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ARTICLE Folk Medicinal Plants Used by Local Herbalists in and around Rajshahi Metropolitan City, Bangladesh

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ARTICLE INFO	ABSTRACT
Article history Received: 1 April 2021 Accepted: 20 April 2021 Published Online: 15 May 2021	Folk medicinal plants used by local herbalists in and around Rajshahi metropolitan city were recorded. The study include 111 medicinal plants used to cure various diseases such as diarrhea, diabetes, toothache, fe- ver, worm, snake-bite, blood disease, cough, menstrual disease, wound, itches, chicken pox, constipation, dysentery, eczema, piles, sex problems, chir disease headehe greating correction herophilits problems,
Keywords: Folk medicinal plants Herbal drug development Rajshahi Bangladesh	skin diseases, headache, anemia, burning sensation, bronchitis, paralysis, jaundice, asthma,etc. Finally, this study shows that traditional medicine really contributes to the health care of the population and deserves to be accompanied. The identified medicinal plants will guide future research into natural substances for the development of improved traditional medicines.

1. Introduction

Traditional medicine as identified by the World Health Organization (WHO) "Total of knowledge, skills, and practices based on the theories, beliefs, and experiences indigenous to different cultures, whether explicable or not, used in the maintenance of health as well as in the prevention, diagnosis, improvement of treatment of physical and mental illness" ^[16].

The fact has proved that the ethnic communities around the world owning their own culture based on that they developed their system of medical practices, which are being addressed as folk and ethno-medicines. There are numerous medicinal plants available in their surroundings and those herbs are being used by the tribal community as medicine for curing their diseases. The local people lived in a forest environment for many generations and developed their knowledge of the flora and fauna of the forest that is known as folk or indigenous knowledge. At the same time, they have developed folk beliefs based on traditional practices that helped them in curing various forms of diseases. The beliefs and practices related to curing disease which are based on unwritten knowledge are carried from generation to generation through the practitioners ^[7]. Various research work on traditional medicinal plants was carried out in Bangladesh by ^[2,4,5,11,12,15,17-31]. The present document was undertaken to record the traditional medicinal plants used by local herbalists in and around Rajshahi metropolitan city, Bangladesh.

2. Materials and Methods

2.1 Study Area

Rajshahi is a metropolitan city, and a major urban,

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commercial and educational centre of Bangladesh. It is also the administrative seat of eponymous division and district. Located on the north bank of the Padma River, near the Bangladesh-India border, the city has a population of over 763,952 residents. The city is surrounded by the satellite towns of Nowhata and Katakhali, which together build an urban agglomeration of about 1 million populations. Arguably Rajshahi is the most clean and green among the cities in Bangladesh^[3].

2.2 Methodology

The present investigation focused on traditional medicinal plants in and around Rajshahi metropolitan city, Bangladesh during July 2017 to December 2018 to collect information on the medicinal uses of different plant species. A total of 111 species belonging to 102 genera under 55 families were recorded. Medicinal information was obtained through semi-structured interviews with knowledgeable traditional healers. A total of 19 local herbalists having an age range 32-78 years were interviewed using semi-structured interviewed method ^[32] Plant parts with either flower of fruits collected using traditional herbarium techniques to make voucher specimens for documentation and voucher specimens have been preserved at Herbarium of Rajshahi University.

2.3 Identification

Collected specimens have been critically examined, studied and identified. Identifications have been confirmed by consulting standard literatures ^[8,14,1]. Nomenclature has been updated following recent literature ^[1,9,13].

3. Results and Discussion

Folk medicinal plants used by local herbalists in and around Rajshahi metropolitan city, Bangladesh was carried out from July 2017 to December 2018. A total of 111 plant species under 102 genera and 55 families were recorded. Distribution of angiosperm species in the families shows variation. The family Fabaceae and Euphorbiaceae represented by 6 species each. Each of Moraceae and Apocynaceae is represented by 5 species. Each of Asteraceae and Amaranthaceae is represented by 4 species. Each of Lamiaceae, Acanthaceae Zingiberaceae, Liliaceae, Piperaceae Malvaceae, Caesalpiniaceae, Combretaceae, Rutaceae, Solanaceae and Verbenaceae is represented by 3 species. Each of Lauraceae, Cucurbitaceae, Mimosaceae, Myrtaceae, Anacardiaceae, Oxalidaceae, Apiaceae, Convolvulaceae, Araceae and Poaceae is represented by 2 species. A single species in each was recorded by 30 families (Table 1). Out of 111 species, 41.73% species were used in herbs, followed by 17.92% shrubs, 7.79% climbers and 31.27% trees (Figure 1). For each species local name, scientific name, family, habit, ailments, treatment process and part (s) used are provided.

Use of plant parts as medicine shows variation. Leaves (49.89%) are the leading part used in a majority of medicinal plans followed by Bark (15.92%), fruits (19.70%), root (17.32%), seed (12.88%), stem (8.68%), whole plants (16.82%), flowers (3.53%), leaf stalk (0.99%), rhizome (2.53%), gum (3.53%), petiole (2.53%), tuber (1.65%), bulb (1.65%), latex (1.65%), bud (0.99%) (Figure 2). The survey has also recorded 66 categories of uses of 111 medicinal plants. Out of 66 diseases, fever (20.82%), dysentery (18.11%), cough (11.83%), diarrhea (9.99%), asthma (8.32%), diabetes (7.89%), skin disease (7.50%) and jaundice (6.53%) (Figure 3).

The result of this information showed that these local people of study area still depend on medicinal uses of plants for the treatment of burning sensation, diabetes, bronchitis, weakness, insects and snake bite, high blood pressure, asthma, passing of semen, gonorrhea, skin diseases, jaundice, headache, glandular swelling, diarrhea, acidity, dry cough, cancer, dysentery, scabies, menstrual disorder, tumors, leucoderma, catarrhal fever, chronic fever, malarial fever, toothache, burning wounds, stomachic, stomachache, piles, fever, epilepsy, gout, rheumatism, traumatic injury, abortion, vomiting, bleeding gums, ulcer, anemia, ring worm, hiccup, pneumonia, gastritis, tuberculosis, arthritis, heart disease, abdominal pain, hypertension, paralysis, constipation, baldness, sore, dyspepsia, chicken pox, pain, pyorrhea, eczema, cholera, flatulence, scurvy, intoxication, indigestion, whooping cough, digestive system disorders, liver disorders, intestinal worms, worms, gastrointestinal disorders, edemas, alterative and attendant, wound and injury, menstruation, cold, lung infection, dysuria, edema, bleeding, heavy bleeding, kidney, eye inflammation, boils, mouth freshener, bruises, high cholesterol, dry skin, hepatitis, hair fall, cough and many types of diseases.

Most of the species were used for the treatment of different diseases are *Polyalthia longifolia*, *Cinnamomum tamala*, *Litsea glutinosa*, *Peperomia pellucida*, *Piper betel*, *Piper longum*, *Kalanchoe pinnata*, *Nigella sativa*, *Nymphaea nouchali*, *Tinospora cordifolia*, *Argemone mexicana*, *Ficus religiosa*, *Ficus benghalensis*, *Ficus hispida*, *Ficus racemosa*, *Artocarpus heterophyllus*, *Boerhaavia diffusa*, *Amaranthus spinosus*, *Amaranthus viridis*, *Achyranthes aspera*, *Enhydra fluctuans*, *Basella alba*, *Glinus oppositifolius*, *Polygonum hydropiper*, *Aborma augusta*, *Bombax ceiba*, *Hibiscus rosa-sinensis*, *Abelmoschus esculentus*, *Sida cordifolia*, *Coccinia grandis*, *Momordica* charantia, Brassica napus, Moringa oleifera, Mimusops elengi, Diospyros malabarica, Acacia nilotica, Mimosa pudica, Cassia fistula, Tamarindus indica, Saraca indica, Cajanus cajan, Lablab purpureus, Erythrina variegata, Dalbergia sissoo, Butea monosperma, Clitoria ternetea, Lowsonia inermis, Punica granatum, Psidium guajava, Syzygium cumini, Terminalia arjuna, Terminalia chebula, Terminalia belerica, Acalypha indica, Euphorbia hirta, Jatropha gossypifolia, Phyllanthus emblica, Phyllanthus reticulatus, Ricinus communis, Cissus quadrangularis, Litchi chinensis, Mangifera indica, Spondias pinnata, Azadirachta indica, Citrus aurantifolia, Aegle marmelos, Feronia limonia, Averrhoa carambola, Oxalis corniculata, Centella asiatica, Coriandrum sativum, Swertia chirata, Catharanthus roseus, Rauvolfia serpentina, Alostonia scolaris, Nerium indicum, Carissa carandus, Calotropis procera, Datura metel, Solanum nigrum, Capsicum frutescens, Ipomoea aquatica, Ipomoea batatas, Heliotropium indicum, Clerodendrum viscosum, Vitex negundo, Lantana camara, Ocimum sanctum, Leucas aspera, Leonurus sibiricus, Nyctanthes arbortristis, Andrographis paniculata, Justicia gendarussa, Adhatoda vasica, Tridax procumbens, Wedelia chinensis, Tagetes erecta, Eclipta alba, Areca catechu, Colocasia esculenta, Alocasia indica, Cyperus rotundus, Cynodon dactylon, Saccharum officinarum, Ananas comosus, Musa sapientum, Curcuma longa, Zingiber officinale, Amomum subulantum, Allium cepa, Allium sativum, Aloe barbadensis (Table 1). The collected information is comparable with the result of other studies in Bangladesh like ^[2,4,5,10,11,12,15,6,17-31].

Bangla name	Botanical name and Family name	Habit	Parts Used	Ailments & Treatment Process
Ada	Zingiber officinale Roscoe (Zingiberaceae)	Herb	Rhizome	Indigestion: Rhizome powder is taken internally ^[2] . Cold and Cough: Corm juice is taken ^[5] . Cattarhal fever: Ginger juice mixed with leaf juice of <i>Ocimum sanctum</i> and honey is taken orally ^[29] . Gout: Warm paste of rhizome with cotton seed is applied externally ^[28] .
Akando	Calotropis procera (Aiton) W.T. Aiton (Asclepiadaceae)	Shrub	Leaf	Arthiritis: Warm mustard oil with salt and leaves are taken externally ^[26] . Paralysis: Warm leaf paste is taken externally ^[28] . Rheumatism: Gums mixed with <i>Brassica napus</i> oil used internally ^[22] .
Alach	Amomum subulatum Roxb. (Zingiberaceae)	Herb	Seed, Fruit, pod	Mouth freshener, Nausea, motion sickness & Cough: Pow- der of seeds is taken orally ^[10, 11] .
Anarosh	Ananas comosus (L.) Merr. (Bromeliaceae)	Herb	Flower, Leaf, Fruit	Fever: Fruits are taken internally ^[17] . Abortion: Young flower extract is taken internally ^[21] .
Apang	Achyranthes aspera L. (Amaranthaceae)	Herb	Stem, Leaf, Root	Jaundice: Juice of leaves is taken internally ^[24] . Tonsillitis: The crushed leaf mixed with water and filtrate is taken ^[19] . Traumatic injury: Root decoction is taken internally ^[5] .
Arhar	Cajanus cajan (L.) Millsp. (Fabaceae)	Shrub	Leaf, Seed	Piles: Leaf paste is taken ^[17] . Jaundice and pneumonia: Leaf juice is taken orally ^[20] . Bowels: Seed paste is taken externally ^[25] . Mother milk secretion: Decoction leaves and seeds are taken orally ^[31] .
Amra	Spondias pinnata (L.f.) Kurz. (Anacardiaceae)	Tree	Bark, Root	Diarrhea, Dysentery and Vomiting: Infusion of the bark is taken ^[30] . Gonorrhea: Decoction of the bark is taken orally ^[23] . Menstruation: Roots are use in regulating menstruation ^[24] .
Aakh	Saccharum officinarum L. (Poaceae)	Shrub	Stem	Jaundice: Stem juice is taken internally ^[25] .
Arjun	Terminalia arjuna (Roxb.) Wight & Arn. (Combretaceae)	Tree	Bark	Blood pressure & Heart disease: Extract of stem bark is taken orally ^[17] .
Amm	Mangifera indica L. (Anacardiaceae)	Tree	Gum, Leaf	Fever, Diarrhea and Toothache: Decoction of the leaves is taken internally ^[18] . Skin disease: Gum paste is used externally ^[22] .
Amrul	Oxalis corniculata L. (Oxalidaceae)	Herb	Leaf	Stomach pain: Decoction of leaves mixed with water is orally taken for the treatment of stomach pain ^[27] . Scurvy: Leaves juice is taken orally to cure scurvy ^[29] .
Amloki	Phyllanthus emblica L. (Euphorbiaceae)	Tree	Fruit, Bark, Leaf	Diabetes: Green fruits and cumbered dry fruits can be used for treatment of diabetes ^[23] . Stomach problem: Fruit powder and bark juice is taken orally ^[21] . Toothache problem: Young fruits are taken orally. Scurvy: Green fruit is taken internally ^[10] .

Table 1. Investigated medicinal plants used by the local herbalists in the study area

Bangla name	Botanical name and Family name	Habit	Parts Used	Ailments & Treatment Process
Ashok	Saraca indica L. (Caesalpiniaceae)	Tree	Bark, Root	Abortion: Powder of dried bark is taken internally ^[2] . Anemia Bark extracts mixed with 1 teaspoon sugar and 1 glass of mill is taken orally ^[27] . Dysentery: Root extracts mixed with wate is taken ^[31] .
Babla	Acacia nilotica (L.) Willd ex Delile (Mimosaceae)	Tree	Bark, Leaf, Bark	Bronchitis: Bark extracts is taken orally ^[21] . Dysentery: Pode are taken internally ^[11] . Leucoderma: Leaf decoction is taken ^[25] .
Badarlathi	<i>Cassia fistula</i> L. (Caesalpiniaceae)	Tree	Young Leaf, Fruit, Bark	Ringworms: Juice of young leaves is taken orally ^[24] . Gout Fruits pulp is taken ^[5] . Constipation: Leaf decoction is take orally ^[12] . Diabetes: Decoction of bark mixed with water i taken ^[17] .
Bhat	Clerodendrum viscosum Vent. (Verbenaceae)	Shrub	Leaf, Root	Asthma, tumors and skin diseases : Leaf and root paste is tak en externally ^[20] . Hair disease: Leaf paste is applied ^[23] .
Basak	Justicia adhatoda L. (Acanthaceae)	Shrub	Whole plant specially leaf	Cough and Fever: Leaf juice is taken internally ^[18] . Piles: The extract or juice of plant is used in bleeding piles ^[30] .
Bel	Aegle marmelos (L.) Correa (Rutaceae)	Tree	Fruit, Root	Stomachache: Unripe wood apple is made pieces and used in stomachache ^[4] . Constipation: Ripe wood apple is made juic and taken to cure constipation ^[10] . Diarrhea: Extract of root i taken. Heart disease: Root juice is taken internally ^[23] .
Bot	Ficus benghalensis L. (Moraceae)	Tree	Latex, Root, Bud	Rheumatic pain: Latex is applied externally ^[12] . Vomiting: <i>A</i> tip of the hanging roots crushed and mixed with water is used for obstinate vomiting ^[19] . Malaria: Grinding, decoction o young buds; taken orally for malaria ^[25] .
Bohera	Terminalia bellirica (Gaertn) Roxb. (Combretaceae)	Tree	Green fruit	Cough: Green fruit decoction is taken orally ^[26] .
Berela	<i>Sida cordifolia</i> L. (Malvaceae)	Herb	Whole plant	Asthma: 10 g root juice smeared and boiled in 4-5 cup o water till it comes to 2 cup, filtered and the decoction is taken twice daily for 1 month ^[27] . Bleeding Piles: 5-6 young leave are crushed and applied on the affected area at least 15-20 day ^[29] . Gonorrhea: 2-3 seedlings are boiled in a 1 liter of wate till it comes to 250 ml then the solution taken orally in early morning ^[19] . Rheumatism: 2-3 saplings are finely crushed mixed with little amount of mustered oil, boiled it and then the solution is taken orally for 4-5 days ^[22] .
Bherenda	Ricinus communis L. (Euphorbiaceae)	Shrub	Leaf, seed	Jaundice: Leaf juice is taken orally ^[30] . Dysentery: Juice of tender leaves mixed with sugar is orally taken to cure Dysentery ^[31] . Constipation: Seed oil is used internally for the treatment of constipation ^[23] .
Bokul	Mimusops elengi L. (Sapotaceae)	Tree	Stem-bark	Swelling: Stem bark decoction is taken ^[12] . Asthma: Flower smell is used to cure asthma by smoking ^[19] .
Chotra	Lantana camara L. (Verbenaceae)	Shrub	Leaf	Wound: Grind the leaves with turmeric and salt and apply it twice a week to the wounds ^[24] .
Chirata	Swertia chirata L. (Gentiana- ceae)	Herb	Whole plant	Fever: Whole plant juice is taken internally ^[20] . Vomiting Root juice mixed with honey is taken orally ^[21] .
Chitki	<i>Phyllanthus reticulatus</i> Poir. (Euphorbiaceae)	Shrub	Leaf, Root	Diarrhea: 100 g leaves are soaked into 3 cups of water for overnight and then administered internally ^[12] . Malaria: 20 gm root is boiled with 4-5 cups of water till it comes to 1 cup and half of the liquid is administered orally in early morning and other half in the evening for 4-5 days ^[22] . Epilepsy: 10 gm roots are crushed and soaked in a 1 liter of water for 10-12 hours and then the solution taken 4-5 days ^[27] .
Chatim	Alstonia scholaris (L.) R. Br. (Apocynaceae)	Tree	Bark, Gum, Root	Ulcers: The milky juice of gum is taken orally to cure ulcers ^[26] . Cancer: Root extracts is taken orally to cure cancer ^[28] Rheumatism: Dry bark, salt, and <i>Piper nigrum</i> crushed then with water and made a paste used for rheumatism ^[23] . Gastric problem: Bark (50 mg) is mixed with sufficient salt and ad ministered once daily for 5 days ^[19] .
Dherosh	Abelmoschus esculentus (L.) Moench (Malvaceae)	Herb	Fruit	Stomachic: Water, sugar mixed with fruit juice is taken ^[25] Female weakness: Young fruits use as a vegetable at lunch regularly for a month ^[26] . Hair fall: Paste of young fruits used on head regularly ^[28] . Constipation: Young fruits use as a vege etable regularly ^[12] .

Bangla name	Botanical name and Family name	Habit	Parts Used	Ailments & Treatment Process
Dhone	Coriandrum sativum L. (Apiaceae)	Herb	Seed, Whole Plant	Asthma: Whole plant extract is taken ^[2] . Sneezing: Coriander seeds mixed with ginger, jeera, pepper and milk make juice, in taken internally ^[25] . Cold & Fever: Whole plant juice mixed with salt is taken ^[27] .
Durba ghas	Cynodon dactylon (L.) Pers. (Poaceae)	Herb	Whole plant	Stop bleeding: Whole plant paste is taken externally ^[11] .
Dalim	Punica granatum L. (Punicaceae)	Tree	Fruit, stem, Leaf, Seed	Dysentery: Dried fruit decoction is taken ^[4] . Dry cough: Dry leaf powder is taken orally ^[18] . Stomach pain: Three to four young twigs are eaten with little salt twice a day for a week ^[20] Heart and throat pain: The seeds juice is considered a tonic for the heart and throat ^[12] .
Debdaru	Polyalthia longifolia (Sonn.) Thw. (Annonaceae)	Tree	Bark	Fever: The bark is used as a febrifuge in the treatment of feve ^[26] .
Dudhia	Euphorbia hirta L. (Euphorbiaceae)	Herb	Whole plant	Dysentery: Whole plant is used to make paste and taken a times a day to cure dysentery ^[28] . Bronchitis: Grinding decoction of whole plant is taken to cure bronchitis once daily for a week ^[31] .
Dhutra	Datura metel L. (Solanaceae)	Shrub	Leaf	Rheumatic pain: Paste of leaves is taken externally ^[4] . Asthma: Leaf smoked is taken ^[10] . Skin disease: Datura and Neem Leaf paste is applied externally ^[23] .
Gaikhura	Amaranthus viridis L. (Amaranthaceae)	Herb	Whole plant	Acidity: Leaves are boiled with roots and smashed then taken ^[17] . Leprosy: Whole plant juice taken internally ^[29] .
Genda	Tagetes erecta L. (Asteraceae)	Herb	Whole plant	Bleeding: Leaf paste is taken externally ^[12] . Pain: Leaves are smashed and the paste is applied on the blotch after sligh warming to make it lighter to burst out and reduces the pain ^[31] Tuberculosis: About 250 mg leaves powder mixed with little amount of goat-milk and have to be taken ^[23] . Dysentery: 2 teaspoonful's leaves juice mixed with 2 teaspoonfuls's of sugar is taken ^[25] .
Ghrito kumari	Aloe vera (L.) Burm. f. (Liliaceae)	Herb	Leaf	Paralysis: Leaf extract is taken orally ^[18] . Jaundice: Juice or leaf is taken internally ^[24] . Weakness: Juice of leaf mixed with sugar is taken ^[22] . Skin care: Leaf paste is taken externally ^[5] Hair fall: Juice of leaves is used for hair fall solution and mode silky and shines ^[26] .
Gaab	<i>Diospyros malabarica</i> (Desr.) Kostel. (Ebenaceae)	Tree	Fruit, Leaf, Stem	Dyspepsia: About 15 mg fruit powder macerated with little amount of water to make a paste and then taken orally twice daily for 3-4 days ^[30] . Cough: Approx. 2 gm of leaves powde is boiled in 5 cup of water till it come to the 2 cup than half o the liquid is administered orally in early morning and other in the evening for 7 days ^[31] .
Gima shak	Glinus oppositifolius (L.) Aug. DC. (Molluginaceae)	Herb	Leaf	Fever: Fried leaves are eaten to cure several fevers ^[21] . Body pain: Juice of leaves is orally taken to relief from body pain ^[17] Earache: Castor oil and whole plant warm juice is taken ^[11] .
Guloncho	<i>Tinospora cordifolia</i> (Thunb.) Miers (Menispermaceae)	Climber	Stem, Leaf Stalk	Passing of semen: Stem juice mixed with milk is taken orally Diabetes: Powder obtained from feaf stalk r mixed with neen paste is taken ^[31,23] . Jaundice: Leaf juice is taken orally ^[26] Pain and Edema: The plant oil is effective in reducing pair and edema ^[28] .
Hatisur	Heliotropium indicum L. (Boraginaceae)	Herb	Leaf	Dog bite: Leaf juice is taken externally ^[25] . Insects bite: Leat juice mixed with 5 gm <i>Ricinus communis</i> oil is taken externally ^[24,11] .
Haritaki	<i>Terminalia chebula</i> Retz. (Combretaceae)	Tree	Seed, Fruit	Vomiting: Seed powder mixed with honey is applied orally ^[22] Dysentery: Fruit powder mixed with hot water is taken ^[27] .
Harjora	Cissus quadrangularis L. (Vitaceae)	Climber	Whole plant	Irregular menstruation: Juice obtained from stem is taken internally ^[20] . Stomachic: Stem paste is taken internally ^[12] Indigestion: Juice of leaves are mixed with water and orally used for indigestion ^[18] . Piles: Juice of leaves are orally used for recovery of piles ^[17] .
Helencha	<i>Enhydra fluctuans</i> (Lour.) Spreng. Asteraceae	Herb	Whole plant	Fever: Curry made from whole plant is taken ^[10] .

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Bangla name	Botanical name and Family name	Habit	Parts Used	Ailments & Treatment Process
Holud	Curcuma longa L. (Zingiberaceae)	Herb	Rhizome, Flower	Eczema: Rhizome paste is taken externally ^[19] . Dysentery Powder made from rhizome mixed with hot rice, mustard oi and table salt is taken ^[23] . Gonorrhea: Paste of flower is taken ^[18] . Gastric problem: Fresh rhizome chewing with table salt ^[21]
Jagath madan	Justicia gendarussa Burm. f. (Acanthaceae)	Shrub	Leaf	Headache: Leaf is covered with mustard oil then that leaf is put on the forehead ^[5,18,31] .
Jagdumur	Ficus racemosa L. (Moraceae)	Tree	Fruit	Dry cough: Curry made from young fruit is taken internally ^{[24} Asthma: Fresh fruit mixed with honey is taken ^[21] . Diabetes Young dry fruit powder is taken orally ^[12] .
Joba	Hibiscus rosa-sinensis L. (Malvaceae)	Shrub	Flower	Burning wound: Paste of flower is used for burning wound ^[11] Irregular menstruations: Paste of flower mixed with water orally treated twice daily for two weeks ^[23] . Cooling and as tringent: Powder obtained from flower buds mixed with water is taken internally ^[26] . Hair treatment: Paste of flower user orally for hair treatment ^[27] .
Jamalkota	Jatropha curcas L. (Euphorbiaceae)	Shrub	Leaf, Seeds, Gums, Stems,	Fever: Juice made from Jamalgota leaf, lemon leaf and ata leaf mixed with hot water is taken ^[25] . Worms: Paste made from seeds is taken internally ^[28] . Cancer: Decoctions of leaves ar used for anti-cancer ^[29] . Constipation: Gum mixed with liquit food and orally treated ^[22] .
Jam	<i>Syzygium cumini</i> (L.) Skeels. (Myrtaceae)	Tree	Bark, Seed, Fruit	Asthma: Bark decoction is taken internally ^[24] . Diabetes Seed paste is taken with sugar or a pinch of salt, fruits extract taken daily against diabetes ^[31,23] .
Kalomegh	Andrographis paniculata (Burm.f.) Nees. (Acanthaceae)	Herb	Leaf	Fever, headache, diarrhea, and cholera: Juice obtained from leaves is taken internally ^[24] . Lung infections: Decoction of leaf is taken orally ^[21] . Leprosy: Paste of leaf is taken external ly ^[25] .
Kamranga	Averrhoa carambola L. (Oxalidaceae)	Tree	Fruit, Leaf	Piles: After slicing the star fruit it has to be boiled in ope sunlight for 1 week and to make dry powder out of it. Then 1. gm of that powder of star fruit has to be taken with one glass of water twice every day ^[17] . Fever: 2gm dry powder of star fruileaves has to be taken with 1.2 cup of water every day mornin and evening for ³ / ₄ days ^[20] . Dysentery: In an intense stage of these ailments 1 teaspoonful of extract or juice of ripens star fruit has to be taken to improve the situation ^[31] . Liver pain: 3-teaspoonful of ripen star fruit juice to be taken with water to improve this condition ^[21] .
Karamcha	Carissa carandas L. (Apocynaceae)	Shrub	Fruit, Root, bark	Diabetes: Root bark decoction is taken orally ^{[22}]. Wound: Decoction of root bark is orally taken internally ^[12] .
Katanotey	Amaranthus spinosus L. (Amaranthaceae)	Herb	Whole plant	Toothache: Whole plant decoction is taken ^[23] . Dysentery Leaf juice is taken internally ^[10] . Wounds: Leaf paste is take externally ^[31] .
Kathal	Artocarpus heterophyllus Lam. (Moraceae)	Tree	Root, Leaf	Diarrhea: Decoction of roots is used internally in diarrhea ^{[2} Skin disease: Yong leaves paste used regularly on infecte skin ^[5] .
Kalokeshi	<i>Eclipta alba</i> (L.) Hassk. (Asteraceae)	Herb	Whole plant	Diarrhea: Leaf juice mixed with sugar or honey is taken ^[10] Constipation: Pounded leaf mixed with cold water is taken ^[11] Hair treatment: Leaf paste is applied externally ^[5] .
Kochu	<i>Colocasia esculenta</i> (L.) Schott. (Araceae)	Herb	Leaf, Petiole	Stop bleeding: Leaf juice taken externally ^[17] . Tumors & Cancer: Leaf juice is taken internally ^[30] .
Korobi	Nerium oleander L. (Apocynaceae)	Tree	Leaf, Root bark	Ulcer & Joints pain: Root bark paste is taken externally ^[25] Insect bite & Swellings: Young leaf decoction is taken externally ^[18] .
Kola	Musa sapientum L. (Musaceae)		Stem, Bark	Stop bleeding: Stem juice is taken ^[11] . Snake bite: Bark juic is taken externally ^[18] .
Kalijeeri	<i>Nigella sativa</i> L. (Ranunculaceae)	Herb	Seed	Blood pressure: Seed oil is taken orally ^[20] . Asthma: Blac seed is taken internally ^[31] .
Korolla	<i>Momordica charantia</i> L. (Cucurbitaceae)	Climber	Whole plant	Colic and fever: Whole plant juice is taken ^[2] . Diabetes: Juic of the whole plant orally taken to treated diabetes. The leave juice is taken orally daily for diabetes ^[12] . Headache: Roo paste is used in headache ^[21] . Stomachic: Cooked fruits used a stomachic ^[30] .

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Bangla name	Botanical name and Family name	Habit	Parts Used	Ailments & Treatment Process
Kolmi shak	Ipomoea aquatica Forssk. (Convolvulaceae)	Climber	Whole plant	Jaundice and Bronchitis: Dry leaf powder mixed with columnative water is taken orally ^[24] . Fever, Anthelmintic, Carminative Leprosy, and Liver complaints: Cooked vegetables are taken orally ^[31] .
Kotbel	Feronia acidissima L. (Rutaceae)	Tree	Stem, Leaf, Fruit	Piles: Paste prepared from stem bark is applied externally ^[26] Vomiting: Leaves juice is orally taken to control vomiting ^[28] Heart disease: Fruits juice is orally taken to help heart disease and digestion ^[18] .
Khoksha dumur	Ficus hispida L.f. (Moraceae)	Tree	Fruit	Diabetes: Juice of fruit mixed with water is taken orally ^{[22} Jaundice: Fruit decoction is applied ^[26] .
Lajjaboti	Mimosa pudica L. (Mimosaceae)	Herb	Root, Leaf	Diarrhea: Root paste is taken ^[4] . Piles: Root juice is taken externally ^[18] . Snake bites: Root juice mixed with raw cow mil is taken internally ^[20] . Muscular pain: Decoction of leaf mixe with water is taken ^[21] .
Lebu	<i>Citrus aurantifolia</i> (Christm.) Swingle (Rutaceae)	Shrub	Fruit	Catarrhal fever: Fruit juice mixed with honey is taken orall ^[24] . Apetite: Has to eat by making lemonade or may be take with rice ^[21] . Nausea: Juice of fruits is taken internally ^[25] Stomachache: Fruit juice mixed with water and taken it ever morning in empty stomachache ^[23] .
Luchipata	Peperomia pellucida Kunth. (Piperaceae)	Herb	Leaf	Headache: Crushed leaf is applied externally ^[12] . Abdomina pains and Fever: Leaf juice is taken ^[26] .
Litchu	Litchi chinensis Sonn. (Sapindaceae)	Tree	Fruit	Heart, brain and liver: Fruits are tonic to the heart, brain an liver ^[28] .
Mehedi	Lawsonia inermis L. (Lythraceae)	Shrub	Leaf	Skin disease: Leaf paste is taken externally ^[20] . Hair tread ment: Leaves pastes are valuable external used in hair fail solution and make hair silky and shine ^[23] .
Madar	<i>Erythrina orientalis</i> Murr. (Fabaceae)	Tree	Leaf, Root	Joints pain: Paste of leaves is applied externally to relief pai of the joints ^[12] . Earache: Leaves juice is poured into the ea to relief earache ^[21] . Toothache: Leaves juice is used to relie toothache ^[18] . Nematode: Extract of roots is taken once dail as much as patient can to control ^[29] .
Mankochu	Alocasia macrorrhizos (L.) G. Don. (Araceae)	Herb	Fruit, Petiole	Snakebite: Paste of petiole used in affected area treated for snake bite ^[5] . Fever: Fried of fruit is taken to cure several fe vers ^[17] .
Mistialo	Ipomoea batatas (L.) Lam. (Convolvulaceae)	Climber	Tuber, Leaf	Edema: At least10-12 leaves are paste and used in the affecte area for at least 1 month ^[25] . Dysentery: Sweet potato graine with appropriate amount of water and 1 teaspoonful filtered extract of it has to be taken 15-20 minutes alternately to treat th disease ^[28] . Skin disease: Tuber paste is taken externally ^[29] .
Mohavringaraj	Wedelia chinensis (Osbeck) Merr. (Asteraceae)	Herb	Leaf	Alopecia: Leaf paste is taken externally ^[5] . Stop vomiting Leaf juice mixed with salt is taken orally ^[29] .
Morich	Capsicum frutescens L. (Solanaceae)	Herb	Leaf, Fruit	Night blindness: Juice of leaves is used to cure night blindness ^[17] . Headache: Leaves are used in headache on forehea ^[28] . Blood dysentery: Chili powder mixed with water and frie with hot rice is taken internally ^[26] . Mouth disease: Young fru paste is taken ^[25] .
Muktajhuri	Acalypha indica L. (Euphorbiaceae)	Herb	Leaf	Ringworm: Leaf juice is taken orally ^[24] . Snake bite: Leap paste is applied externally ^[20] .
Mutha	Cyperus rotundus L. (Cyperaceae)	Herb	Tuber, Root	Fever: Fresh root are crushed and boiled in 5 cup of water reduced to 3 cup then filtered it and the decoction has to be taket twice per day ^[31] . Diarrhea: About 5 gm of crushed root ar soaked overnight in 3 cup of water and taken twice daily fo 3-5 days ^[26] . Wounds & Sores: Macerated root paste is taket externally ^[22] .
Nayantara	Catharanthus roseus (L.) G. Don. (Apocynaceae)	Herb	Whole plant	Leukemia: Whole plant is plucked and made juice which help in leukemia ^[2,5,26] .
Neem	Azadirachta indica A. Juss. (Meliaceae)	Tree	Leaf	Chicken pox: Leaf paste mixed warm water is taken externall ^[17] . Jaundice: Juice of leaf is taken ^[28] . Pyorrhea: Leaf decortion is taken ^[11] . Skin disease: Paste of leaf is taken externall ^[29]
Nishinda	<i>Vitex negundo</i> L. (Verbenaceae)	Shrub	Leaf	Headache: Tonic obtained from leaf is taken ^[18] . Catarrha fever: Leaf decoction mixed with long pepper is taken ^[12] .

Bangla name	Botanical name and Family name	Habit	Parts Used	Ailments & Treatment Process
Oporajita	Clitoria ternetea L. (Fabaceae)	Climber	Root, Leaf	Throat pain & Swelling: Leaf paste is taken externally ^[27] Tuberculosis: Root decoction is taken orally ^[27] . Headach Leaf paste is taken externally ^[31] .
Piaj	Allium cepa L. (Liliaceae)	Herb	Bulb	Cold & Cough: Warm bulb juice along with <i>Brassica napu</i> oil is taken by massage of the whole body to cure commo cold, cough ^[28] . Headache: Warm blub juice along with <i>Bria sica napus</i> oil is applied on head to cure headache ^[30] . Snal bite: Macerated bulb juice is applied on the affected area for snake bite ^[10] .
Palash	Butea monosperma (Lam.) Taub. (Fabaceae)	Tree	Flower, Leaf, Seed	Diarrhea: Flower infusion is given ^[12] . Urinary diseas Flower juice mined with milk is orally taken to cure urina complaints ^[25] . Body toxin: Flower is used to remove boo toxins ^[23] .
Pakur	Ficus religiosa L. (Moraceae)	Tree	Fruit	Asthma: The dried fruit, pulverized and taken in water for for night removes asthma ^[2] . Dry cough: Fruits extracts or cooke vegetable are taken orally for dry cough ^[11] .
Pathorkuchi	Kalanchoe pinnata (Lam.) Pers. (Crassulaceae)	Herb	Whole plant	Wounds, boils and insect bite: Leaf paste is taken external [23]
Pepulte	Litsea glutinosa (Lour.) C.B. Rob. (Lauraceae)	Tree	Leaf, Bark	Diarrhea and dysentery: Bark juice is taken internally ^[31] .
Punarnava	Boerhaavia diffusa L. (Nyctaginaceae)	Herb	Root, leaf	Diuretic: The root paste mixed with water is orally applied a diuretic twice daily ^[24] . Asthma: Decoctions of the roots ar leaves are taken in moderate doses to cure asthma ^[27] .
Puishak	Basella alba L. (Basellaceae)	Climber	Leaf, Root	Constipation: Leaf juice is taken orally ^[29] . Toothache: Ro is applied internally ^[24] . Burning sensation: Leaves paste used for burning sensation ^[12] .
Pan	Piper betel L. (Piperaceae)	Climber	Leaf	Phlegm: Leaves serves as a natural expectorant and aids easy removal of phlegm ^[30] . Killing lice and cough: Leaf jui helps in killing lice and in reducing cough ^[31] .
Pipul	Piper longum L. (Piperaceae)	Climber	Leaf, Bark	Weakness: Bark extract mixed with water is used in the main nade for body weakness ^[24] . Dyspepsia: 250 mg (leaf) dust this plant has to be taken with one glass of water for 1 weak ^[25] . Asthma: 250 mg leaves dust of this plant mixed with water taken internally ^[25] . Rheumatism: 250 mg leaves powder this plant mixed with 1 teaspoonful of ginger extract has to 1 taken 2 times daily ^[28] .
Piyara	Psidium guajava L. (Myrtaceae)	Tree	Leaf, Bark	Diarrhea: Leaf and stem bark decoction is taken internally ^[3] Mouth wash: Young leaf is taken ^[27] . Dysentery: Paste of romixed with water is taken orally ^[17] .
Rasun	Allium sativum L. (Liliaceae)	Herb	Bulb	Cough and fever: Bulb extract is taken orally ^[29] . Eczema an scabies: Bulb paste is taken externally ^[31] . High blood pre sure: Garlic bulb mixed with hot rice is taken internally ^[19] .
Roktodron	Leonurus sibiricus L. (Lamiaceae)	Herb	Whole plant	Menstrual disease and Uterus contraction: Dried who plant is taken internally ^[18] . Febrifuge: Decoction of root at leaves are taken orally ^[12] .
Setodron	<i>Leucas aspera</i> L. (Lamiaceae)	Herb	Leaf, Root	Snake-bite: Macerated leaf is administered orally ^[18] . Rhe matism: Leaf juice is taken internally ^[12] . Stomach pain: Le extract is taken ^[26] . Psoriasis and skin disease: Leaves past are orally used to care psoriasis and other skin disease ^[29] .
Shim	Lablab purpureus (L.) Sweet. (Fabaceae)	Climber	Leaf	Skin disease: Leaf paste is taken externally ^[21] . Burning se sation: Leaf paste is used internally ^[27] .
Sisso	Dalbergia sissoo Roxb. (Fabaceae)	Tree	Leaf, Bark	Hemorrhage: Dried bank is used as a local astringent at haemostatic in various forms of hemorrhage ^[23] . Gonorrhe Decoction of leaves is taken orally to acute stage of gonorrh ^[19] . Dysentery: Leaf decoction is taken internally ^[17] .
Shialkata	Argemone mexicana L. (Papaveraceae)	Herb	Root, Latex	Skin cracks: Latex and root paste is taken externally ^[21] . Jau dice: Latex is taken internally ^[11] . Tumors and cancer: Lat is used for tumors, cancer ^[2] . Malarial fever: Shiailkata romixed with betel leaf juice is taken orally ^[20] .
Shimul	Bombax ceiba L. (Bombacaceae)	Tree	Gum	Burning sensation: Paste of gum is taken externally ^[18] . So ual weakness: Young root extracts mixed with boiled water taken ^[5] . Rheumatism: Root bark decoction is taken interna ^[10] .

Bangla name	Botanical name and Family name	Habit	Parts Used	Ailments & Treatment Process
Sorisha	Brassica napus L. (Brassicaceae)	Herb	Seed	Hair treatment: Seed oil is boiled slightly and externally use in hair. It makes hair strong and shines ^[27] . Sleep: Seed oi used on head to for good sleep ^[23] . Skin cracks: To avoid ski cracks seed oil applied on skin ^[19] . Gout: Plaster of mustard i used in gout ^[12] . Cough and Neuralgic: Warm seed oil is take externally ^[29] .
Supari	Areca catechu L. (Arecaceae)	Tree	Seed, Root	Teaniasis: Crushed of fresh seeds is taken orally ^[25,29] . Bloo Dysentery: 4 gm fresh seed are crushed and has to be boile in 3 cup of water until it comes to 1 cup then filtered it and th decoction taken twice a day as a remedy against blood dyser tery ^[31,12] . Toothache: Equal amount of root powder and dr nut powder are to fry in the pots and make ash out of it. The the ash may be used for brushing the teeth as a remedy against toothache ^[29] . Sore: Fruit has to be dried in open sunlight an to make dry powder out of it. Then the powder applied on the affected area ^[23] .
Sarpogandha	Rauvolfia serpentina (L.) Benth ex Kurz.(Apocynaceae)	Herb	Root	Blood pressure and Dysentery: Extract obtained from root is taken internally ^[28] .
Shapla	<i>Nymphaea nouchali</i> Burm. f. (Nymphaeaceae)	Herb	Rhizom, Leaf	Dysentery: Dried rhizome powder mixed with water as use for dysentery ^[17] . Burning spot: Paste of leaves is used to re move burning spot ^[25] .
Sajna	<i>Moringa oliefera</i> Lam. (Moringaceae)	Tree	Leaf, Root, Fruits, Seed.	Blood pressure: Whole leaves cooked and eaten in high blood pressure ^[23] . Abortion: Paste obtained from root bark is take orally ^[11] . Fever and abdomen pain: Extract obtained from root is taken orally ^[20] . Rheumatism: Oil obtained from seed taken ^[28] . Diabetes: Leaves are dried on heat and if taken with rice regularly, help in controlling diabetes ^[12] . Cold & Cougl Leaf extract is taken internally ^[26] .
Sheuli	Nyctanthes arbor-tristis L. (Oleaceae)	Tree	Bark, Leaf, Roots	Chronic fever: Leaves juice mixed with honey is orally chronic fever ^[11] . Round and thread-worms: Root juice taken orally ^[5] . Rheumatic fever: Juice obtaine from bark taken orally ^[17] . Bronchitis: Leaf decoction is taken internal ^[23] .
Tulsi	Ocimum sanctum L. (Lamiaceae)	Herb	Leaf	Coughs, colds, fever and bronchitis: The leaves juice is take internally ^[23] .
Thankuni	Centella asiatica (L.) Urban. (Apiaceae)	Herb	Whole plant	Loose motion, Dysentery and Stomach pain: Whole pla paste is taken internally ^[17] . Tuberculosis: Whole plant juice taken internally ^[20] .
Tejpata	Cinnamomum tamala (Buch Ham.) Nees & Eberm. (Lauraceae)	Tree	Leaf, Bark	Diabetes: Leaf juice is taken internally ^[19] . Bronchitis: Oil of tained from leaf mixed with honey is taken internally ^[10] . Col & Cough: Dry leafs beady is use to smocking for few times cure cough caused cold ^[17] .
Telakucha	Coccinia grandis (L.) Voigt (Cucurbitaceae)	Climber	Leaf	Hypertension: Juice obtained from leaf is taken internally ^[1] Fever and Vomiting: Juice obtained from crushed leaf juin mixed with water is taken orally ^[26] .
Tetul	<i>Tamarindus indica</i> L. (Fabaceae)	Tree	Fruit, Seed, Leaf	Fever: Ripe fruit pulp is taken internally ^[4] . Gastritis: 200 g dry seed powder is boiled with 3 cups of water till to reduce cups and then taken orally twice daily for 7-9 days ^[25] . Bloo Dysentery: Leaf juice is taken orally ^[21] . Mouth diseas Boiled decoction of stem and bark is administered thrice for days to prevent mouth disease ^[28] .
Titbegun	Solanum nigrum L. (Solanaceae)	Herb	Leaf, Fruit	Dropsy: Leaf decoction is taken internally ^[12] . Ringworn Green fruit paste is taken orally ^[19] .
Tridhara	Tridax procumbens L. (Astera- ceae)	Herb	Leaf	Dysentery and Diarrhea: Juice obtained from leaf is taken ^[2] Bronchitis: Juice obtained from crushed leaf mixed with wat is applied internally ^[24] . Bleeding: Paste of crushed leaf is ta en externally ^[29] .
Ulot kambal	Abroma augusta L.f. (Sterculiaceae)	Shrub	Petiol, Seed	Weakness: Juice obtained from petiole mixed with sugar taken orally ^[26] . Stomach pain: Paste of seed mixed with wat is applied internally ^[31] .

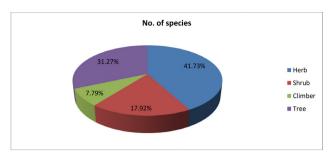


Figure 1. Investigated plant habit in the study area

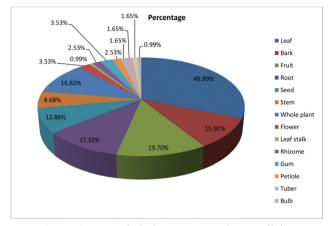


Figure 2. Recorded plant parts used as medicine

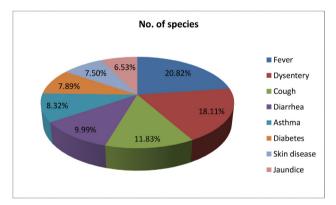


Figure 3. Investigated dominant diseases in the study area

4. Conclusions

The survey has recorded 66 categories of ailments of 111 medicinal species belonging to 55 families were recorded in the study area. Rural community's practitioners and older people of Rajshahi utilize a number of plant species grown around their homes for several medicinal uses. However, the younger generation by ignoring their ancestral traditional medicine is inclining towards the allopathic medicine. Since, several bioactive compounds are being extracted from traditional medicinal plants; they are in great demand in pharmaceutical industries. The photochemical an analysis and pharmacological investigations of traditional medicinally important plants by taking in view their proper conservation too, would help in developing novel drugs to treat ailments. The investigation also recorded important medicinal plants and how to use them to care for and treat various diseases.

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