

A Review Article On Palasha Pratisarneeeya Kshar

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ABSTRACT

Ayurveda is not merely a system of medicine, but a timeless wisdom that harmonizes the rhythm of life with the laws of nature. It serves as a profound bridge between ancient healing traditions and the quest for holistic well-being, offering a sanctuary of health through balance and conscious living. Arsha (Haemorrhoids) is a common anorectal condition described in Ayurveda as a Mahagada due to its difficult nature and high recurrence rate. Among the four lines of treatment—Bheshaja (Medical), Kshara (Causal application), Agni (Cautery), and Shastra (Surgery)—Ksharkarma is considered superior because it performs the functions of excision and healing simultaneously. Palasha Pratisarneeeya Kshar, derived from the ash of *Butea monosperma* (Palasha), represents a traditional Ayurvedic para-surgical intervention primarily used in Ksharakarma for managing Raktarsha (Bleeding haemorrhoids). This review article synthesizes classical references and contemporary studies on its preparation, properties, therapeutic applications as Kshar Lepa, and efficacy in reducing pile mass size through actions like Chedana, Bhedana, Lekhana, Shodhana, and Ropana properties with early haemostasis and total eradication of infection.

KEYWORDS: Raktarsha, Ksharkarma, Kshar Lepa, Ayurveda, Sushruta.

1. INTRODUCTION

In the modern era, sedentary lifestyles and irregular dietary habits have led to a surge in digestive disorders, with Arsha being one of the most prevalent. It is defined as a condition that "torments the patient like an enemy". Arsha corresponds closely with haemorrhoids—dilated veins in the anal canal.

While surgical options like haemorrhoidectomy are available, they often come with complications like anal stenosis or prolonged recovery. Ksharkarma, specifically the application of Pratisarneeeya Kshar (topical alkaline paste), offers a minimally invasive alternative. Palasha (*Butea monosperma*) is the preferred plant source for preparing this Kshar due to its potent Kshara (corrosive) and Lekhana (scraping)

properties. It acts by chemically cauterizing the hemorrhoidal mass, leading to its necrosis and eventual shedding.

PROPERTIES OF PALASHA (BUTEA MONOSPERMA)

Rasa Panchakas

Rasa: Katu, Tikta, Kashaya

Guna: Ruksha, Laghu

Vipaka: Katu

Veerya: Ushna

Karma: Kapha-Vata shamaka

Part used – Patra

Gana: Sushruta: Rodhradi, Mushakadi, Ambastadi, Nyagrodhadi

Karma :

Vata-Kapha Hara: Arsha is often a Vata-Kapha dominant condition. The hot and piercing qualities of Palasha balance these doshas.

Lekhana Karma: The Rooksha (Dry) and Laghu (Light) qualities allow the Kshar to act as a "chemical scalpel," scraping away the hemorrhoidal tissue without the need for traditional surgery.

Stambhana: The Kashaya (Astringent) taste helps in constricting the blood vessels, which is why Palasha Kshar is so effective at stopping the bleeding associated with Arsha.

Scientific classification

Kingdom: Plantae (Plants)

Order: Fabales

Family: Fabaceae (Legume/Pea family)

Genus: Butea

Species: Butea monosperma

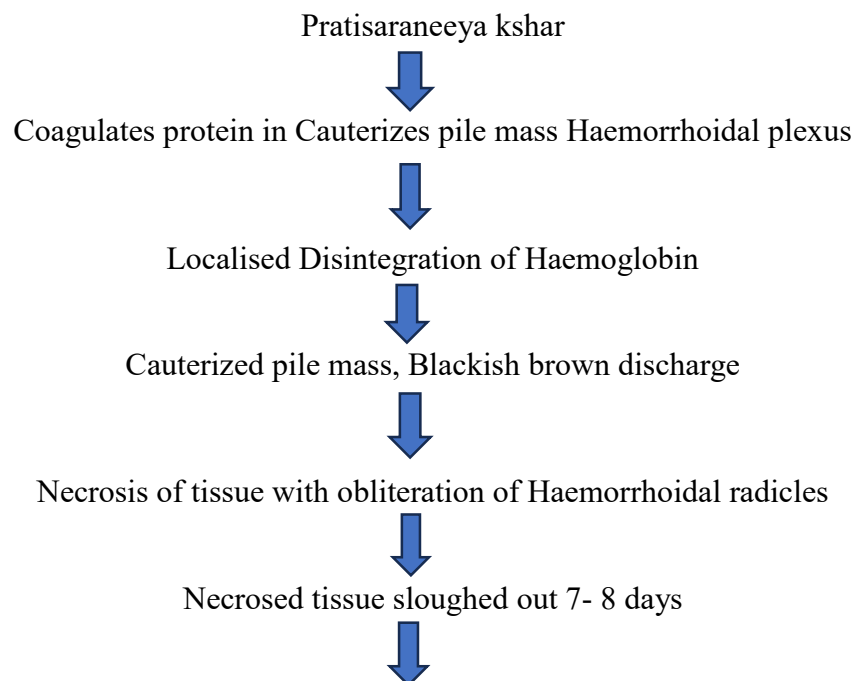
2. CHEMICAL CONSTITUENTS

- **Phenolic Compound-** Antioxidant, Anti-inflammatory
- **Tannins** - Anti-microbial
- **Sterols-** Anti-inflammatory
- **Flavonoids-** Anti-inflammatory, Antioxidant
- **Alkaloids-** Anti-inflammatory, analgesic

3. CLASSICAL METHOD OF PREPARATION OF PALASHA PRATISARANEEYA KSHAR

The leaves of Palasha tree are collected, dried up in drug drying chamber . Then these are burnt with limestone. While burning, the dispersed parts of the plants are kept with the help of Tilanala. When kept it for night, ash cools down. Then weighing this ash i.e. 769 gm. Then it should be mixed well with six times of water then filtered twenty one times in a big vessel through a piece of Markin cloth. The residual portion is thrown away and the filtrate (Ksharodaka) should be kept on Mandagni and continuously stirred well until it turns reddish brown and attain Picchilata or get reduced to 1/3rd. If this is heated till get powder form is Mrudukshara. If not then, from the Ksharodaka eight Palas has to be taken and mixed with Shankhanabhi, Shukti, Bhasma Sharkara and Kata Sharkara, each in 1 Karsha (ratio as per shashtra mentioned), to make Prativapa. In the meantime, heating should continue Prativapa should be mixed. Care should be taken that it is not too liquid or too dried up. The solution thus obtained is known as Madhyama Kshara. Madhyama Kshar should be heated up again by adding some medicinal plants red hot churna such as Danti, Chitraka, Langali, Dhatura seeds, Karanj, Navsacara, Vidlawan and Hingu in equal proportion 2gm each, with this semisolid solution is obtained which is known as Palasha Kshar.

4. PROBABLE MODE OF ACTION OF PRATISARANEEYA KSHAR



Decrease size of pile mass → Obliteration of haemorrhoidal Vein Complete wound healing (15days).

THE PHYSICAL CHARACTERS OF WELL-PREPARED KSHAR

S.N.	Lakshana	Acharya Sushruta	Acharya Vagbhatta
1.	Na atiteekshna (not too strong)	+	+

2.	Na atimrudu (not Too)	+	+
3.	Na atishukla (not too white)	+	+
4.	Shlakshna (thin)	+	+
5.	Pichhila (slimy)	+	+
6.	Abhishyandi (unspreading)	+	+
7.	Sheeghrakarita (quick acting)	+	-
8.	Shiva	+	+
9.	Shikari	-	+
10.	Sukha nirvapyā	-	+
11.	Alparaktatha	-	+

5. DISCUSSION

The clinical efficacy of Palasha Pratisarneeeya Kshara lies in its chemical and biological synergy.

A. Mechanism of Action in Arsha (Haemorrhoids)

When Kshar Lepa (application of the paste) is performed on a hemorrhoidal mass, it initiates chemical cauterization. The high alkalinity causes:

Protein Coagulation: It denatures the proteins in the hemorrhoidal tissue.

Dehydration: It extracts fluid from the cells, leading to the shrinkage of the mass.

Vascular Necrosis: It seals the small blood vessels, preventing bleeding (hemostatic action).

Sloughing: Within 7–10 days, the necrotic tissue sloughs off, leaving a healthy granulating wound that heals naturally.

B. Comparative Advantage

Traditional surgery (hemorrhoidectomy) often involves significant post-operative pain and a risk of anal stenosis. Kshara Karma is a "para-surgical" procedure that offers:

Minimal blood loss.

Lower recurrence rates compared to simple ligation.

No requirement for general anesthesia in many cases.

C. The Role of Palasha

Palasha is chosen for its Katu (pungent) and Tikta (bitter) taste, and its Ushna (hot) potency. These qualities make it highly effective in balancing Kapha and Vata doshas, which are typically predominant in Arsha.

6. CONCLUSION

Palasha Pratisarneeeya Kshara represents the pinnacle of ancient Indian surgical chemistry. It serves as an effective, minimally invasive tool for treating Arsha and other obstructive growths. While it is a potent "chemical scalpel," its preparation and application require strict adherence to classical protocols to avoid complications like deep tissue burning or scarring. Modern standardization of its pH and chemical composition can further integrate this Ayurvedic gold standard into mainstream proctological practice.

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