



Review Article

REVIEW ON CLERODENDRUM INFORTUNATUM LINN., A SOURCE FOR THE DRUG
BHANDIRA

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ABSTRACT

Clerodendrum infortunatum Linn. (*Bhandira*) is an important medicinal plant used in Ayurveda for treating fever, skin diseases, wounds, asthma, diabetes, inflammation, and helminthiasis. **Methods:** Information was collected from Ayurvedic texts, floras, ethnomedicinal reports, and published pharmacological studies to review its morphology, phytochemistry, therapeutic uses, and pharmacological activities. **Results:** The plant contains flavonoids, saponins, sterols, glycosides, terpenoids, and phenolic compounds. Studies have demonstrated antimicrobial, antioxidant, analgesic, hepatoprotective, anticonvulsant, anthelmintic, and wound-healing activities. In Ayurveda, *Bhandira* possesses *Tikta* and *Katu rasa*, *Ushna virya*, and *Katu vipaka* with *Deepana*, *Pachana*, *Krimighna*, and *Jwaraghna* properties. **Discussion:** Traditional uses and pharmacological evidence indicate that *Clerodendrum infortunatum* Linn. has significant therapeutic potential. Further clinical studies are needed to validate its medicinal applications.

INTRODUCTION

Medicinal plants play a vital role in traditional healthcare systems and continue to contribute significantly to modern therapeutics. Among them, *Clerodendrum infortunatum* Linn., commonly known as *Bhandira*, is an important medicinal shrub widely used in Ayurveda, folk medicine, and ethnomedicinal practices. The plant belongs to the family *Lamiaceae* and is distributed throughout India and several tropical Asian countries. Traditionally, the plant has been employed in the treatment of bleeding disorders, bronchitis, asthma, fever, skin diseases, inflammation, helminthiasis, diabetes, wounds, and various gastrointestinal disorders. *Bhandira* possesses remarkable therapeutic importance because of the presence of numerous phytoconstituents such as flavonoids, saponins, sterols, glycosides, terpenoids, and phenolic compounds. Different parts of the plant including leaves, roots, flowers, stem, and aerial portions are used for medicinal purposes.

In Ayurveda, the drug is described to possess *Tikta* and *Katu rasa*, *Ushna virya*, and *Katu vipaka* with *Deepana*, *Pachana*, *Rechana*, *Krimighna*, and *Jwaraghna* properties. Although the plant is extensively used in traditional medicine, a comprehensive review compiling its historical references, botanical aspects, phytochemistry, pharmacological activities, and therapeutic applications is essential. Therefore, the present review aims to provide a detailed account of *Bhandira* and its medicinal significance.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The present review article was prepared through a detailed collection and compilation of information from classical Ayurvedic texts, Nighantus, contemporary textbooks, floras, ethnomedicinal records, and published scientific literature related to *Clerodendrum infortunatum* Linn. Information regarding historical references, taxonomy, morphology, distribution, phytochemical constituents, pharmacological studies, Ayurvedic properties, therapeutic indications, ethnomedicinal uses, substitutes, and market availability were systematically reviewed and organized. Data from both traditional and modern scientific sources were critically analyzed to understand the medicinal importance and therapeutic potential of the plant.

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RESULTS

Historical Review

- 1. Vedic Kala:** There is no mentioning of the drug *Bhandira* in the Vedas.
- 2. Puranas:** No reference of *Bhandira* is mentioned in the Puranas.
- 3. Samhitha Kala:** In *Sushruta Samhitha*, in *Prameha chikitsa*, *Bhandi* is mentioned.^[1] But the botanical identity of the drug is not clear. No other Samhithas mentioned the drug *Bhandira*.
- 4. Nighantu Kala:** In *Dhanvantari Nighantu*, *Bhandi* is mentioned as synonym for *Manjista* in *Guduchyadi varga*^[2] and *Bhandira* is mentioned as a synonym for *Tanduleeya* in *Karaviradi varga*.^[3] In *Bhavaprakasha Nighantu*, *Bhandi* is mentioned as a synonym for *Manjista* in *Haritakyadi varga*.^[4] *Bhandi* and *Bhandira* for *Shirisha* in *Vatadi Varga*.^[5] Chuneekar mentions *Clerodendrum infortunatum* Linn. under the drug *Sthouneyaka* of *Karpuradi varga*.^[6] In *Kaiyadeva Nighantu*, *Bhandi* and *Bhandira* are mentioned as synonyms for *Shirisha*^[7] and *Manjista*^[8] in *Oushadhi varga*. In *Raja Nighantu*, *Bhandi*, *Bhandiralathika* are mentioned as synonym of *Manjista* in *Pippalyadi varga*.^[9] *Clerodendrum infortunatum* Linn. is mentioned as substitute for *Bharangi* by the author.^[10] While mentioning about the drug *Kaari* of *Shalmalyadi Varga*, there is mentioning of *Clerodendrum infortunatum* Linn. to accept as source of *Kaari*.^[11] In *Madanapala Nighantu*, *Clerodendrum infortunatum* Linn. is mentioned as substitute for *Bharangi* by the author.^[12] In *Gunaratnamala*, *Clerodendrum infortunatum* Linn. is mentioned as source for *Granthi parna* and *Sthouneyaka* under *Karpuradi varga*.^[13]

Contemporary Text Books

Reviews on Indian Medicinal Plants – Volume 7 by Medicinal Plant Unit, Indian Council of Medical Research, New Delhi^[14] - The regional names, habit, habitat, properties, actions, uses, ethnobotanical studies and pharmacognostic studies in detail are given.

Medicinal Plants of India- Volume 1, Karnataka^[15]- The detailed description of the plant habitat, habit, uses, chemical constituents and local names are given. Botanical identity is given as *Clerodendrum viscosum*, Family- *Verbenaceae*.

Indian Medicinal Plants- An illustrated dictionary by C.P Khare^[16]- Information regarding the Family, Habitat, Ayurvedic names, actions and dosage of the plant are given.

Indian Medicinal Plants, A compendium of 500 species of Arya Vaidya sala^[17]- Reference of the drug, its habitat, synonyms in Sanskrit, part used, properties and uses are mentioned.

Indian Materia Medica- vol 1^[18]- The Vernacular names, habitat, habit and uses of the plant is mentioned.

Indian Medicinal Plants by Kritikar, K.R., Basu B.D^[19]- Detailed Explanation about the Genus *Clerodendron*, distribution of the plant, morphology, folklore uses and vernacular name is given.

Wealth of India- Vol 2^[20]- Information regarding Uses and research works carried out are given.

Flora of Udupi- K. Gopalkrishna Bhat^[21] - Mentioned as *Clerodendrum viscosum* under *Verbenaceae* family. Morphology and Vernacular names are given.

Flora of South Canara- K. Gopalkrishna Bhat^[22] - Morphology, distribution, flowering and vernacular names are given.

Flora of Bangalore district- S V Ramaswami, B A Razi^[23] - Information about Morphology and flowering are given. Botanical source is mentioned as *Clerodendrum viscosum*.

Flora of British India^[24] - In the Flora of British India, explanation of genera and habitat, habit, morphology of the plant is mentioned along with various synonyms.

Flora of Presidency of Madras^[25]- Distribution, Morphology and Vernacular names of the drugs are mentioned.

Flora of Chikmagalur district^[26]- Explanation of habit, habitat, local name, uses, chemical composition and synonyms are mentioned.

Ayurvedic pharmacology and therapeutic uses of medicinal plants- Vaidya Gogte^[27] Botanical description, properties and uses, dosage are given.

Dravyaguna Vijnana- P.V. Sharma^[28] - P.V. Sharma is the first author to describe *Bhandira* in detail. He has mentioned synonyms, *rasa panchaka*, *doshagna*, *karma* and indications in detail.

Dravyaguna Vijnana (Vol- 2)- J L N Shastry^[29] - Synonyms, Vernacular names, morphology, chemical constituents, parts used, dosage and therapeutic properties are explained in detail.

Bapalal Vaidya in his text Some controversial drugs in Indian medicine included *Clerodendrum infortunatum* in *Granthiparni* controversy. *Bheteor* is a synonym of *Granthiparni*. So, some *Vaidya* consider *Granthiparni* as *Clerodendrum infortunatum*.^[30]

Botanical Source- *Clerodendrum infortunatum* Linn.

Family- *Lamiaceae*

Meaning: ^[31,32]

Clerodendrum is derived from the Greek words:

Kleros = "Chance" or "fate"

dendron = "tree" which means chance tree or fate tree (uncertainty of medicinal qualities)

Infortunatum is a Latin word meaning "unfortunate" or ill-fated, with no luck – without medicinal property, unhappy, unlucky.

Vernacular Names^[33, 34]**Table 1: Vernacular names of *Clerodendrum infortunatum* Linn.**

Sanskrit	<i>Bhandira, Bhantaka</i>
English	Hill glory bower, Glory tree
Hindi	Bhant, Ghato
Kannada	Basavana pada, Ibbane, Thaggi gida
Malayalam	Nilamparanda, Paragu
Marathi	Bhandira
Tamil	Karukanni, Perukilai
Telugu	Gurrapu katilyaku
Bengali	Bhant, Bhat, Ghentu
Tulu name	Ittevu- tappu

Synonyms^[35]

Clerodendrum infortunatum Linn. Synonyms:

Homotypic synonyms: *Clerodendrum viscosum* Vent., *Ovieda infortunata* (L.) Baill. and *Volkameria infortunata* (L.) Roxb.

Heterotypic Synonyms: *Clerodendrum affine* Griff., *Clerodendrum calycinum* Turcz. (1863), *Clerodendrum castaneifolium* Klotzsch, *Clerodendrum cordatum* D.Don, *Clerodendrum depauperatum* Wall. ex Steud., *Clerodendrum infortunatum* Gaertn., *Clerodendrum philippinense* Elmer, *Clerodendrum pubescens* Lindl., *Clerodendrum vanoverberghii* Merr., *Clerodendrum viscosum* var. *helferi* Moldenke and *Clerodendrum viscosum* f. *rubrum* Moldenke.

Taxonomical Position^[36]**Table 2: Taxonomical position of *Clerodendrum infortunatum* Linn.**

Kingdom	Plantae
Phylum	Streptophyta
Class	Equisetopsida
Subclass	Magnoliidae
Order	Lamiales
Family	<i>Lamiaceae</i>
Genus	<i>Clerodendrum</i>
Species	<i>Clerodendrum infortunatum</i>

Family Characters^[37,38]***Lamiaceae***

The family *Lamiaceae* consists of more than 3,000 species, of which about 391 species are found in India. Members of this family are mostly aromatic herbs or undershrubs with characteristically square stems. The leaves are simple, opposite or whorled, exstipulate, and possess oil glands. The inflorescence is typically a verticillaster, often reduced to a true cyme. Flowers are zygomorphic, bilabiate, hypogynous, and bisexual with five gamopetalous petals arranged in imbricate aestivation. The androecium usually consists of four didynamous, epipetalous stamens, though sometimes only two stamens are present. The gynoecium is bicarpellary and syncarpous with a prominent disc. The superior ovary becomes deeply four-lobed and appears four-celled, each cell containing a single ovule. The style is gynobasic,

arising from the depressed center of the ovary, and the stigma is bifid. On maturation, the ovary splits into four one-seeded nutlets or pyrenes, which remain concealed at the base of the cup-shaped calyx. The seeds are erect and exalbuminous.

Sub Family of *Lamiaceae*^[39]

In 2004, the *Lamiaceae* were divided into seven subfamilies.

- 1) *Symphorematoideae*
- 2) *Viticoideae*
- 3) *Ajugoideae*
- 4) *Prostantheroideae*
- 5) *Nepetoideae*
- 6) *Scutellarioideae*
- 7) *Lamioideae*

Genus Characters – *Clerodendrum* [40,41,42]

Members of this group are shrubs or trees, sometimes scandent in habit, with simple leaves arranged oppositely or in whorls. The inflorescence is cymose, occurring as lax cymes, panicles, corymbs, heads, or rarely solitary flowers, and may be axillary or terminal with conspicuous or small bracts. The flowers possess a distinct perianth differentiated into calyx and corolla. The calyx is campanulate, truncate, five-toothed or five-lobed, persistent, and often accrescent or coloured, contributing to the showy appearance of the flower. The corolla has a slender, usually long tube with an oblique limb and five spreading lobes. The androecium consists of four didynamous, long-exserted stamens with parallel anther cells. The style is filiform and terminates in a shortly bifid stigma. The ovary is imperfectly four-celled, with one ovule present in each cell. The fruit is a dry or succulent drupe, usually containing four pyrenes, though one to three may be suppressed. Seeds are oblong in shape.

Key to Species [43]

It is a large tomentose shrub with characteristic quadrangular branches. The leaves are not lobed, opposite, merely denticulate or serrate, large, ovate to suborbicular, and possess a cordate base with pubescent surfaces. The plant bears white flowers arranged in large terminal panicles. Calyx green during anthesis, corolla white, tinged with pink. Fruits are bluish-black drupes when ripe.

Distribution and Habitat [44]

Degraded forest areas, moist evergreen forests and plain lands. Found all over India, Sri Lanka, Myanmar, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Thailand, Malaysia and Bangladesh.

Morphology of *Clerodendrum infortunatum* Linn. [45,46]

Clerodendrum infortunatum is a large tomentose shrub with a quadrangular stem that is

either unbranched or supported by slender, obtusely quadrangular branchlets, giving the plant a bushy appearance. The bark is grey and corky, while the branches and petioles are densely pubescent. Leaves are opposite, large, ovate to suborbicular, measuring up to 25×20cm, with a shortly acuminate apex, cordate base, and denticulate or serrate margins. The upper surface is dark green and tomentose, whereas the lower surface is paler and villous or pubescent, with 6–9 prominent lateral veins on either side of the midrib. The petiole is long, slender, cylindrical, exstipulate, and densely pubescent, measuring about 3–15cm in length. Inflorescences occur as large terminal panicles composed of 6–14 cymes borne on obtusely quadrangular pubescent peduncles, with elliptic foliaceous bracts and deciduous bracelets. The flowers are bisexual, zygomorphic, lightly fragrant, and tubular, borne on thin pedicels 1–2cm long. The calyx is deeply five-lobed and becomes much enlarged in fruit, with ovate-acuminate lobes. The corolla is white with a tube about 2.5cm long and subequal lanceolate lobes. The androecium consists of four didynamous to subequal stamens with filiform creamish-white filaments and bilobed elliptic anthers. The gynoecium contains a rectangular to oblong four-lobed, four-loculed ovary, a filiform style, and a slightly bifid stigma. The fruits are bluish-black drupes enclosed within the accrescent calyx, and the plant flowers more or less throughout the year.

Method of Propagation [47] - Seed - best sown as soon as it is ripe. Germination can be erratic but usually takes place within 20-60 days at 20°C. When large enough to handle, prick the seedlings out into individual pots and grow them on until large enough to plant out.

Root cuttings, 6-8cm long usually grow away well.

Useful parts [48] - Leaves, roots and flowers.

Chemical composition [49,50]

Table 3: Chemical constituents of *Clerodendrum infortunatum* Linn.

Plant part	Chemical constituents
Aerial parts	Serratum A, Serratum B, Monomelittoside, Sammangaoside C, Inerminosides A, Inerminosides C, Inerminoside A hexaacetate, Inerminoside B heptaacetate.
Roots	8-Ofoliamenthoyl euphroside, Aucubin Odifoliamenthoyl euphroside, Euphroside, Plantarenalloside,
Leaves	Ajugoside, 5-O-b-glucopyranosylharpagide, Sammangaoside A, Sammangaoside B
Stem	Mandarone A, Mandarone B, Crolerodendrum A, Bungone A, Bungone B
Whole plant	Aucubin, 8-O-acetylharpagide, Harpagide, Ajugoside

The major compounds are sterols, sugars, flavonoids and saponins. Novel crystalline compounds such as clerodolone, clerodone, clerodol and a sterol designated clerosterol have been isolated from the root. Seven sugars namely raffinose, lactose, maltose, sucrose, galactose, glucose and fructose were

identified. Fumaric acid, caffeic acid esters, β -sitosterol and β -sitosterol glucoside were isolated from the flowers. Apigenin, acacetin and a new flavone glycoside, characterised as the methyl ester of acacetin-7-O-glucuronide are isolated from the flowers. Saponin is one of the major compounds of the leaf. 24

beta-ethylsterols, clerosterol and 22-dehydro-clerosterol, 24-methyl-sterols (24-methylcholestanol, 24-methylcholesterol, 24-methyl-22-dehydrocholesterol, and 24-methylathostero) and 24 beta-ethyl-22-dehydrocholestanol are found in the seeds. Scutellarin and hispidulin-7-O-glucuronide are present in the leaf. Poriferasterol and stigmasterol are the components of the aerial parts.

Pharmacological studies [51]

Antimicrobial activity

Ethanollic extracts of *Clerodendrum infortunatum* Linn. showed significant activity against four clinical strains of bacteria *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Bacillus subtilis*, *Proteus vulgaris*, and *E. coli*. The standard drug used was tetracycline (100mcg/ml). Three strains of fungi namely *Aspergillus niger*, *Aspergillus flavus* and *Candida albicans*. In both the cases, the ethanollic extracts at dose concentration of 500mcg/ml showed significant antimicrobial activity.

Anthelmintic activity

Alcohol and aqueous extracts from the leaves of *Clerodendrum infortunatum* Linn. were investigated for their anthelmintic activity against *Pheretima posthuma* and five concentrations (5, 10, 15, 20 and 25mg/ml) of each extract were studied in activity, which involved the determination of time of paralysis and time of death of the worm. Both the extracts exhibited significant anthelmintic activity at highest concentration of 100mg/ml.

Hepatoprotective activity

Methanolic extract of *Clerodendrum infortunatum* Linn. were studied against carbon tetrachloride induced hepatotoxicity in rats. This study was evaluated by assaying the serum biochemical parameters like glutamate pyruvate transaminase (ALT), glutamate oxaloacetate transaminase (AST), alkaline phosphatase (ALP), bilirubin and total protein. Malondialdehyde (MDA) level, as well as reduced glutathione (GSH) content and catalase activity (CAT) was determined. The substantially elevated serum enzymatic levels of AST (SGOT), ALT (SGPT), ALP and total bilirubin were restored towards normalization significantly by the extract. The hepatoprotective activity of the methanolic extract was further supported by histological studies as the normal rats did not show any abnormal state in their liver architecture. The results of this study revealed that methanol extract of *Clerodendrum infortunatum* Linn. has moderate hepatoprotective activity. The hepatoprotective activity of the methanolic extract of *Clerodendrum infortunatum* Linn. may due to the

presence of flavonoids, terpenoids and saponins in the extract.

Analgesic activity

Saponin (SN) isolated from *Clerodendrum infortunatum* Linn. leaves exhibited protection from writhing induced by 1.2% v/v acetic acid in Adult Swiss albino mice. SN1 was administered ip at doses of 30, 50, 75 and 100mg/kg and standard drug used were aspirin, paracetamol and morphine sulphate. In hot plate method, SN not only produced analgesia in mice but also potentiated the analgesic action of pentazocine and aspirin.

Anticonvulsant activity

Saponin (SN) was isolated from *Clerodendrum infortunatum* Linn. leaves also showed anticonvulsant activity. The anticonvulsant activity was tested by leptazol induced seizures. SN was administered ip in different doses (20-100)mg/kg body weight. It was observed that SN decreased the duration of seizures and gave protection in a dose dependent manner against leptazol induced convulsions. The results suggested that the saponin (SN) has significant anticonvulsant effect.

Wound healing activity

Chloroform and ethanollic extracts of *Clerodendrum infortunatum* Linn. were prepared and assessed to evaluate its wound-healing potency in experimental rats. For topical application, 4% (w/w) ointment cream bases of petroleum ether, chloroform and ethanollic extracts were prepared and investigated for the wound healing activity. Significant wound healing was observed in animals treated with chloroform and ethanol extracts, similar to the reference standard drug Nitrofurazone. The chloroform and ethanol extracts showed significant results compared with the control. The presence of bioactive constituents, including flavonoids, is thought to promote the wound-healing process due to their antioxidant and antimicrobial activities.

Antioxidant activity

Ethanollic extract of leaves of *Clerodendrum infortunatum* Linn. were examined for their antioxidant effects at various concentrations (0.020-0.10)mg/ml in the DPPH radical scavenging assay, (20-100) mcg/ml in FRAP assay (Ferric Reducing Antioxidant Power) in comparison to Vitamin C in same conc. Respectively. The ethanollic extracts were also examined for the Hydrogen peroxide radical scavenging assay. The results of the study revealed that the plant extract has significant antioxidant activity.

Ayurveda synonyms of *Bhandira* [52,53]**Table 4: Synonyms attributed to *Bhandira* according to different texts**

S.No	Synonyms	DGV- P.V Sharma	IMP
1	<i>Bhandira</i>	+	+
2	<i>Tiktabhantaka</i>	+	-
3	<i>Bhandi</i>	+	-
4	<i>Tiktavara</i>	+	-
5	<i>Bhukesara</i>	-	+
6	<i>Swetapushpa</i>	-	+
7	<i>Dheergapatraka</i>	-	+

Rasa panchaka**Table 5: *Rasa panchaka* of *Bhandira* according to different texts**

	DGV- P.V Sharma	IMP
<i>Rasa</i>	<i>Tikta</i>	<i>Katu, Tikta</i>
<i>Guna</i>	<i>Laghu, Sara</i>	<i>Tikshna, Laghu, Rechana</i>
<i>Virya</i>	<i>Ushna</i>	<i>Ushna</i>
<i>Vipaka</i>	<i>Katu</i>	<i>Katu</i>

Dosha karma: *Kaphavatahara, Pittasaraka****Karma:*** *Deepana, Pachana, Rechana, Krimighna, Jwaraghna****Rogaghnata:*** *Arshoroga, Vrana, Garbhasangha, Jwara, Kusta, Krimi, Amavata, Madhumeha, Shwasa, Kasa, Gudabhrmsha, Guda keela.***Ethno medicinal uses** [54,55,56,57]

- Fresh leaf juice is used in ascarids.
- Leaves are used as substitute for *Chiretta* and as a tonic and antipyretic.
- Fresh juice of leaves is vermifuge and used as bitter tonic and febrifuge in malaria especially of children.
- In Homeopathy, the fresh leaves are employed as an excellent medicine for colic of worms, diarrhea associated with nausea, chronic fever with loss of appetite, and in enlargement of liver and spleen with indigestion and constipation.
- In the Indian system of medicine, the leaves are prescribed in headache, sores on the head and in alopecia.
- The roots, ground with black pepper, are given in involuntary cramps.
- The roots are also given in rheumatism.
- The flowers are ground with fresh shoots of *Bombax ceiba* and made into pills which are smeared with cow milk cream and given for ulcers of palate.
- Across India, Bangladesh, and several tribal communities of the Indo-Malaysian region, leaf paste, juice, decoctions, and warm poultices prepared from the plant are frequently used for

wound healing, inflammation, skin eruptions, boils, sprains, tumors, venereal complications, and post-natal care.

- In Assam, roots are specifically valued for bronchitis and asthma, whereas in Kerala and Arunachal Pradesh, leaf preparations serve as wound remedies, headache relievers, ingredients of medicated postpartum baths, and even components of ethnic salads.
- Communities in Bangladesh rely on the plant for helminthiasis, fever, fracture management, joint displacement, and diabetic symptoms.
- Reports also highlight its use as a mosquito repellent when dry leaves are burned with cow dung.
- The new squeeze of the leaves of *Bhandira* is applied over the injuries for snappy recuperating.
- The glue of the leaves of *Clerodendrum infortunatum* Linn. is applied over the territory having confined expanding to decrease it.
- The new squeeze of the leaf of the plant is given in a portion of 10ml to treat liver issues and evacuate intestinal worms.
- Cold imbue ment of the leaf is given in a portion of 30ml to sanitize the blood in skin maladies.
- New squeeze of the leaf is given in a portion of 10 to 115ml to treat fever.
- The cool imbue ment of the leaf of *Clerodendrum infortunatum* Linn. is given in a portion of 30ml to treat acid reflux and improve the stomach related limit.

- The leaves of this plant are utilized as vermifuge and root scoured down with spread milk is controlled in colic torment.
- The new squeeze of the leaf goes about as a diuretic and is utilized to treat blockage.

Substitutes^[58]- *Bharangi* (*Clerodendrum serratum* Linn.)

Cost^[59]- Live plants for gardening ranges from-Rs.150- Rs.350, dried roots- Rs. 2400/kg.

DISCUSSION

The present review highlights the immense medicinal importance of *Clerodendrum infortunatum* Linn. in both traditional and modern systems of medicine. Classical Ayurvedic texts and ethnomedicinal records indicate its extensive therapeutic applications in disorders involving the digestive, respiratory, integumentary, and nervous systems. The presence of diverse phytochemicals such as flavonoids, saponins, glycosides, and sterols may contribute to the wide range of biological activities exhibited by the plant.

Modern pharmacological investigations validate many of the traditional claims associated with *Bhandira*. Antimicrobial, antioxidant, hepatoprotective, anthelmintic, analgesic, anti-convulsant, and wound-healing activities reported in experimental studies support its therapeutic relevance. The antioxidant and anti-inflammatory properties of the plant may play a significant role in its effectiveness against chronic diseases and tissue damage.

In Ayurveda, the *Tikta-Katu rasa*, *Ushna virya*, and *Kaphavatahara* properties explain its usefulness in conditions such as fever, skin disorders, worms, respiratory diseases, and metabolic disturbances. Ethnomedicinal applications across different regions further strengthen its medicinal credibility and cultural significance.

Despite its broad traditional usage and promising pharmacological activities, further studies are necessary to establish standardized dosage forms, toxicity profiles, mechanism of action, and clinical efficacy. Advanced phytochemical and clinical investigations may help in the development of novel herbal formulations from this plant.

CONCLUSION

Clerodendrum infortunatum Linn. (*Bhandira*) is a valuable medicinal plant possessing extensive traditional, Ayurvedic, ethnomedicinal, and pharmacological significance. The plant contains numerous bioactive compounds responsible for its antimicrobial, antioxidant, hepatoprotective, anthelmintic, analgesic, anticonvulsant, and wound-healing properties. Classical Ayurvedic descriptions and folk medicinal practices strongly support its therapeutic applications in various diseases. The

present review emphasizes the need for further scientific and clinical research to validate traditional claims and to promote the safe and effective utilization of *Bhandira* in herbal medicine and healthcare systems.

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