



ETHNOBOTANICAL OBSERVATION ON MUSICAL INSTRUMENT USED BY TRIBALS OF DHAR DISTRICT, MADHYA PRADESH, INDIA AND THEIR ROLE IN CONSERVATION

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ABSTRACT

Ethnobotanical some plants identification on musical instruments during 2017 to 2018. The paper deals with communicates first information on 14 plant species belonging to 14 families were collected and identified in the study area. The main tribes Bheel and Sub-tribe Bhilala, Barela and Pateliya are the dominant tribes living in remote areas. Tribals are very fond of simple formulations of wisdom acquired over long periods of enjoying to song and music. Music is an art form, social or cultural activity whose medium is sound and silence. The common musical instruments like “Dhol, Mandal” Dholak, Dhak and “Flute” or “Pouli” are used in classical music. In this paper we have studied for musical instruments that appears to human ears as similar with respect to music plants and their role in conservation.

KEYWORDS: Ethnobotany, Musical instruments, Festivals, Madhya Pradesh, Tribals.

INTRODUCTION

Dhar district is situated in the south-western part of Madhya Pradesh, India. The study area lies between 22° 00 to 23° 10 Northern latitude and 74° 28 to 75° 42 Eastern longitude. Its area is about 8153 Sq. Km. and geographical area of 1214.8 Sq.km. Its population is 2184672 (Census 2011). the tribal people constitute over 83.93 percent of the population. The main tribes Bheel and Sub-tribe Bhilala, Barela and Pateliya are the dominant tribes living in remote areas. Tribals are very fond of simple formulations of wisdom acquired over long periods of enjoying to song and music. Music is an art form, social or cultural activity whose medium is sound and silence. Any sound is characterized by an entity called as Timbre. In music, timbre also known as tone color or tone quality from psychoacoustics, is the quality of a musical note, sound, or tone that distinguishes different types of sound production, such as voices and musical instruments, string instruments, wind instruments, and percussion instruments. The common musical instruments like “Dhol, Mandal” Dholak and Dhak, which are specially used in Bhagoria festival and other festivals are Holi, Diwali and Dusshurra. “Flute” or “Violin” locally called “Pouli” are used in classical music. The tribal people move around the forest for their day today requirements, cultural activities and performing rituals. Literature survey of Ethnobotanical work was done (Srivastava 1984; Jain 2004, Jadhav 2010; Maheshwari *et al.* 1986, Wagh *et al.* 2010,

Kuralkar *et al.* 2015; Alawa *et al.* 2012, 2016, 2018 & Alawa 2018). Regarding the musical plants are no research paper published from the study area. Hence the first attempt has been made to ethnobotanical observation done in south western part of Madhya Pradesh.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Ethnobotanical observation on musical instruments field work was carried out during 2017-2018. There are several aspects such as cultural background, geographical places and religious rituals that decide the usage of an instrument. The instruments are classified based on the material used and the property of resonance applied on the design of an instrument. Some plant resources for making musical instruments mentioning few of them are *Bambusa arundinacea* is used for making flutes. *Lagenaria leucantha* is used for making violin locally called “Kukdia”. Wood of *Madhuca longifolia*, *Mangifera indica*, *Manilkara hexandra*, *Ailanthus excelsa* and *Bombax ceiba* are used for making drum locally called “Dhol and Mandal” which are specially used in Bhagoria and other festivals. *Tectona grandis* is used for making Dhak and Dholak were observed. Study area villages along remote areas and many of them are literature but not well educated and are poor. Interviews were taken to gather the plants used for information was obtained through field observation. Almost covering of musical instruments enjoying tribals

out of three seasons are rainy seasons “Dhak and Dholak” Winter seasons of “Dhol and Mandal” Summer season in specially marriage ceremonies of “Mandal and Kukdia”. Plant specimens were collected, identified with the help of Herbarium and Floras (Mudgal *et al.*, 1997; Verma *et al.*, 1993). Herbarium following standard method (Jain and Rao, 1977). Some musical instruments were photographed documented (Fig. A-D).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The present study out of 14 plant species belonging to 14 families were discussed there is a well indigenous knowledge using musical instruments during the study area (Table 1). Fourteen plants were observed as musical instruments respondent are “Mandal” 10 plants and “Dhol” 8 plants and other “Dhak, Kukdia and Flutes” is one plant each. Some plant resources for making musical instruments mentioning few of them are *Bambusa arundinacea* is used for enjoying flutes (Fig. D). *Lagenaria leucantha* is used for violin locally called

“Kukdia”. Wood of *Madhuca longifolia*, *Mangifera indica*, *Manilkara hexandra*, *Ailanthus excelsa* and *Bombax ceiba* are used for drum is enjoying “Dhol and Mandal” (Fig. A & B), which are specially used in Bhagoria and other festivals are Holi, Diwali and Dusshurra. “Flute” or “Violin” locally called “Pouli” are used in classical music. In this paper we have studied for musical instruments that appears to human ears as similar with respect to music plants and their role in conservation. *Tectona grandis* is used for enjoying “Dhak and Dholak” (Fig. C) were observed. Almost covering of musical instruments uses done between July to October (rainy seasons) “Dhak and Dholak” November to February (winter seasons) “Dhol and Mandal” March to June (summer season) especially marriage ceremonies of “Mandal and Kukdia”. Some musical instruments were observed photographed documented. Sources of name of plant and families, local name, uses of musical instruments and conservation have been mentioned (Table-1).



Fig. (A): Enjoying by Dhol.



Fig. (B): Mandal.



Fig. (C): Enjoying by Dhak.



Fig. (D): Enjoying by Flute.

Musical instruments used by tribals of Dhar district (M.P.)

Table 1: Ethnobotanical observation on Musical Instruments Used by Tribals of Dhar District (M.P.).

S. No.	Botanical Name	Family	Local Name	Uses of musical instruments
1.	<i>Ailanthus excelsa</i> Roxb.	Simaroubaceae	Lohgal, Dakancow	Dhol and Mandal
2.	<i>Azadirachta indica</i> A.Juss.	Meliaceae	Neem	Dhol and Mandal
3.	<i>Bambusa arundinacea</i> (Retz.) Willd.	Bambusaceae	Bans	Flutes
4.	<i>Bombax ceiba</i> L.	Bombacaceae	Semale	Dhol and Mandal
5.	<i>Boswellia serrata</i> roxb.	Burseraceae	Salai	Dhol and Mandal
6.	<i>Butea monosperma</i> (L.) Taub.	Fabaceae	Palash	Mandal
7.	<i>Ficus racemosa</i> L.	Moraceae	Gular	Dhol and Mandal
8.	<i>Haldina cardifolia</i> (Roxb.) Ridsd.	Rubiaceae	Haldu	Dhol and Mandal

9.	<i>Lagenaria leucantha</i> (Duch.) Rusby.	Cucurbitaceae	Tumbdi	Kukdia
10.	<i>Madhuca longifolia</i> (Koen.) Mac. var. <i>latifolia</i> (Roxb.) Chev.	Sapotaceae	Mahua	Dhol and Mandal
11.	<i>Mangifera indica</i> L.	Anacardiaceae	Mango	Dhol
12.	<i>Manilkara hexandra</i> (Roxb.) Dub.	Sapotaceae	Khirmi	Mandal
13.	<i>Phoenix sylvestris</i> (L.) Roxb.	Arecaceae	Khajur	Mandal
14.	<i>Tectona grandis</i> L.	Verbenaceae	Sagon	Dhak

CONCLUSION

Our studies shows that tribals of Dhar district are dependent upon the plant resources for making musical instruments, mentioning few of them are “Dhol, Mandal, Dhak, Dholak, flutes and Fefriya” which are specially used in Bhagoria, marriages and other festivals. Some musical instruments were observed photographed documented. Some plants conserve and manage biological diversity need to integrate the views, needs and indigenous knowledge of the local communities involved. Net needs specifically to contribute to its success. On the scientific level, pure ethnobotanical studies have to be included in wider interdisciplinary research, uniting as many disciplines of natural and social science for musical instruments. The main results of such research have to be made available in the local languages to be useful. On a long-term, only management and conservation as well as protected in the study areas.

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