



Ethnobotany of Butea

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Health is common theme in most cultures in fact all communities have their concept of health, as part of their culture among deninitions still used probably the oldest is that health in the “absence of disease”. In some culture, health and harmony are considered equivalent, harmony being defined as bearing at peace with the self and community good and cosmos.

Butea monosperma belong the family of fabaceae, also popularly known as flame of forest, Bastard teak, which is scattered throughout India, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Srilanka, Nepal, Myanmar. Butea is a traditional Indian medicinal tree that also serve as an ornamental tree due to its vibrant red flower. It appears to mostly be recommended as a general health tonic and for the treatment of liver disorders.

The potential uses for this plant seen wholly different forms its traditional uses as it has shown some potential antidiabetic effects in rats, Chopra & Chopra in 1933 but it most promising for the treatment of osteoporosis, A few flavonoid in this plant.

The seeds of this plant appear to have antifertility effect in female thought to be due to the ‘butin’ content. India has an age old system of medicine known as ayurvedic system along with some other traditional system such as sidda & Unani. Kamboj - 2000 elucidated in Upanishad, Vedas, charaka, astingo, sangraha, ashtango hardays (wealth of India- 1988), Sharma & Sharma- 2018.

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