Purified Tankana - 1/8 Tola (1.5 gm)	Vrana Shodhaka and expulses excess of slough from wound.
14.	Sindhooradhy a Malahara (I) ^[22]	Siktha Taila - 3 Karsha (36 gm) Purified Tankana - half Tola (6 gm) Purifed Sindhoora - half Tola (6 gm)	Removes excess slough from Vrana, Bhutaghna (anti- microbial), purifies, and heals

			wounds. ²³ .
15.	Sindhooradhy a Malahara (II) ^[24]	Siktha Taila - 3 Karsha (36 gm) Raala Churna - half Tola (6 gm)	Same as Sindhooradhy a Malahara I
16.	Mruddarshru nga Malahara ^[25]	Siktha Taila - 1 Pala (48 gm) Purified Mruddarshrunga - 1 Tola (12 gm)	Twachya (beautifying), Bhagna Sandhanajna na (heals wound due to open fracture), Paama- Kandu Nashaka (itching due to scabies), cures Vipadika (palmo- plantar psoriasis), purifies and heals wounds, for various anal diseases.[26]
17.	Mruddarshru nga Malahara II) ^[27]	Aatsi Taila (Flax seed oil) - 1 Pala (48 gm) Purified Mruddarshrunga - 1 Tola (12 gm)	Twachya (beautifying), and heals all type of wounds. ^[28]
18.	Gairikadhya Malahara ^[29]	Siktha Taila - 6 Tola (72 gm) Purified Swarna Gairika - 1 Tola (12 gm) Haridra Churna (Curcuma longa) - 1 Tola (12 gm) Purified Sindoora - 1 Masha (12 gm)	Kandu (Itching) and burning sensation and heals various types of wound.

DISCUSSION

Malahara Kalpana is a type of Bahiparimarjhana Kalpana. Here bees wax acts as base for Malahara and also imparts therapeutic property. Tila Taila is said to be beneficial for hairs and skin.[30] As a combination Siktha Taila imparts Snehana (oleation), and protective properties to skin and Vrana (wound).[31] Siktha Taila when incorporated with other *Dravyas* attains better therapeutic value. The ratio of Siktha Taila, Siktha and other base varies according to the ingredient used in the formulation. If the ingredient found to be Tikshna (potent) the quantity of base is found to be more. In Rasa Pushpadhya Malahara the ratio of Rasa Pushpa and Siktha Taila is 1:24 that shows the potency of Rasa Pushpa, so here amount of base is more. [32] In Yasada Amrita Malahara ratio of Yasada and Siktha Taila is 1:3 as *Yasada* is *Sheeta Virya* in nature. [33] Among other bases used in making Malahara Kalpana in Rasa Tarangani are Navneeta (butter/Shatadhauta Ghrita), Go Ghrita, Aatsi Taila (flax seed oil). Navneeta (Shatadhauta Ghrita) is used for external application in Daha (burning sensation), Vrana (wounds), Visarpa (erysipelas), and various skin disorders.[34] Go Ghrita is Vrana Ropaka (wound healing property), Visarpa Nashaka (cures erysipelas), and cures diseases related to Rakta (haematological diseases).[35] Aatsi oil pacifies Vata and is beneficial for skin.[36]

CONCLUSION

Malahara Kalpana is Bahirparimajhana type of Ausadha Kalpana mainly adopted from unani system of medicine. The very first description of Malahara Kalpana in Ayurveda is seen in Yogaratnakara. Rasa Tarangani a Ayurveda treatise of 20th century has enumerated various Malahara Kalpana by using different base and ingredients having Vrana Shodhana and Ropana properties (wound cleaning and healing). It has its own therapeutic advantage like easy pharmaceutical procedure, ease of mode of period.[37] application and higher shelf life Undoubtedly, this still remains the topic of research. Exploring such dosage form and many more which are quite untouched and useful in treatment shall be

penned and compiled so that these could be brought to light and expand the horizon of the science.

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