

## MEDICINAL PLANTS REFERRED IN *Kauṭilya's Arthaśāstra*

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### ABSTRACT

*Kauṭilya's Arthaśāstra* which was written somewhere in 321-300 B.C. on ancient Indian Polity, holds a unique place in Indian history and culture. It was discovered at Tanjavore district of Mysore in Karnataka. The Manuscript of *Arthaśāstra* (Devanagiri script) traced by Sri Munisri Jinavijayajee of Patna. Mr. Shyama Sastry had first published the translated text in 1909 as Volume 37 of the Bibliotheca Sanskrita of Mysore. There are 150 chapters in this work. The author of this work, *Kauṭilya* is also known as *Viṣṇugupta* or *Cāṇakya*. The author himself in the concluding verse of the *Arthaśāstra* quoted his name as *Viṣṇugupta*. The later writers on his works also designated his name as *Cāṇakya*. It was also translated into German and Russian languages.

The plants and herbs having medicinal value were compiled the *Arthaśāstra* to bring out the knowledge of the period and how the people honored, patronized, considered their own indigenous system as a part of their life. Same information is being presented in this article.

### Introduction

*Kauṭilya's - Arthaśāstra* is a work of very exceptional interest and value. It was written somewhere in 321-300 B.C. on ancient Indian polity and holds a unique place in Indian History. It was discovered at Tanjavore district of Mysore. Mr. Shyama Sastry had first published the translated text in 1909 as Vol.37 of the Bibliotheca *Sanskṛta* of Mysore, it contains 150 chapters and 6000 *śloka*

The Chapters 1, 17, 24, 25, 26 of Book-II and 1-4 chapters of Book -XIV of *Kauṭilya's - Arthaśāstra*, carries the information on medicinal plants. It is elucidated under the headings "The Director/Superintendent of forest produce (Book-II Chapter - 17), The Superintendent of Agriculture (Book-II; chapter 24) and the Application of

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medicines and mantras (occult practices) (Book-XIV, chapter -3), Remedies against the injuries of one's own army (Book-XIV; chapter – 4, Chapter –I and Section - 76 (Keeping a watch over artisans). This chapter deals with suppression of criminals i.e. Physicians under taking the medical treatment without intimating (the government) regarding the dangerous nature of the disease shall, if the patient dies, be punished with the first amercement. If the death of a patient under treatment is due to carelessness in the treatment, the physician shall be punished with the middle most amercement. Growth of disease due to negligence or indifference (*Karṇavādha/Marmavātha*) (Acc. to Munich mss) of a physician shall be regarded as assault of violence. Thus a large number of plants and herbs are mentioned along with their medicinal properties, actions and their uses. This article is a compilation of plant name with their names and appropriate references to bring out the medical knowledge of that period.

#### **Author and date of work**

*Kauṭilya* is renowned not only as a king maker but also as the greatest Indian exponent of the art of the government, the duties of kings, ministers and officials and methods of diplomacy. He was a perceptive *Brāhmin*, who is known as *Viṣṇugupta*, which is mentioned by him in the concluding verse of this work. The later writers on his works designated his name as *Cāṇakya*. He was responsible for the rise of Chandragupta Maurya as king and the Mauryan Empire and the principal architect of Mauryan Empire and administration. His authorship of this work was confirmed by the references made by *Bāṇābhaṭ*, the author of '*Kādambari*' and by *Viṣṇuśarma*, the author of '*Pāñchatantra*'. The manuscript of *Arthaśāstra*, which is in *Dēvanāgarī* was discovered by Sri Munisri Jina Vijayaji of Patna.

Through Indian Epigraphical evidences it is well known that Candragupta was made king in 321 B.C. therefore it could be possible that *Kauṭilya* wrote this book somewhere in 321-300 B.C It is a voluminous work, contains 15 books, 150 chapters, 18 sections and 6000 *ślōkas*. This work was translated into German and Russian languages also.

**MEDICINAL PLANTS REFERRED IN ARTHASASTRA  
BOOK-II**

Chapter 1. Section 20 (Disposal of non-agricultural land)

<b>S. No</b>	<b>Name of the Plant</b>	<b>Use</b>
1	<i>Aśvatha</i> ( <i>Ficus religiosa</i> )	As antidote (Even poisonous snakes will not enter the houses where these plants are kept)
	<i>Jīvanti</i> ( <i>Leptadenia reticulata</i> )	
	<i>śvēta</i> ( <i>Aconitum ferox</i> )	
	<i>Muṣkaka</i> ( <i>Schrebera swietenoides</i> Roxb.)	
	<i>Puṣpavandaka</i> ( <i>Epidendrum tesseleatum</i> )	

Chapter 17 -Section-35 (The Director of forest) deals with forest produce with hard wood & medicinal value.

- 1 *śākha* (*Tectona grandis* Linn)
- 2 *Tiniṣa* (*Dalbergia unguinis*)
- 3 *Dhanvaṇa* (*Grevia tilieafolia*)
- 4 *Arjuna* (*Terminalia arjuna*)
- 5 *Madhūka* (*Bassia latifolia*)
- 6 *Tilaka* (*Wendlandia exerta* D.C.)
- 7 *śāla* (*Shorea robusta* Gaertn)
- 8 *śimśupa* (*Dalbergia sissu*)
- 9 *Arimēda* (*Acacia leucophloea* Willd)
- 10 *Rājādāṇa* (*Mimosops kanki*)
- 11 *śirīṣa* (*Albizzia lebbek* Benth)
- 12 *Khadira* (*Acacia katechu*)
- 13 *Saraḷa* (*Pinus roxburghii* Sargent)
- 14 *Tāḷa* (*Borassus flabellifer* Linn.)
- 15 *śātrjā* (*Vateria indica*)
- 16 *Aśvakarṇa* (*Terminalia tomentosa*)
- 17 *Kuṣa* (*Desmostachya bipinnata*)
- 18 *āmra* (*Mangifera indica* Linn.)
- 19 *Priyaka* (Yellow saltery)

20	<i>Dhava</i> ( <i>Angeissus latifolia</i> Wall)	
21	<i>Vamśa</i> ( <i>Bambusa arundonacia</i> Willd)	Mentioned in group of reeds
22	<i>Kaṭaka</i> ( <i>Strychnus potatorum</i> Linn)	Mentioned in group of creepers
23	<i>śyāmalata</i> ( <i>Ichnocarpus frutescens</i> )	Mentioned in group of creepers
24	<i>Nāgalata Nāgavalli</i> (betel leaf) ( <i>Piper betel</i> Linn)	Mentioned in group of fiber plants
25	<i>Mālati</i> (Mallika)( <i>Jasminum sambac</i> Ait)	Mentioned in group of fiber plants
26	<i>Mūrva</i> ( <i>Marsdenia tennessisma</i> )	Mentioned in group of fiber plants
27	<i>Arka</i> ( <i>Calotropis gigantea</i> )	Mentioned in group of fiber plants
28	<i>śaṇapūṣpi</i> ( <i>Crotalaria verrucosa</i> Linn)	Mentioned in group of fiber plants
29	<i>Gāvēdhuka</i> ( <i>Coix lachryma jobi</i> Linn)	Mentioned in group of fiber plants
30	<i>Atasi</i> ( <i>Linum usitatissimum</i> )	Mentioned in group of fiber plants
31	<i>Munja</i> ( <i>Saccharum munja</i> )	Mentioned in group of grass
32	<i>Tāḷi</i> ( <i>Corypha talicra</i> )	Leaves are used
33	<i>Balbaja</i> ( <i>Elousine indica</i> )	Mentioned in group of grass
34	<i>Būrj</i> ( <i>Betula utelisD, Don</i> )( <i>Jacquemon tree</i> )	Leaves are used
35	<i>Tāḷa</i> ( <i>Borassus flabellifera</i> Linn)	Leaves are used
36	<i>Kiṃśuka</i> ( <i>Butea frundosa</i> )	Flowers are used
37	<i>Kusumba</i> ( <i>Carthamus tinctoria</i> )	Flowers are used
38	<i>Kuṅkuma</i> ( <i>Crocus sativus</i> )	Flowers are used
39	<i>Vatsanābha</i> ( <i>Aconitum ferox</i> )	Mentioned in group of roots & fruits
40	<i>Mēśāśṅgi</i> ( <i>Gymnema sylvestra</i> )	Mentioned in Poisonous group
41	<i>Muṣṭa</i> ( <i>Cyperus rotundus</i> )	Mentioned in Poisonous group
42	<i>Kuṣṭha</i> ( <i>Saussurea lappa</i> )	Mentioned in Poisonous group
43	<i>Mahaviṣa / Ativiṣa</i> ( <i>Aconitum heterophyllum</i> )	Mentioned in Poisonous group
44	<i>Bālaka</i>	Mentioned in Poisonous group
45	<i>Markaṭa</i> ( <i>Kapikachu</i> ) ( <i>Mucuna prurata</i> )	Mentioned in Poisonous group
46	<i>Haimāvati</i> ( <i>Iris germanica</i> Linn.)	Mentioned in Poisonous group
47	<i>Kaḷiṅgaka</i> ( <i>Pippali</i> ) ( <i>Piper longam</i> )	Mentioned in group of roots & fruits
48	<i>Aṅkōla</i> ( <i>Alangium salvifolium</i> Linn)	Mentioned in group of roots & fruits

Chapter 24-Section-41 (The Superintendent of Agriculture) deals with season for sowing the seeds of following.

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| 1  | <i>Priyāngu</i> ( <i>Callicarpa microphylla</i> )         | To be sown in the commencement of rainy season |
| 2  | <i>Tila</i> ( <i>Sesamum indicum</i> Linn)                | To be sown in the commencement of rainy season |
| 3  | <i>śāli</i> ( <i>Oryza sativa</i> . Linn)                 | To be sown in the commencement of rainy season |
| 4  | <i>Vrīhi</i> ( <i>Oryza sativa</i> . Linn)                | To be sown in the commencement of rainy season |
| 5  | <i>Kōdrava</i> ( <i>Paspalum scrobiculatum</i> )          | To be sown in the middle of rainy season       |
| 6  | <i>Mudga</i> ( <i>Phaseolus trilobus</i> Ait)             | To be sown in the middle of rainy season       |
| 7  | <i>Māṣa</i> ( <i>Phaseolus mungo</i> )                    | To be sown in the middle of rainy season       |
| 8  | <i>Kusumba</i> ( <i>Carthamus tinctorius</i> Linn)        | To be sown in the middle of rainy season       |
| 9  | <i>Kuluttha</i> ( <i>Dolichos biflorus</i> )              | To be sown in the middle of rainy season       |
| 10 | <i>Yava</i> (Barley) ( <i>Hordeum vulgare</i> Linn)       | To be sown in the middle of rainy season       |
| 11 | <i>Gōdhuma</i> (Wheat)<br>( <i>Triticum sativum</i> Linn) | To be sown in the middle of rainy season       |
| 12 | <i>Atasi</i> (Linseed)<br>( <i>Linum usitatissimum</i> )  | To be sown in the middle of rainy season       |
| 13 | <i>Sarṣapa</i> (Mustard) ( <i>Brassia alba</i> )          | To be sown in the middle of rainy season       |

It was also mentioned here that marginal furrows between any two rows of crops are suitable for the plantation of fragrant plants, medicinal herbs. *Piṇḍaluka* (lac) etc.

Chapter 25-Section-42 (The Controller of spirituous liquors) deals with preparation of *āsava* and *Ariṣṭa*

Preparation of *āsava* (fermented) *Ariṣṭa* (boiled and fermented) preparation has been mentioned. Physicians as different remedies prescribed these preparations. For example the Maireya is distilled from decoction of the bark of *Mēśaśṛṅgi* (*Gymnema sylvestra*) with the addition of jaggery, long pepper and black pepper or mixed with *Triphala* (three myrobalans) etc.

1. *Mēśāśṛṅgi* (*Gymnema sylvestra*)
2. *Kramuka* (*Areca katechu*)
3. *Māśa* (*Phaseolus mungo*)
4. *Pāṭha* (*Cissampelos pariera* Roxb.)
5. *Lōdhra* (*Symplocos racemosa* Roxb.)
6. *Tējōvati* (*Zanthoxylum alatum* Roxb.)
7. *ēla* (*Elettaria cardamom*)
8. *Madhūka* (*Glycerrhiza glabra*)
9. *Vasuka* (*Osmanthus fragrans*)
10. *Priyāngu* (*Callicarpa macrophylla*)
11. *Dāruharidra* (*Berberis aristata*)
12. *Pippali* (*Piper longum* Linn)
13. *Marīca* (*Piper nigrum* Linn)
14. *Twak* (*Cinnanomum zeylanicum* Blume)
15. *Gajapippali* (*Piper chaba*)
16. *Musta* (*Cyprus rotundus*)
17. *Palāśa* (*Butea monosperma*)
18. *Karañja* (*Pongamia pinnata*)
19. *Citraka* (*Plumbago zeylanica* Linn)
20. *Viḍaṅga* (*Embelia ribes*)
21. *Kaliṅga* (*Piper longum*)
22. *Yava* (*Barley*) (*Hordeum vulgare* Linn)
23. *Iandīvara* (*Nelumbo nucifera* Gaertn)
24. *śatapuṣpa* (*Peucedanum graveolens* Linn)
25. *Apāmārga* (*Achyranthus aspera* Linn)
26. *Saptaparṇa* (*Alstonia scholaris*)
27. *Nimba* (*Melia azadirachta*)
28. *Kapittha* (*Feronia elephantum*) Bark & leaves are used for making liquor
29. *Drākṣa* (*Vitis vinifera* Linn)
30. *Māśa* (*Phaseolus mungo*) For making Kimva (fermented one)

Chapter 26-Section-43 (The Supervisor of animal slaughter)

1. *Bhṛṅgarāja* (*Eclipta alba*)

**BOOK - XIV**

**Chapter -1 Section - 177** (Secret practices with different formulations for the destruction of enemy's troops)

<b>S.No. Name of the Plant</b>	<b>Use</b>
1. <i>śatakanda</i> ( <i>Phyalis fiexuosa</i> ) <i>Bhallātaka</i> ( <i>Semecarpus anacardium</i> ) <i>Avalguja</i> ( <i>Psoralia corylifolia</i> )	These plants are burnt for smoke to cause death of an enemy
2. <i>Priyāṅgu</i> ( <i>Callicarpa macrophylla</i> )	It is heated along with some insects and black snake to make powder. When this is burnt that smoke causes instant death. It is prescribed to kill an enemy.
3. <i>Dhamargava</i> ( <i>Luffa foetida</i> ) root <i>Yatudana</i> (?) root <i>Bhallataka</i> Puspa (flower of <i>Semicarpus anacardium</i> )	Powder prepared from these causes death in half a month.
4. <i>vyāghata</i> (root) ( <i>Cassia fistula</i> ) <i>Bhallātaka</i> Puspa (flower of <i>Semicarpus anacardium</i> )	Powder - Prepared from these two and one kind of insect causes death in 1 month.
5. <i>Karavīra</i> ( <i>Nerium odorum</i> ) <i>Kaṭutumbi</i> ( <i>Lagenaria vulgaris</i> ) <i>Kōdhrava</i> ( <i>Paspalam scrobiculatum</i> ) <i>Hasthikarṇa</i> (castor) ( <i>Ricinus communis</i> Linn.) <i>Palāśa</i> ( <i>Butea frundosa</i> )	Powder to be prepared and burnt for smoke to destroy animals
6. <i>Kaṭutumbi</i> ( <i>Lagenaria vulgaris</i> ) <i>śatakardama</i> (bark) <i>Kṣudrarāla</i> (resin of <i>shorea robusta</i> ) <i>Hēmavidāri</i> ( <i>Puraria tuberosa</i> .)	Smoke out of burnt powder causes blindness

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| 7.  | <p><i>Pūtikarañja</i> (Guilandina bonducella)<br/> <i>Guñja</i> (seeds Abrus precatorius)<br/> <i>Asphōṭa</i> (Careya arborea)</p>  | Smoke out of burnt powder<br>causes blindness  |
| 8.  | <p><i>Kuṭaja</i> (Holerhyna antidysenterica)<br/> <i>Kōśātaki</i> (Luffa pentandra)<br/> <i>Bhandi</i> (Hydrocotyle asiatica)<br/> <i>Nimba</i> - (Melia azhadirachta)<br/> <i>śigru</i> - (Moringa oliofera)<br/> <i>Phañirājaka</i> (a kind of TuIsi plant)<br/> <i>Pīluka</i> (Salvadora persica Linn)<br/> <i>Bhaṅga</i> (Cannabis sativa)<br/> <i>Kōdrava</i> (Paspalam scrobiculatum)<br/> <i>Haṣṭhikarṇa</i> (Ricinus communis Linn)<br/> <i>Palāśa</i> (Butea monosperma)</p> | Smoke out of these and some<br>other animal products<br>causes instant death   |
| 9.  | <p><i>Kuṣṭha</i> (Saussurea lappa)<br/> <i>Nada</i> (a kind of reed)<br/> <i>śatāvāri</i> (Asperagus racemosus)</p>   | With some other drugs<br>destroys vision of animals  |
| 10. | <p><i>Arka</i> (Calotropis gigantia)<br/> <i>Snāhi</i> (Euphorbia thymifolia)<br/> <i>Mankashi</i> (latex) (Hyperanthera moruga)<br/> <i>Pīluka</i> (Salvadora persica Linn) etc</p>  | Causes blindness &<br>poisoning the water  |
| 11. | <p><i>Yavaka</i> (a kind of barley)<br/> <i>śāli</i> (Oriza sativa)<br/> <i>Madanaphala</i> (Randia dumetorum)<br/> <i>Jāti</i> (Nutmeg) leaves &amp;<br/> (Myristica fragrans Houtt.)<br/> <i>Plakṣa</i> root (Fig tree)-(Ficus lacor)<br/> <i>Vidāri</i> (Puraria tuberosa)<br/> <i>Musta</i> (Cyprus rotundus)<br/> <i>Udumbara</i> (Ficus glomarata)</p>  | All these are useful in the<br>preparation of Madanayoga<br>for poisoning grass & water<br>It is a stupefying<br>preparation |

- Kōdhrava* (Paspalam scrobiculatum)  
*Hasthikarṇa* (castor oil plant)  
(Ricinus communis)  
*Palāśa* (Butea frundosa)
12. *śṛṅgi* (Gynmema sylvestre)  
*Kaṇṭakāra* (Soanum xanthocarpum)  
*Guñja* seeds (Abrus precatorius)  
*Lāṅgaḷi* (Gloriosa superba)  
*Jaṅguḍi* (Heart-Pea)(Balanites roxburghii)  
*Arka* - (Calotropis gigantia)  
*Karavīra* (Nerium odorum)  
*Pīluka* (Salvadora persica Linn)  
*Madana* (Randia dumetorum)  
*Kōdrava* (Paspalam scrobiculatum Linn)  
*Hasthikarṇa* (Ricinus communis)  
*Palāśa* (Butea monosperma)
13. *Madana* (Randia dumetorum)  
*Kōdhrava* (Paspalam scrobiculatum Linn)
14. *Rājāvṛkṣa* (Cassia fistula)  
*Mathupuṣpa* (Bassia latifolia)
15. *śālmali* (Bombax heptaphyllum)  
*Vidāri* (Puraria tuberosa)  
*Vatsanābhi* (root) (Aconitum ferox Wall)
16. *Bhallātaka Puṣpa* (Flowers of Semicarpus anacardium)  
*Dhamargava* (Luffa aegyptiaca)  
*Bana* (sal tree) (Shorea robusta Greath)  
*ēla* (Large cardamom)  
(Amomum subulatum Roxb.)  
*Guggulu* - (Balasmodendron mukul)
- Madana yoga for poisoning grass & water. It is also a stupefying preparation.
- Along with Dusivisa powder paralyses the tongue
- A mixture with some other things cause fever
- To apply on arrows after blood. mixing with some animal
- Decoction is made with some other drugs to cause madness

17. *Rājaviṛkṣa* (Cassia fistula)

Wood to be burnt while chanting mantras in honouring Agni. It confounds eyes of enemies

Chapter- 2, Section- 178 (Deceiving by means of occult practices with different formulations)

1. *Kaśēruka* (a water creeper)  
*Utpala* (Nymphaea stellata)  
*Kamala* (Lotus) (Nelumbium speciosum)  
*Iḱṣu* (Sugar cane -Saccharum officinarum)  
*Bisa* (Water lily)  
*Dūrvā* (grass) - (Cynodon dactylon (Linn) Pers.)  
Combination of these plus milk & clarified butter renders the man fasting possible for a month.
2. *Māṣa* (Phaseolus mungo)  
*Yava* (Barley)(Hordium vulgare Linn)  
*Kuluttha* (Horse gram) (Dolicos biflorus-Linn)  
*Darbha* (root) (Imperata cylindrica Beauv.)  
Powder with milk & clarified butter gives the strength to man. He can fast up to 1 month
3. *Valli* (a kind of creeper)  
*śāla* (Shorea robusta) root  
*Pṛṣṇaparṇi* (Uraria picta Desv.)  
Milk & clarified butter gives the strength to men to fast up to 1 month
4. *Sarśapa* - Mustard (seeds)  
(Brassica campestris)  
*Arkakṣīra* (latex of Calotropis gigantia)  
*Dhānya* (Oryza sativa)  
Brings good complexion to the body.
5. *Sarśapa* - Mustard -(Brassica campestris)  
*Kāravellika* (Memordica charantia)  
Causes gray hair

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| 6. <i>Tiṇḍuka</i> (Diospyros tomentosa Roxb.)<br><i>Ariṣṭa</i> (soapberry)-Sapindus trifoliatus Linn)<br><i>Bhallātaka</i> (sap of) Semicarpus anacardium)       | Causes leprosy with in one month if rubbed on skin  |
| 7. <i>Guñja</i> (paste of seeds)<br>(Abrus precatorius)  | If Kept in the mouth of a white cobra, house lizard etc, for 7 nights and applied on skin causes leprosy. |
| 8. <i>Priyāla</i> (Chironjia sapida)   | Paste is a remedy for leprosy   |
| 9. <i>Kōśātaki</i> (Luffa pentandra)<br><i>śatāvāri</i> (Asparagus racemosus)<br>(root powder)   | With kukkuta (Marsilia dentate) if used for one Month it changes the complexion.                          |
| 10. <i>Vata</i> (Banyan tree) - (Ficus bengalensis)<br><i>Sahachara</i> (paste) - (Barlaria crista)  | If decoction is made and used for bath or application it causes blackness to the body                     |
| 11. <i>Khadira</i> (Acacia catechu)  | As one of the ingredient to make Tejanachurna (Ignition powder)   |
| 12. <i>Pāribhadhra</i> (bark) —Erythrina indica  | Helps like fire proof if combined with some other drugs   |
| 13. Bark of <i>Pīlu</i> (Salvedora persica)<br><i>Aśvadtha</i> (Ficus religiosa)<br><i>āmra</i> (Mangifera indica)<br><i>śārjārasa</i> (Juice of Valeria indica) | Oil preparation protects from burns.  |
| 14. <i>Varusa</i> - Bambusa (Arundinaccae)<br>(root powder)<br><i>śaivala</i> (Serratophylum submersum)  | With some other drugs prevents burning  |

15. *Pāribhadhra* (*Erythrina indica*) External application of this prevents from  
*Vajra* (*Andropogon muricatum*) burns  
*Kadaḷi* (Banana) (*Musa sapientum*)  
*Māṣa* (*Phaseolus mungo*)  
*Pṭlu* (*Salvadora persica*)

Chapter-3 Section - 179 (Deceiving by means of occult practices, the use of medicine)

1. *Sāriva* (Black) - (*Cryptolapis buchanana*) These plants are used to prepare a  
*āmalaka* fruit (*Embelica officinalis* Gaertn.) compound, useful in improving  
*Puruṣaḡati* (Punnaga tree) the vision.  
(*Calophyllum inophyllum* Linn.)  
*Khadira* (*Acacia katechu*)  
*Rājavr̥kṣa* (*Cassia fistula*)  
*Nimba* (*Melia azadirachta*)  
*Guñja* (*Abrus precatorius*)
2. *āmalaka* (*Embelia officinalis*) To improve the vision even in the  
*Sāriva* (Black) (*Ichnocarpus frutescens*) nights
3. *Kumāri* (*Aloe barbadensis*) Nails of a women to be made paste  
*Khadira* (*Acacia catechu* as fire Wood) with juice of Kumari and when used  
in the form of pills, they cause deep  
slumber in animals.
4. *Rājavr̥kṣa* (*Cassia fistula*) To carve the figure of enemy
5. *Pūrṇārṇava* (*Boerhavia diffusa*) Importance of this plant has been  
given that damage caused to these  
plants may lead to loss of life of the  
person, family and his wealth within  
45 days.
6. *Nimba* (*Melia azadirachta*) To destroy the enemies and his family  
*Svayaṅgupta* (*Mucuna prurata*)

7. *Guñja*-Seeds (*Abrus precatorius*) Which helps indirectly to protect the food stuff

Chapter 4 - Section -180 (Counter measures against injuries to one's own army), with the following plants and formulations.

1. *Candana* (*Santalum album*)  
*ślēṣmataka* (*Cordia myxa* Roxb.)  
*Kapittha* (*Feronia elephantum*)  
*Danti* (*Baliospermum montanum*)  
*śata-śatapuṣpa* (*Foeniculum*) or  
*śatāvāri-Asparagus racemosus*)  
*Gōjgi* (*Gōjihwa*) (*Onosma*  
*bracteatum* Wall)  
*śiriṣa* (*Albezzia lebec*)  
 To remove the poison from body. Decoction is to be made out of these plant parts and used to wash the things of army. Decoction acts as antidote. This Decoction and blood of female hyena is said to be useful to clean the private parts of woman who is to be sent to king.
2. *Pāṭhālī* (*Patali garudi*)  
*(Cocculus hirsutus)*  
*Bala* (*Sida cordifolia*)  
*Punarṇava* (*Boerhavia difusa*)  
*śvētavarṇa* (*Cratavia nerula*)  
*Tagara* (*Valeriana wallachii* D.C.)  
 Mixture of these removes the stupefying effect from the body.
3. *Sindhūvara* (*Vitex trifoliata*)  
*Tagara* (*Valleriana wallachii*)  
*Varuṇa* (*Crataeva nurula* Buch.Ham)  
*Taṇḍūliyaka* (*Amaranthus gangeticus*)  
*śālīparṇa* (*Desmodium*  
*gangeticum* D.C.)  
*Piṇḍitaka* (*Randia dumetorum* Lam)  
 Mixture of these removes the stupefying effects.
4. *śrgālavinna* (*Bignonia indica*)  
*Sindhūvara* (*Vitex trifoliata*)  
*Tagara* (*Valleriana wallachii*)  
*Varuṇa* (*Crataeva nerula* Buch.Ham)

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|--|---|
| 5. <i>Kaidarya</i> ( <i>Vangueria spinosa</i> )<br>stinking oil)<br><i>Tila taila</i> (Oil of <i>sesamum inidcum</i> )   | Removes madness when administered through nose.   |
| 6. <i>Priyāngu</i> ( <i>Callicarpa macrophylla</i> )<br><i>Naktamāla</i> ( <i>Pongamia pinnata</i> )   | Removes leprosy when administered through nose.   |
| 7. <i>Kuṣṭha</i> ( <i>Saussurea lappa</i> )<br><i>Lōdhra</i> ( <i>Simplocos racemosa</i> )   | Mixture cures consumption and white hair.   |
| 8. <i>Katphala</i> ( <i>Clelia arborea</i> )<br><i>Dravanthi</i> ( <i>Anthericum tuberosum</i> )   | Relieves headache and other diseases of head (when administered through nose as snuff)  |
| 9. <i>Priyāngu</i> ( <i>Callicarpa macrophylla</i> )<br><i>Mañjiṣṭha</i> ( <i>Rubia cordifolia</i> )<br><i>Tagara</i> ( <i>Vallerina wallachii</i> )<br><i>Lākṣasāra</i> (lac) ( <i>Crocus lacca</i> )<br><i>Madhūka</i> ( <i>Glycerryza glabra</i> )<br><i>Haridra</i> ( <i>Curcuma longa</i> ) | Useful to resuscitate unconscious person due to strangulation, drowning, injuries and poison. Dose: one Aksha (fruit of Beleric myrobalan) Pills made up of these with gold removes all poisons |
| 10. <i>Jivanti</i> ( <i>Leptadenia reticulata</i> W&A)<br><i>śvēta</i> ( <i>Hemidiscus indicus</i> )<br><i>Muṣkika</i> ( <i>Sachrebera swietenoides</i> Roxb.)<br><i>Aśvadtha</i> ( <i>Ficus religiosa</i> )   | A pill made up of these plants (which grown on moist soil) acts like antidote   |

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## सारांश

### कौटिल्य के अर्थशास्त्र मे उल्लिखित औषधि वनस्पति

विनोदकुमार भटनागर एवं पी.वी.वी. प्रसाद

ईसा पूर्व 321-300 मे रचित कौटिल्य का अर्थशास्त्र भारतीय इतिहास तथा संस्कृति में महत्वपूर्ण स्थान रखता है। इस ग्रंथ का पुनराविष्कार कर्नाटक के मैसूर जिले के तंजाऊर में हुआ था। पटना के श्री मुनिश्री जिनाविजयाजी के द्वारा देवनागरी लिपि में अर्थशास्त्र की पांडुलिपि की खोज की गयी है। सन 1909 मे सबसे पहले श्री श्याम शास्त्री ने अनुदित मूल पाठ को प्रकाशित किया जो मैसूर के बिब्लियोथीक संस्करण, Vol.37 के नाम से है। अर्थशास्त्र के रचनाकारने उसके अंतिम पदमें अपना नाम विष्णुगुप्त बताया। तत्पश्चात उनकी कृतियों पर लिखनेवाले रचनाकारों ने उनको चाणक्य भी कहा।

अर्थशास्त्र में औषधि गुण युक्त वनस्पति का वर्णन भी किया गया। जो तत्कालीन शास्त्र विज्ञान के प्रति जनसमूह का आदर तथा समझ को दर्शाता है। अर्थशास्त्र का अनुवाद जर्मन तथा रुसी भाषाओं मे भी हुआ था।