

Review Article

PHARMACOLOGICAL AND MEDICINAL STUDY OF KACHNAR STEM BARK

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Bauhinia variegata L. (Family: Fabaceae), commonly known as Kachnar, is an important medicinal tree extensively used in Ayurveda, Unani, and traditional systems of medicine. Different parts of the plant, particularly the stem bark, flowers, leaves, and roots, possess significant therapeutic value because of the presence of bioactive phytochemicals such as flavonoids, tannins, glycosides, saponins, terpenoids, and steroids. Experimental studies have demonstrated that extracts of *Bauhinia variegata* exhibit anti-inflammatory, antioxidant, antimicrobial, antidiabetic, hepatoprotective, antiulcer, wound healing, and anticancer activities. The bark is a major ingredient of the classical Ayurvedic formulation Kanchanar Guggulu, which is traditionally prescribed for thyroid disorders, lymphadenopathy, cysts, and glandular swellings. Although numerous pharmacological investigations support its medicinal importance, well-designed clinical studies are still limited. Standardization of extracts, isolation of active constituents, and clinical validation are essential for future pharmaceutical development. This review summarizes the botanical profile, phytochemical composition, traditional applications, pharmacological properties, and future prospects of *Bauhinia variegata* based on available scientific literature.

Keywords: *Bauhinia variegata*, Kachnar, Stem Bark, Phytochemistry, Pharmacology, Medicinal Plant, Herbal Medicine.