

CRITICAL ANALYSIS OF THE DRUG *SHRINGI (PISTACIA INTEGERRIMA)* IN  
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## ABSTRACT

Ayurveda is a holy science which has a broad scope in Indian Medical science. It has an important place in this world as most ancient medical science of India or we can say traditional Indian medical System. The drug *Shringi (Pistacia integerrima)* is native to Anacardiaceae Family. In this review article an attempt has been done to described Classical Categorization, Morphology, *Raspanchaka*, Synonyms, *Karma*, Indications and Therapeutic Importance of *Shringi* in *Ayurveda*.

**KEYWORDS:** *Ayurveda, Shringi, Pistacia integerrima, Charaka Samhita.*

## INTRODUCTION

Acharya Charaka has mentioned *Shringi* in *Kasahar Mahakashaya*<sup>[1]</sup> and *Hikkanigrahna Mahakashaya* in 4<sup>th</sup> Chapter of *Charaka Samhita*. In *Sushruta Samhita*, *Shringi* placed under the *Gana* of *Kakolyadi, Padmakadi*. The toxic symptoms of this plant are documented by *Sushruta Samhita*. In *Asthanga Haridyam*, Acharya *Vagbhatta* mentioned the description of *Shringi* in *Kesava Paddhati*. It has many therapeutic actions like *Kasahara, Jwaraghna, Kaphashamak, Vatashamaka, Ruchikar* according to *Ayurveda*. *Shringi* is used in treating *Kasa, Jwara, Hikka, Aruchi, Shwasaroga, Kshay, Trishna, Chardi* and *Atisara* in *Ayurveda*.

## MATERIAL AND METHODS

*Charaka Samhita, Sushruta Samhita, Vagbhatta, Dhanwantari Nighantu, Shodhala Nighantu, Madanapala Nighantu, Kaiyadeva Nighantu, Bhavaprakasha Nighantu, Raj Nighantu, Modern medical databases.*

## REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Description of *Shringi* in *Charaka Samhita*.

Table 1: Showing Review of *Shringi* in *Charaka Samhita*.

<i>Adhyaya &amp; Shloka</i>	Used as ingredient of
<i>Sutrasthana</i> <sup>[1]</sup>	
4-36	<i>Kasahar Mahakashaya</i>
<i>Vimanastana</i> <sup>[2]</sup>	
8-139	<i>Asthapana Dravya Sangrha</i>
<i>Chikitsasthana</i> <sup>[3]</sup>	
1-63	<i>Chyavanaprasha</i>
3-211	<i>Sanniptaja Jwara Chikitsa</i>
3-213	<i>Sanniptaja Jwara Chikitsa</i>
8-100	<i>Kasa - Swasa Chikitsa</i>
16-89	<i>Silajatu Vatika</i>
17-101	<i>Hikka -swasa nashak Yavagu</i>
17-102	<i>Kwatha in Kasa and Hikka</i>
18-50	<i>Vataja Kasa Chikitsa</i>
18-51	<i>Kasa Chikitsa</i>
18-53	<i>Chitrakadi Leha</i>

18-112	Vata –kaphaja Kasa Chikitsa
18-115	Kaphaja Kasa Chikitsa
18-118	Vatanugata Kphaja Kasa
18-127	Kantakari Ghrita
18-153	Dhtukshya Chikitsa
18-177	Padmakadi Leha
<b>Siddhistana<sup>[4]</sup></b>	
4-10	Basti in Mutravikara

### Description of Shringi in Sushruta Samhita

Table 2: Showing Review of Shringi in Sushruta Samhita.

Adhyaya & Shloka	Used as ingredient of
<b>Sutrasthana<sup>[5]</sup></b>	
38-35	Kakolyadi Gana
<b>Uttartantra<sup>[6]</sup></b>	
52-14	Kasa Chikitsa
52-15	Kasa Chikitsa
60-48	Treatment of Mental Disorder

### Description of Shringi in Nighantus

#### 1. Dhanvantri Nighantu (10<sup>th</sup> A.D.)

In Dhanvantari Nighantu, Shringi has been described under Guduchyadi Varga.

#### Paryaya<sup>[7]</sup>

शृङ्गी.....वनजमूर्धजा ॥८४-८५॥

Shringi, Karkatshringi, Kulira, Karkatahvaya, Kulirashringi, Vakra, Mahakosha, Natangini, Chandraspada, Vishani and Vanajamurdhaja are synonyms.

#### Guna-Karma<sup>[8]</sup>

तिक्ताकर्कटशृङ्गी.....तृष्णा रुचिर्जयेत् ॥८६॥

Karkatshringi is Tikta in Rasa, Guru and useful in condition like eructations, Kasa, Shwasa, Yakshma, emesis, Trishna and is appetizer.

#### 2. Shodhala Nighantu (12<sup>th</sup> A.D.)

Acharya Sodhala kept Duralabha under Guduchyadi Varga.

#### Paryaya (Nama Sangraha)<sup>[9]</sup>

शृङ्गयां कर्कटशृङ्गी.....शिखरमुत्पला ॥९४-९५॥

Shringi, Karkatshringi, Kulira, Karkatahvaya, Mahaghosha, Natangi, Chakri, Chandraspada, Vishani, Chandrakhanda, Ghosha, Shikhar and Utpalaa are synonyms.

#### Guna-Karma (Guna Sangraha)<sup>[10]</sup>

शृङ्गी.....श्लेष्मातिसारिणाम् ॥९४१॥

Shringi mitigates Kapha and Vata. It cures Shwasa, Kasa, Hikka and Jwara.

#### 3. Madanpala Nighantu (14<sup>th</sup> A.D.)

This Nighantu is also known as "Madana Vinoda". Madanpala has kept this drug in Abhayadi Varga.

#### Paryaya<sup>[11]</sup>

शृङ्गी कुलीरशृङ्गी.....नताङ्गयपि ॥२००॥

Shringi, Kulirashringi, Vakra, Karkatshringika, Karkataksya, Mahaghosha, Shringnamni and Natangi are synonyms.

#### Guna-karma<sup>[12]</sup>

शृङ्गी.....क्षयकासोर्ध्वमारुतान् ॥२०१॥

Properties of Shringi are Kashaya and Tikta Rasa, Ushna Virya, Hikkani-grahan, Chardinigrhan, Jwaraghna and Vrishya. It is useful in Kapha Roga, Shwasa, Kshaya, Kasa and Urdhvavata.

#### 4. Kaiyadeva Nighantu (14<sup>th</sup> A.D.)

It is also known as "Pathyapathyavibodhaka" written by Acharya Kaiyadeva. Shringi has been described under Aushadhi Varga.

#### Paryaya<sup>[13]</sup>

महाघोषा.....वामजमूर्धजा ॥११३१-११३२॥

Mahaghosha, Maharava, Karkatakya, Vishanika, Kulirashringi, Kulishasringi, Karkatshringika, Chandraspada, Natangi, Chakra, Vamja and Murddhaja.

#### Guna-Karma<sup>[14]</sup>

शृङ्गी तिक्ता.....रुचिवीर्जयेत् ॥११३३॥

Shringi has Tikta, Kashaya Rasa; Ushna Virya. It is Kaphahara and Vatahara, indicated in Kshaya, Jwara, Urdhvavata, Shwasa, Trishna, Kasa, Hikka, Aruchi and Vamana.

**5. Bhavaprakasha Nighantu (16<sup>th</sup> A.D.)**

Acharya Bhavamishra described *Shringi* in *Haritakyadi Varga*.

**Paryaya<sup>[15]</sup>**

श्रङ्गी कर्कटश्रङ्गी.....कर्कटाख्या च कीर्तिका ॥१७८॥

*Shringi*, *Karkatshringi*, *Kuliravisanika*, *Ajashringi*, *Chakra* and *Karkatakhyia* are synonyms.

**Guna-Karma<sup>[16]</sup>**

श्रङ्गी कषाया.....रुचिवमीन्हरेत् ॥१७९॥

*Shringi* is *Kashaya*, *Tikta* in *Rasa*; *Ushna Virya*; pacifies *Kapha* and *Vata Dosha*. It is indicated in *Shwasa*, *Urdhvavata*, *Kasa*, *Hikka*, *Aruchi* and *Chhardi*.

**6. Raj Nighantu (17<sup>th</sup> A.D.)**

It is also known by the names of “*Nighantu Raja*” and “*Abhidhana Chudamani*”. *Narhari Pandit* described *Shringi* under *Pippalyadi Varga*.

**Paryaya<sup>[17]</sup>**

श्रङ्गी कुलीरश्रङ्गी.....त्रिपञ्चधा ॥१५५-१५६॥

*Shringi*, *Kulirashringi*, *Ghosha*, *Vanajamurdhaja*, *Chandra*, *Karkatshringi*, *Mahaghosha*, *Shringika*, *Kalika*, *Indukhanda*, *Latangi*, *Vishanika*, *Chakra*, *Shikhar* and *Karkatahvaya* are synonyms.

**Guna-Karma<sup>[18]</sup>**

तिक्ता कर्कटश्रङ्ग.....श्वासपित्तास नाशनी ॥१७७॥

*Karkatashringi* is *Tikta*, *Guru*, *Ushna* and *Vatahara*. It is indicated in *Hikka*, *Atisaar*, *Kasa*, *Shwasa* and *Raktapitta*.

**Synonyms of *Shringi***

The synonyms suggest the different morphological features along with the therapeutic properties of the plant as enlisted in classical texts are mentioned:

**Table 3: Showing Paryaya (Synonyms) of *Shringi*.**

<b>Paryaya</b>	<b>D.N.<sup>[19]</sup></b>	<b>S.N.<sup>[20]</sup></b>	<b>M.P.N.<sup>[21]</sup></b>	<b>K.N.<sup>[22]</sup></b>	<b>Bh.N.<sup>[23]</sup></b>	<b>R.N.<sup>[24]</sup></b>
<i>Shringi</i>	+	+	+	-	+	+
<i>Karkatshringi</i>	+	+	-	+	+	+
<i>Kuliravisanika</i>	-	-	-	-	+	-
<i>Ajashringi</i>	-	-	-	-	+	-
<i>Chakra</i>	-	-	-	+	+	+
<i>Karkatakhyia</i>	-	-	-	+	+	-
<i>Karkatahvaya</i>	+	+	-	-	-	+
<i>Kulira</i>	+	+	-	-	-	-
<i>Mahaghosha</i>	-	+	+	+	-	+
<i>Natangi</i>	-	+	+	+	-	-
<i>Chakri</i>	-	+	-	-	-	-
<i>Chandraspada</i>	+	+	-	+	-	-
<i>Vishani</i>	+	+	-	-	-	-
<i>Chandrakhanda</i>	-	+	-	-	-	-
<i>Ghosha</i>	-	+	-	-	-	+
<i>Shikhar</i>	-	+	-	-	-	+
<i>Utpalaa</i>	-	+	-	-	-	-
<i>Maharava</i>	-	-	-	+	-	-
<i>Kulirashringi</i>	+	-	+	+	-	+
<i>Kulishasringi</i>	-	-	-	+	-	-
<i>Karkatshringika</i>	-	-	+	+	-	-
<i>Murddhaja</i>	-	-	-	+	-	-
<i>Vamja</i>	-	-	-	+	-	-
<i>Karkataksya</i>	-	-	+	-	-	-
<i>Vakra</i>	+	-	+	-	-	-
<i>Shringnamni</i>	-	-	+	-	-	-
<i>Chandra</i>	-	-	-	-	-	+
<i>Kalika</i>	-	-	-	-	-	+
<i>Latangi</i>	-	-	-	-	-	+
<i>Vanajamurdhaja</i>	+	-	-	-	-	+

<i>Shringika</i>	-	-	-	-	-	+
<i>Indukhanda</i>	-	-	-	-	-	+
<i>Vishanika</i>	-	-	-	+	-	+
<i>Mahakosha</i>	+	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Natangini</i>	+	-	-	-	-	-

### Interpretation and etymology of synonyms<sup>[25]</sup>

- **शृङ्गी** - 'शृणाति शृङ्गी'(नि.शे.टी.) ।

It cures diseases like *Kasa* etc. Having hornlike structure of galls.

- **कर्कटशृङ्गी** - 'कर्कटशब्देन जलचरजीवविशेषः,

तदाकाराणि शृङ्गाण्यस्याः कर्कटशृङ्गी'।(नि.शे.टी.) ।

The galls have similarity in crabs feet.

- **कुलीरविषाणिका** - 'कुलीर इव विषाणं यस्याः सा' ।

Similar as above.

- **अजशृङ्गी** - 'अजशृङ्गवत् शृङ्गाणि अस्याः इति अजशृङ्गी' ।

The galls resemble the horns of a goat.

- **चक्रा** - 'वक्रा इति साधु पाठः' । अन्य निघण्टुषु दर्शनात् प्रत्यक्षाच्च । वक्रं शृङ्गमस्याः' ।

Its galls are slightly bent.

- **कर्कटाख्या** - 'कर्कटस्य आख्या आहवा संत्यस्या

It has the name of a crab.

### Vernacular names<sup>[26]</sup>

Sanskrit	:	Sringi, Visani, Karkata
Assamese	:	Kakiasrangi
Bengali	:	Kankda <i>Shringi</i>
English	:	Crab's claw
Gujrati	:	Kakada shing, Kakada singi
Hindi	:	Kakadasingi, Kakarasingi, Gheekadava
Kannada	:	Kakadasingi, Karkatakasringi
Kashmiri	:	Kakkar, Kamaladina
Malayalam	:	Karkatasringi
Marathi	:	Kakadshingi
Oriya	:	Kakadashringi, Kakadashringi
Punjabi	:	Kakar, Kakarsingi
Tamil	:	Karkata singi
Telugu	:	Kakarsingi, Karkatakashringi
Urdu	:	Kakrasinghi

### Rasapanchaka of Shringi

Table 4: Showing the Rasapanchaka of Shringi.

<b>Rasapanchaka</b>	<b>D.N.</b> <sup>[27]</sup>	<b>S.N.</b> <sup>[28]</sup>	<b>M.P.N.</b> <sup>[29]</sup>	<b>K.N.</b> <sup>[30]</sup>	<b>Bh.N.</b> <sup>[31]</sup>	<b>R.N.</b> <sup>[32]</sup>
<i>Kashaya Rasa</i>	-	-	+	+	+	-
<i>Tikta Rasa</i>	+	-	+	+	+	+
<i>Guru Guna</i>	+	-	-	-	-	+
<i>Ushna Virya</i>	-	-	+	+	+	+

### Karma of Shringi

Table 5: Showing the Karma of Shringi.

<b>Karma</b>	<b>D.N.</b> <sup>[33]</sup>	<b>S.N.</b> <sup>[34]</sup>	<b>M.P.N.</b> <sup>[35]</sup>	<b>K.N.</b> <sup>[36]</sup>	<b>Bh.N.</b> <sup>[37]</sup>	<b>R.N.</b> <sup>[38]</sup>
<i>Kasahara</i>	+	+	+	+	+	+
<i>Jwaraghna</i>	-	+	+	+	+	-
<i>Kaphashamak</i>	-	+	+	+	+	-
<i>Vatashamaka</i>	-	+	-	+	+	+
<i>Hikkani-grahan</i>	-	+	+	+	+	+
<i>Ruchikar</i>	+	-	-	+	+	-
<i>Shwasahara</i>	+	+	+	+	+	+
<i>Kshayroghar</i>	+	-	+	+	-	-
<i>Urdhvavathar</i>	-	-	+	+	+	-
<i>Trishnashamak</i>	+	-	-	+	-	-
<i>Chhardinigrahan</i>	+	-	+	+	+	-
<i>Vrishya</i>	+	-	+	-	-	-

<i>Raktpittanashak</i>	-	-	-	-	-	+
<i>Atisaarnashaka</i>	-	-	-	-	-	+

### Morphology<sup>[39]</sup>

**Habit:** A moderate sized tree upto 40 feet high, found in Himalayas from 1200 feet to 8000feet.

**Leaves:** Pinnate, 6-9 inch Long, leaflets 4-6 pairs, lanceolate, acuminate and entire.

**Flowers:** Small red coloured.

**Fruit:** Globose, grey when ripe.

**Galls:** Horn like galls formed by small insects are found on all the parts of tree. Galls are 1-3 inch. long, hard, hollow, reddish inside covered with fine particles.

### Chemical composition<sup>[40]</sup>

Alkaloids, flavonoids, tannins, saponins, sterols, essential oils, carotenoids, triterpenoids, catechins.

### Pharmacological action

Antimicrobial activity<sup>[41]</sup>, Expectorant<sup>[42]</sup>, Anti-histaminic<sup>[43]</sup>, Antioxidant activity<sup>[44]</sup>, Anti-inflammatory activity<sup>[45]</sup>, Analgesic<sup>[46]</sup>, Astringent<sup>[47]</sup>, Anti-dysentric<sup>[48]</sup>, lower uric acid<sup>[49]</sup>, Hepatoprotective<sup>[50]</sup> Anti gastrointestinal motility effect.<sup>[51]</sup>

**Part used:** Galls<sup>[52]</sup>

### DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

From all observations it is found that it is a well identified drug of *Ayurveda*, here an attempt has been made to describe this drug in systemic way from our *Samhitas*, *Nighantus* and modern literature as well. Many researches are performed to prove its pharmacological actions, This type of reviews plays an important role to sensitized not only Ayurvedic but Non *Ayurvedic* Community also get informed about our traditional *Ayurvedic* drugs and their benefits to healthy and diseased person as well.

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