

REVIEW OF RATNA VARGA ACCORDING TO RASASHASTRA CLASSICS**Dr. Pallavi P. Jamnekar*¹, Dr. Tejaswini Dehankar², Dr. Sneha Kubde³ and Dr. Mukund Dive⁴**¹Reader, Dept. of Rasashastra and Bhaishjya Kalpana, Bhausaheb Mulak Ayurved mahavidyalaya, Nandanvan, Nagpur.²Lecturer, Dept. of Rasashastra and Bhaishjya Kalpana, Bhausaheb Mulak Ayurved mahavidyalaya, Nandanvan, Nagpur.³HOD and Reader, Dept. of Rasashastra and Bhaishjya Kalpana, Bhausaheb Mulak Ayurved mahavidyalaya, Nandanvan, Nagpur.⁴Prof., Dept. of Rasashastra and Bhaishjya Kalpana, Bhausaheb Mulak Ayurved Mahavidyalaya, Nandanvan, Nagpur.***Corresponding Author: Dr. Pallavi P. Jamnekar**

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ABSTRACT

Rasashastra is one of the very important offshoots of Ayurveda which mainly deals with metals, minerals, aquatic products and gems etc. which are found in nature. Along with Parad drugs from plant origin, metals, oceanic products and gems are also used to prepare potent medicine. To study these drugs the Rasacharyas have classified them in various groups like Maharas, Upras, Sadharan Ras, Dhatu, Updhatu, Sudha dravya, Ratna, Upratna. Ratna Varga is one such group of elements which consists of all precious gems. All those elements which are precious among its category appreciated and loved by the people and supposed to be best quality are called Ratna. The one who expects wealth is obsessive and deeply attached with these precious gems so the scientists of those days called these drugs as Ratna. This article elaborately deals with the Ratna Varga group of drugs, their description, identification, uses and their importance in Rasashastra.

KEYWORDS: Rasashastra, Ratna, Upratna, Ras, Dhatu.**INTRODUCTION**

The word Rasashastra literally means the "Science of Mercury". However, it is a specialized branch of Ayurveda dealing mainly with materials which are known as 'Rasa dravyaas'. They have the following three characteristic attributes: instant effectiveness, requirement of very small doses and extensive therapeutic utility irrespective of constitutional variation. The following Sloka (verses normally in two lines) describes the above given attributes of rasa.

"Alpamaatropayogitwaat Arucera Aprasangataha.
Kshipram Aarogyadaayitwat Aushadhyebhyo Adhiko
Rasaha"

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Ratna Varga is one such group of elements which consists of all precious gems. All those elements which are precious among its category appreciated and loved by the people and supposed to be best quality are called

Ratna. The one who expects wealth is obsessive and deeply attached with these precious gems so the scientists of those days called these drugs as Ratna.

Ratna etymology

The precious stones used for medicinal purposes in the field of Rasashastra are termed as Ratna. These special stones are highly attractive and striking in comparison with other metals and minerals used in the field.^[1]

Ratna Defination

- The precious stones that attract the people who wish to have more richness and wealth are called "**Ratna**".^[2]
- Mineral stones with 'most brilliant qualities' in their own category are termed as precious and are called as "**Ratna**".

Ratna Synonyms

Ratna, Mani, Varapasana

Ratna Categorization

1. Ratna – precious stones or gems - 9
2. Upratna – semiprecious stones or miner gems- 6

Ratna mentioned in various Rasashastra Classics.

Sr. no.	Ratna	Rasendrachudamani ^[3]	Rasaratna samucchaya ^[4]	Ras prakash sudhakar ^[5]	Ras tarangini ^[6]	Raspaddhati ^[7]
1	Manikya	+	+	+	+	+
2	Mukta	+	+	+	+	+
3	Praval	+	+	+	+	+
4	Tarakshya	+	+	+	+	+
5	Pusparaga	+	+	+	+	+
6	Hirak	+	+	+	+	+
7	Neelam	+	+	+	+	+
8	Gomeda	+	+	+	+	+
9	Vaidurya	+	+	+	+	+
10	Vaikranta					

*Vaikranta (kurpa) has been included in ratna varga according to Rasopanishad.

Gomedako amrutashmam shyamam chanjanmoolakam/

Lohitaksham ch kurpam ch lohashodhantejana//

Jyotirasen saptaita manayam ch maharasa//

Rasopanishadh 4\9

Nava- Ratna

Sr. no	Ratna	English Name	Chemical Identity	Colour	Hardness	Density	R.I
1	Manikya	Ruby	Al ₂ O ₃	Red	9	4	1.76
2	Muktaphala	Pearl	CaCO ₃	Silver White	3.5	2.65 to 2.89	-
3	Praval (Vidruma)	Coral	CaCO ₃	Red	3.5	2.6 to 2.7	-
4	Tarkasya (Marakata)	Emerald	Be ₃ Al ₂ (SiO ₃)	Green	7.5	2.7	1.57
5	Pusparaga	Topaz	Al(FOH) ₂ SiO ₄	Golden Yellow	8	3.6	1.61-1.64
6	Vajra (Bhidura)	Diamond	C	White	10	3.6	Highly refractive
7	Nila (Indranila)	sapphire	Al ₂ O ₃	Deep Blue	9	4	1.76
8	Gomeda	Zircon/ Hessonite/ Cinnamone stone	ZrSiO ₄	Dark Brown	7.5	4.65 to 4.71	1.74
9	Vaidurya	Cats Eye	BeOAl ₂ O ₃	Yellowish Green	8.5	3.5 to 3.8	1.75

Uparatna

Sr. no.	Uparatna	English Name	Chemical Identity	Colour	Hardness
1	Vaikranta	Tourmaline	(Mg, Mn, Fe, Ca, Na, K, Li, H, F, Al ₃ , B ₂ , SiO ₄ , O ₂)	Wide range	4
2	Suryakanta	Sun stone/ Feldspar	(Na ₂ O Al ₂ O ₃ 6SiO ₂ + CaO, Al ₂ O ₃ 2SiO ₂)	Wide range	6
3	Candrakanta	Moon stone	(KAl Si ₃ O ₈)	Wide range	6
4	Rajavarta	Lapis lazuli/ Altra Marine	(Na ₄ (S ₃ Al) Al ₂ (SiO ₄) ₃)	Intense Blue	5.5
5	Perojaka	Turquoise	CuAl ₆ (PO ₄) ₄ (OH) ₈ 5H ₂ O	Wide range	6
6	Sphatika	Quartz/ Rock Crystal	SiO ₂	White	7

Ratna Sources

1. Khanija (mineral origin): Manikya, Tarksya, Pusparaga, Vajra, Nilam, Gomeda, Vaidurya.
2. Praniya (animal origin): Mukta, Praval.

Ratna – Graha sambandha^[8]

Sr. no.	Ratna	Ghraha
1	Manikya	Surya
2	Mukta	Chandra
3	Praval	Mangal
4	Tarksya	Budha
5	Pusparaga	Guru
6	Vajra	Shukra
7	Nilam	Sani
8	Gomeda	Rahu
9	Vaidurya	Ketu

Ratna Dosa^[9]

Sr. no.	Ratna dosa	Description
1	Grasa	Some portion of gemstone is opaque or black in colour.
2	Trasa	The gemstone has admixture of colour rather than its natural colour.
3	Bindu	The gemstone possesses a small point in its natural colour.
4	Rekha	The gemstone possesses single, parallel or intersecting lines in its body.
5	Jalgarbhata	The gemstone possesses a water bubble in its body.

Ratna- influence of atmospheric conditions

Except gemstones of animal origin i.e. namely praval and mukta, all the remaining gemstones will never be influenced by the atmospheric conditions such as air, water and sun.

Uses and properties of Ratna^[10]

Ratnas are used for Rasakarmas, Rasayankarmas, Dana Karmas, Dharma Karmas and Devatarchana.

These are not only used to make the planets pleased, pacify their prakopa, combat their evil effects but are likely to produce Dirghayu, Vaibhava, Saubhagya, Utsaha and Dhairya in human beings on internal and external uses.

Ratna Vishesh Shodhan^[13]

Sr. no.	Ratna	Shodhan Dravya
1	Manikya	Amladravya (nimbu swaras, changeri swaras, etc.)
2	Mukta	Jayanti swaras
3	Praval	Ksariya dravya (yavakshara jala, sarjakshara jala, tankankshara jala)
4	Tarksya	Godugdha
5	Pusparaga	Kanji+ Kulattha kwath
6	Vajra	Tandulodaka
7	Nilam	Nili swaras
8	Gomeda	Gorochan jala
9	Vaidurya	Triphala kwath

Besides this, they remove Daridrya, Kasta, Grahabadha, Butha badha and Amangala.

Ratna Shodhan Objectives^[11]

Samanya and Vishesh Shodhan is advised for gemstones because the process of shodhan fortifies and adds on to the existing therapeutic properties of these gemstones.

Ratna Samanya Shodhan^[12]

The Ratna are purified by subjecting them to-

1. Swedan in dolayantra for one yama (3 hours)
2. Heating to red hot and quenching in prescribed liquid Medias 7 to 100 times.

Navaratna

Ratna	Types	Guna karma- Rogagnata	Kalpa
<i>Manikya</i>	1. Padmaraga 2. Neelgandhi	Vata kapha nashak, Medhya, rasayan, deepan, vrushya,, kshyarognashak	Navaratnarajmruganka rasa Javaharmohara vati Mani parpati Bramhi vati
<i>Mukta</i>	1. Shuktija 2. Shankaja 3. Hastija 4. Varahaja 5. Sarpaja 6. Masyaja 7. Darduraja 8. Vanuja	Lahu, agnivardhak, vishaghna, viryavardhak, vrushya, kshya, kaasa, dahanashak.	Kasturibhairava rasa Trailokyachintamani rasa Muktapanchamruta rasa Vasantmalati rasa Makaradhwja vati Hiranyagarbha pottali rasa
<i>Praval</i>	According to shape- 1. Pravalmoool 2. Pravalkanda According to colour- 1. Raktavarni 2. Shwetavarni 3. Dhusarvarni	Deepan, pachan, netrya, balya, vishghna, raktapittahara, kshya, kaasaghna	Pravalpanchamruta rasa Muktapanchamruta rasa Kasturibhairava rasa Sarvangasundar rasa
<i>Tarkasya</i>	1. Harita 2. Neel 3. Shweta	Deepan, vishghna, jwara, chardi, swash, arsha, pandu, shota, amlapitta.	Maniparpati Javaharmohara vati Navaratnarajmruganka rasa
<i>Pusparaga</i>	Varnabheda- 1. Pita 2. Pandu 3. Shweta 4. Rakta According Yuktakalparau- 1. Padmaragavat 2. Markatvat	Laghu, viryavardhak, vishghna, medhya, bruhana, chardi, daha, kushta, raktapitta.	Navaratnarajmruganka rasa Maniparpati
<i>Vajra</i>	1. Puvajra 2. Strivajra 3. Napunsakavajra	Ayushaprada, yogavahi, tridoshghna, rasayana, vrushya, kantivardhak, agnipradipak, balya.	Trailokyachintamani rasa Navaratnarajmruganka rasa Panchamruta rasa Mahamruganka rasa Mahalakshmiivilasara Vasantkusumakar rasa
<i>Neelam</i>	1. Jalaneel 2. Indraneel	Tridoshghna, balya, vrushya, deepan, varnavardhak, kushta, swasa, kasa	Rajmruganka rasa Maniparpati Ratnabhagottararasa
<i>Gomed</i>	1. Shwetabhrita 2. Raktabhrita 3. Pita 4. krushnabhrita	Deepan, pachan, ruchivardhak, pandu	Navaratnarajmruganka rasa Ratnabhagottararasa
<i>Vaidurya</i>	1. Kanakakhet 2. Dhumrakheta 3. Krushnakheta	Medhya, ayushya, balavardhak, vrushya, raktapitta, amlapitta, gulma.	Navaratnarajmruganka rasa Ratnabhagottararasa Churnanjan Pindanjana

Ratna Marana^[14]**Maran Dravya**

1. The fine powder of any of the individual suddha ratna (except vajra)
2. Suddha manashila- 1 part
3. Suddha Gandhak- 1 Part
4. Suddha Hartal- 1 part

Bhavna Dravya

- All the above are taken in a clean khalva yantra and subjected for 3 bhavnas of Lakuca swaras.
- Later cakrikas are prepared, dried and enclosed in sarava samputa and subjected to puta.

Type and number of putas

8-Gajaputa.

Ratna maran nishedha

It is mentioned in Ayurveda Prakash that Hiraka etc Ratna should not be subjected to marana, because these are very costly and by their marana persons are likely to go to naraka.

Maranopadesh^[15]

If Ratna marana is necessary, then small pieces of Ratna, which are otherwise commercially not found useful, may be subjected to marana.

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