

The Dependence of Andaman and Nicobar Island Tribal Communities on Herbal Remedies

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Abstract: The tribal people of the Andaman and Nicobar islands are neither 'primitive' nor living in the 'stone age'. Their way of life has not remained unchanged for thousands of years. Like all peoples, their cultures have been continuously evolving. There is no reason why the tribes cannot both survive and thrive, as long as their lands and resources are secure. The tribal people live in interior village deep inside dense forests and are dependent on many medicinal plants growing nearby. Living close to nature, the tribal people have acquired knowledge on the natural resources that exists around their habitat in the forest eco-system. These people have unique knowledge on use of different plant parts, their use in cure of ailment, and are using different formulations made out of plant parts in cure of ailments in primary health care. It is a part of their cultural practices and provides the means for maintaining health and preventing diseases among them. In India, about 1.5 million practitioners of herbal medicine use around 25,000 plant based formulations, of which only 10 percent are used in drug and pharmaceutical industries. The present paper explores, the Plant species used by the tribals of Andaman and Nicobar Island as Herbal Remedies.

Keywords- Union Territory, Herbal remedies, Field survey, Great Andamanese, Onges and Jarawa Tribal communities, Andaman And Nicobar Islands.

I. Introduction

This Baby Island of Bay of Bengal was previously known by name Angamdn. Having hostile tribes to whom one unable to reach easily the Andaman and Nicobar island have been enveloped by many (difficult to understand) secrets. Covered by dense forest and surrounded by Indian Ocean this island discover itself an isolated land of mystery.

Geographical view : The sea around the island divide it into two groups, Andaman and Nicobar (**figure-1**). They stretch over 500 miles of water in the BAY OF BENGAL situated between the 6th and 14th parallel of North latitude and between 92 and 94 degree of East longitude. Andaman and Nicobar Islands were constituted in to **Union Territory** in **November, 1956**. They are also known as **BAY ISLAND**. The Bay Island with geographical area of 8298 sq km consists of 572 Islands spread in Bay of Bengal at a distance of 1,200 km from the East Coast of mainland India. These Islands are surrounded by the mainland India in the North and West by Myanmar, while in the East lies Thailand and Malaysia. Andaman and Nicobar Island lie along an arch in long chain, approx. North-South over a distance nearly 800 kms.. Andaman consists of 239 small and large island. The total area closely connected large islands, North, Middle and South Andaman which with other two islands Baratang and Rut-Land almost form one landmass known as the Great Andaman's. The Nicobar having 19 islands of which 13 are inhabited by near about 12,000 aboriginal tribals. Half of the total area is covered by the Great Nicobar Port Blair, the capital of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands. Here, near about 7170.09 sq. km area are forested in which 2928.76 sq. km are reserved and 4241.93 sq km. are protected forest. Around 3000 species of plant, timber species 200 and 36 commercial plants are discovered on this land.

The A & N islands are home to six aboriginal tribes. Great Andamanese, Jarawa, Onge, and Sentinelese are of Negrito origin, whose settlements are restricted to the Andaman group of islands viz. Strait Island (Awasthi 1991), Jarawa reserve forest, Little Andaman, and Sentinel Island (Bhargava 1983, Dagar & Dagar 1991). Negritos have a dark complexion and are short in stature with peppercorn hair. Nicobarese and Shompens are of Mongol-oid origin and reside in the Nicobar group of islands viz. Car Nicobar, Chowra, Nancowry, Trinket, Katchal, Kam- orta, and Great Nicobar islands (Sharief & Rao 2007). The islands are also inhabited by settlers who are either ex-convicts from the cellular jail, migrants from the main- land, or refugees from Bangladesh, Myanmar, and SriLanka. They have settled in most of the islands as insular groups based on their language, occupation, region, and religion. The ethnic communities and the settlers heavily depend on the natural resources for their subsistence as well as for cash income (Chauhan et al. 2004) similar to other communities of mainland (Singh et al. 2004, Uma Shanker et al. 2004) or in other Southeast Asian countries (Peters et al. 2007).

This island is a residence place of five primitive tribes, viz. Jarawas, Sentinelese, Onges, Nicobarese, Shompens. The Andaman Islands are home to four 'Negrito' tribes – the Great Andamanese, Onge, Jarawa and Sentinelese. The 'Negrito' tribes are 60,000 years old and arrived from Africa. They all are nomadic hunter-gatherers, hunting wild pig and monitor lizard, and catching fish with bows and arrows. They also collect honey, roots berries from the forest. The Nicobar Islands are home to two 'Mongoloid' tribes – the Shompen and Nicobarese. The 'Mongoloid' tribes probably came to the islands from the Malay-Burma coast several thousand years ago. The number of population of Great Andamanese are 43. The tribe that has suffered most from contact with outsiders: 99% have been wiped out since the British first colonized the islands. Before the tsunami they lived in a government settlement and were dependent on government aid. They have just been moved to the islands' capital, Port Blair, as their village was badly damaged in the tsunami. The population onges are 100. Their forest home has been plundered by poachers and loggers. They were settled by the Indian administration and are dependent on food handouts. The 73 Onge living at Dugong Creek fled to high ground when they saw the sea level fall, and so survived. Jarawa's Population is about 270-300. Have only had peaceful contact with outsiders for six years. They live on the west coast of South and Middle Andaman, and are believed to have survived the tsunami. They are still completely independent and live entirely by hunting, gathering and fishing. The main threat to their existence comes from the highway running through their territory: the Indian government was ordered to close this by the Supreme Court in 2002, but it has ignored the order. The estimated population of Sentinelese is 50-250 in number. The most isolated of all the tribes, lived in the Andaman Islands for up to 55,000 years they have no peaceful contact with outsiders, and fire warning arrows at those who approach. Their home, Sentinel Island, appears to have been relatively unaffected by the tsunami, and some Sentinelese have been sighted since the disaster. They are completely self-sufficient hunter-gatherers. Shompens are 380 in terms of population. A relatively isolated tribe of Great Nicobar Island, the Shompen are hunter-gatherers who have some, limited, contact with outsiders. Overflights of their territory suggest their forest has been little damaged, raising hopes that the tribe has survived more or less intact. Nicobarese are well populated tribes near about 30,000 in numbers. Unlike the other tribes, the Nicobarese are largely horticulturalists. Most have converted to Christianity, and are much more assimilated than the other Andaman and Nicobar tribes, but still maintain their own distinct culture. The Nicobarese have also suffered much more from the tsunami. All 12 villages on one island, Car Nicobar, have been washed away, and many are feared dead.

The first tribe to come into contact with the Indian settlers were the Great Andamanese followed by the Onge and finally the Jarawa. Barring Sentinelese, other tribes have come into contact with the Indian settlers. Perhaps no people on Earth remain more genuinely isolated than the Sentinelese.

The Great Andamanese – Previously having largest concentration of population as compared to other tribes they were near about 10,000 in 1789. By 1901 their number decreased to 625, by 1969- 19 only, by 1971- 24, by 1999- they were increased by 41 now 52. Many administrative measures are taken by the Government to protect and preserve these communities. Now largely this ethnic dependent on state handouts just to survive and lives Strait Island. Island is known for its caves of birds' nests and plentiful deer (though they are now rare) and dense forested. The Great Andamanese, one of the indigenous people of the Andaman Islands having settlement made and managed by the Andaman administration. The settlement was constructed with concrete houses in rows like a model village in India. A school, small dispensary for primary health care, and quarters for Police and welfare personnel all are under administration. Tribals still go for hunting, gathering and celebrating their festivals (**figure-3**). They can cook food using spices and they eat rice, dal, chapati, and other modern food materials. Their traditional food is fish, dugong, turtle and their eggs, crabs, roots, tubers, pork, water monitor lizard etc, coastal people relish octopus, molluscs taken out from shell, sundial, helmet, trochus and screw shells besides various types of crabs and fish. Sometimes these items are unhygienic creates many stomach disorders and other diseases also. They are vulnerable to communicable diseases besides unhealthy drinking habits, acquired after contact with the non – tribal, urban, dominant and advanced communities.

The onges- Belonging to the Negrito racial stock onges tribals are one of the most primitive tribe of India. Majorities are situated at Dugong Creek in Little Andaman Island. Their population is stable near about 73-75. Pucca houses, food, medicine, clothes etc. all are provided to this ethnic population by the Administration also middle school has been functioning at the Dugong Creek for their settlement. Now they are smart in artistry, crafts and making canoes.

The traditional food of this Semi-Nomadic tribe are turtle, fish, roots and jack fruits etc. They are fully dependent on the food provided by Nature.

The Jarawa- In the Aka-bea Andamanese language the word 'Jarawa' means "stranger". Estimated population is about 300 inhabited Western coasts of South And Middle Andaman Islands (lives in thick forest). They were totally isolated from the outside world till very late. They are leading their normal life by hunting and gathering,

in order to ensure a rich resource of forest based traditional food like wild pig, turtle, honey and fish the reserve area has been increased from 847 to 1028 Sq. Kms.

Exclusive marine resources base has also been increased by declaring coastal water upto 5km from High Tide Line as tribal reserve. Exclusive Wards at Primary Health Centre, Tushnabad, Kadamtala and G.B. Pant Hospital, Port Blair for Jarawas have been provided and such Wards are declared as tribal reserve to prevent curious non tribals from interacting with them. The Jarawa patients are being treated at these Centres. A buffer notified around the Jarawa reserve, to ensure that they do not become unwitting targets of large scale tourism or commercial activities.

The Sentinelese- This hostile, isolated tribes lives in Sentinel Island i.e. North Sentinel Island which is near about 60 Sq. Kms area. It lies to the west of the southern part of South Andaman Island. Most of the island is forested. It is small, located away from the main settlements on Great Andaman, surrounded by coral reefs, and lacks natural harbours. Surprisingly most Paleolithic people surviving today without contact with any other group and community. One of the world's last Stone Age tribes this Sentinelese, thought to be number between 50 and 250. They rejected all contact with the modern world are among the last people to remain virtually untouched by modern civilization. The population faces the potential threats of infectious diseases to which they have no immunity, as well as violence from intruders. The Indian government has thus declared the entire Island, which is approximately the size of Manhattan, and its surrounding waters extending three miles from the island to be an exclusion zone. They throw fire a shower of arrows at anyone who comes nearby to them. They never leave their island and very hostile in nature. Having different identity to others Negrito community due to habitation in an isolated island lost all contacts from them. Comparatively short stature, dark skin and “peppercorn” hair they do hunting, fishing and collecting wild plants; there is no evidence of any agricultural practices. Shelter type huts with no side walls and a floor sometimes laid out with palms and leaves. **(Figure-5)**

The Shompens- Population is between 380- 400. Largely inhabited to the areas close to the coastal region along the river valleys at The Great Nicobar Island. Belongs to Mongoloid race and very shy. They are semi-nomadic, food gatherers and hunters and exclusively depend on forest resources and sea products for most of their sustenance. Major groups are hostile and living in Alexandra and Galathia river areas and on East Coast of the area in the interior of the island. They live in about 12 habitations made of bamboo and leaf thatch. The Primitive tribals of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands are dying of disease and infection brought by waves of colonizers from the Indian mainland. The Indian government's grand plan to bring the Andamans on India's tourist circuit could sound the death knell for tribals of the region. They have been largely reduced in number due to various diseases. The government's efforts over many decades to 'tame and civilize the tribals and bring them into the mainstream' have rather resulted in hurting them. The Indian Government has initiated efforts for the protection of the fast-depleting Shompen primitive tribe in the Nicobar islands and proposed granting it the status of “unique human heritage” of the country.

The Nicobarese- Having largest population than other communities (approx. 30,000) of Andaman and Nicobar physically taller than Andamanese, men being on an average 5 feet 4 inches in height and the women in 5 feet. They are fair, of a yellow-brown complexion that admits of many different shades, with hair is generally straight and black, but sometimes curly with broad faces, prominent cheek-bones. Majority lives in Car Nicobar. Their huts are circular in shape, raised on slits about 7 feet above the ground (not in the ground) and with split cane walls between the thatched, pie dish lalang grass roof and the split bamboo floor on coco palm battens. Feasts, pigs and coconuts are the central to the Nicobarese ways of life. Every part of the coconut tree is utilized, the leaves provide thatch, the trunk, the walls and flooring, the sap toddy, and the coconut shell, a variety of useful holders and containers. They generally drink toddy and tender coconut water which takes of their thirst, and rarely drink water.

II. Material And Methods

These aboriginal tribes have been living on these islands for centuries and are completely cut off from the rest of the world; they dwell in the forests and lead a rustic hunter-gatherer lifestyle. Modern ‘civilised’ people came into contact with these islands only under the British rule, about a hundred years ago. Human culture has been impacted directly or indirectly by plant kingdom since prehistoric time. (Pal and Shrivastava 1976). A considerable number of studies have been published on the ethnobotany and ethnomedicine of many tribal groups in different regions of Andaman Islands (Bhargava, 1983; Chakraborty and Vasudeva, 1988; Dagar, 1989; Dagar and Dager, 1991; Sheeja, et al., 2001; Ghosh, 2014). The systematic ethnobotanical survey was carried out (2011 to 2012) in different corners of the island.

Research Site - The Andaman and Nicobar islands, located in the Andaman Sea between peninsular India and Indo-Malaya, are part of two of the 34 mega-diversity hotspots of the world. These islands are characterized by their vegetation types such as littoral, mangroves, wet and semi-evergreen forests, and rainforests, and for being the home for six aboriginal tribes of 4 Negrito and 2 Mongoloid descent.

For **Great Andamanese** the survey is done at **Strait** island which is small island having Comma shaped map structure of 6.01 km² located 5.5 km east of Baratang Island, Great Andaman, in the Diligent Strait that separates Great Andaman from Ritchie's Archipelago.

For **Onges** trips were at **Dugong Creek** in Little Andaman island,

For **Jarawa** tribes field survey is done on **Tushnabad** and **Kadamtala** at Middle Andaman Islands which is the central island of the Great Andamanarchipelago of India (**figure-4**). Having total area of 1,536 km² Middle Andaman is separated from North Andaman by Austen Strait, and from Baratang Island at the south by Homfray's Strait, both shallow and narrow channels, a few hundred metres wide.

(unable to reach Sentinelese, as they rejects to any type of contacts).

For **Shompens** tribes **The Great Nicobar** islands is selected at Nicobar .The Great Nicobar Island, the southernmost island group of Andaman and Nicobar is situated between 6° 45N & 7° 15N latitude and 93° 38E & 93° 55E longitude covering an area of 1045 km². The island occupies a phyto-geographically strategic position among mainland India, Thailand, Malay Peninsula and Java-Sumatra.

For **Nicobarese**'s **Car Nicobar** is chosen. Car Nicobar is a small island, having only 127 km² area. It is the northernmost of the Nicobar Islands which falls in between Little Andaman and Nancowrie. The area south to the Ten-degree channel comes under Car Nicobar headquarters. It is bordered by a silvery beach and areas of flat ground consisting of coralline diluvium. (**Figure-2**)

Plants were collected and preserved in the form of herbarium (Jain and Rao, 1976)

The entire field survey is based on the interview, observation and discussion with the local people. These local people are tribal and non-tribal but that person who was resident of island and who has ability to identify the medicinal plants, Specialists in the field of herbal medicine, ability to identify the uses of plants and forest. The information was also collected from the old persons of the area. Quarries were repeatedly made either from same or different persons in order to fulfil the enquiries regarding the plants for their place of adaptation, abundance, local tribal name and their needs related to medicines.

Field trips were conducted in different seasons. The species were scientifically identified with their botanical names and author index. The identified record plants from local taxonomist and herbarium prepared were further verified with flora. The information recorded in field was further screened in laboratory as per work pertaining to Indian ethno-botany and plants recorded by Chopra et.al. (1982), Nadkarni (1982), Jain (1981, 1991), Jain (1996), Sathpathy and Panda (1992) to distinguish the information already known, reported and published by taxonomists and ethno-botanist and little known and hither unknown and unpublished work. Plants were identified and nomenclature with the help of published flora (Perkinson, 1923; Hooker, 1872-1885; Gamble & Fisher, 1921-1935; Mathew, 1991). All the informations, discussions, observations etc are arranged in tabulated or data form and the plant species have been arranged followed by their family, local names, and uses as reported by the tribals. It revealed utilization of medicinal plants being used in cure of many diseases like fever, cold and cough, headache, stomachache, cuts and wounds etc. and also that few problems which are common to all tribes of island snake's bite.

III. Result And Discussion

Most of the plants used by them are herbaceous. The outcome of extensive field survey gives the data of herbal medicinal plants of the Island for the treatment of many tribal diseases and disorders. The arrangement of the survey table is followed by botanical names, family names, local tribal names, their medicinal uses and method of usage for all Negrito (tribes of Bay Island) tribes (except the Sentinelese tribes, hostile and unconnected) and Mongoloid tribes.

Table no.1 shows eleven herbal remedies to cure the diseases of **Great Andamanese**. Treatments of stomach disorder, tooth problem, external injuries, body-back pain, fever, cold-cough, headache and snake bite are herbally treated here. Hibiscus tiliaceus and Areca catechu both are used in stomach disorder (leaf paste and fruit respectively). Root of *Achyranthes asper* and mature stem of *Byrenia vitas-idaea* are used as herbal tooth stick. Leaf and bark of *Azadirachta indica* and leaf paste of *Chromolaena Odonata* applied as dressing on cuts and wound. Leaf and root paste of *Tylophora. indica* are taken orally and leaf juice of *Ipomoeapes pes-tigrids* is applied on the bitten area after snake bite. Leaf and bark of *Pierr. Ex.merr* and leaf of *Premna serratifolia* and *Ocimum sanctum* are used in the treatments of fever, back pain, chronic headache, body pain, cold and cough respectively.

Table no.2 shows the data of **Onges** treatment of snake bite, tooth stick, chest pain, cuts and wounds, headache-backache based on plant remedies are eight in numbers. Leaf juice of *Drypetes assamica* is used in chest pain, snake bite. Leaf juice of *Chromolaena odorata* is used in cuts and wounds. Leaf paste of *Wedelia*

biflora is used in headache and cuts. Paste of stem and bark of *Pongamia pinnata* is used in headache and backache. Fruit of *Lasianthus andamanicus* is used as antidote. Tender stem of *Jatropha curcas* and *Azadirachta indica* are used as herbal tooth stick. Root paste of *Tournefortia ovata* is used in snake bite.

The data of Table no.3 shows 12 herbal medicines for throat pain-infection, snake bite, tooth stick, vomiting, stomachache etc of **Jarawas tribe**. Root of *Strychnos andamanensis* is used in snake bite while the whole plant of *Aristolochia tagala* is used as snake bite remedies. Root of *Ficus benghalensis*, tender stem of *Streblus asper* and *Jatropha gossypifolia* are used as herbal tooth stick. Leaves and bark of *Knema andamanica* and whole plant of *Trichosanthes bracteata* are used in throat pain and infection. Leaves of *Pandanus andamanensis* are used in body pain. Young shoot of *Caryota mitis* is used in Vomiting, stomachache. Root paste of *Gloriosa superba* is used as antidote. Root paste of *Pycnarrhena longifolia* is used to get relief in after snake bite. Twigs of *Dracaena angustifolia* is used to clean the genitals during the menstruation period.

Table no.4 shows the herbal data of **Shompens** for stomachache, fever, skin disease, external injuries, wounds-cuts, tooth stick, snake bite etc. are 16. Paste of seed, bark of *Myristica elliptica* and *Glochidion calocarpum* are used in skin diseases. Fruit of *Semecarpus kurzii* is used in external injuries. Leaves of *Mallotus peltatus* and *Ophiorrhiza nicobarica* are used in stomach disorder and in wounds respectively. Root of *Achyranthes aspera*, mature stem of *Smilax bracteata* and tender stem of *Acacia nilotica* all are used as herbal tooth stick. Root paste of *Gloriosa superba* is used as antidote to snake bite. Seed extract of *Clitoria ternate* is given in snake bite. Decoction of stem and root is given orally in fever. For stomach disorder seeds of *Croton argyratus*, decoction of stem, root of *Donax cannaeformis* and leaf decoction of *Macaranga nicobarica* is given. Also boiled root water of *Ardisia solanaceae* used to wash the uterus after child birth.

Table no.5 shows 13 herbal remedies of **Nicobarese** for the treatment of cut-wounds, fracture, worms, stomachache, antidote, snake bite, cold-cough, fever, high fever, hair fall, Jaundice, herbal tooth stick etc.. Tender stem of *Jatropha gossypifolia* and mature stem of *Uvarialurida* are used as herbal tooth stick. Leaf extract of *Ocimum sanctum* is used in cold and cough, leaves of *Phyllanthus amarus* is used in jaundice and leaf of *Sida acuta* with coconut milk is applied on hair as hair mask. Leaf juice of *Morinda citrifolia* is used in cuts and wound, leaf juice of *Euphorbia hirta* with coconut oil applied on cuts and leaf paste of *Barringtonia Asiatica* is applied in fractures. Leaf juice of *Physalis minima* is used in high fever, bark of *Plumeria rubra* is used to kill the intestinal worms. Root paste of *Albus preicatoris*, *Entada rheedei* and *Cocculus hirsutus* are used in snake bite.

IV. Conclusion

As a result of survey, many interesting and useful information about the plants were identified. All the species are widely used by the tribals of this regions for various types of diseases. The tribal people live in interior deep inside dense forests and are dependent on many medicinal plants growing nearby.

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Herbal Remedies of Great Andamanese

Table no. 1

S. No.	Botanical Name	Family Name	Part Used	Uses/Mode of preparation
1.	<i>Hibiscus tiliaceus</i> L.	Malvaceae	Leaf	Paste of leaves is given to drink in Stomach disorder.
2.	<i>Areca catechu</i> L.	Arecaceae	Fruit	Stomach disorder
3.	<i>Achyranthes asper</i> L.	Amaranthaceae	Root	Herbal Tooth stick
4.	<i>Azadirachta indica</i> A. Juss.	Meliaceae	Leaf, Bark	Dressing of cuts and wounds.
5.	<i>Byrenia vitas-idaea</i> (Burm.f.)C.E.C. Fisch	Euphorbiaceae	Mature stem	Herbal Tooth stick
6.	<i>Tylophora.indica</i> (Burm.f.) Merr.	Meinspermaceae	Leaves, Root	Leaves and root are paste then used orally in snake bite
7.	<i>Premna serratifolia</i> L.	Verbenaceae	Leaf	Body pain
8.	<i>Ocimum sanctum</i> Linn.	Lamiaceae	Leaf	Cold and cough
9.	Pierr. Ex.merr.	Fabaceae	Leaf, Bark	Fever,back pain, chronic headache
10.	<i>Chromolena Odonata</i> L.	Asteraceae	Leaf	Paste of leaves applied on cuts and wound.
11.	<i>Ipomoeapes pes-tigrids</i> L.	Convulvulaceae	Leaves	Leaf juice is applied on the bitten area after snake bite.

Herbal Remedies of Onges

Table no.2

S. No.	Botanical Name	Family Name	Part used	Uses/Mode of preparation
1.	<i>Drypetes assamica</i> (Hk.f.)pax and Hoffm.	Euphorbiaceae	Leaf	Leaf juice applied on chest pain,snake bite.
2.	<i>Chromolaena odorata</i> L.	Asteraceae	Leaf	Leaf juice applied on cuts and wounds.
3.	<i>Wedelia biflora</i> Dc.	Asteraceae	Leaf	Paste of leaf applied on cuts, headache
4.	<i>Pongamia pinnata</i> (L.) Merr .	Fabaceae	Stem, bark	Paste of stem and bark applied on headache and backache
5.	<i>Lasianthus andamanicus</i> Hkf.	Rubiaceae	Fruit	Antidote
6.	<i>Jatropha curcas</i> L.	Euphorbiaceae	Tender stem	Herbal tooth stick
7.	<i>Azadirachta indica</i> A. Juss.	Meliaceae	Tender stem	Herbal tooth stick
8.	<i>Tournefortia ovata</i> wall. Ex G. Don	Boraginaceae	Roots	Root paste applied on snake bite region and half spoonful paste taken with a cup of warm water twice a day for two days.

Herbal Remedies of Jarawas

Table no. 3

S. No.	Botanical Name	Family Name	Part used	Uses/Mode of preparation
1.	<i>Strychnos andamanensis</i>	Loganiaceae	Roots	Root bark along with Calotropis, ginger powder are mixed and used orally in snake bite
2.	<i>Aristolochia tagala</i>	Aristolochiaceae	Whole plant	The whole plant is used as snake bite remedies.
3.	<i>Jatropha gossypifolia</i> L.	Euphorbiaceae	Tender stem	Herbal tooth stick
4.	<i>Knema andamanica</i> (Warb.) de wilde	Myristicaceae	Leaves, Bark	Throat pain
5.	<i>Pandanus andamanensis</i> Kurz	Pandanaceae	Leaves	Body pain
6.	<i>Dracaena angustifolia</i> Roxb.	Agavaceae	Twigs (of plant)	To clean the genitals during the menstruation period
7.	<i>Trichosanthes bracteata</i> (Lamk.) voigt	Cucurbitaceae	Whole plant	Throat infection
8.	<i>Ficus benghalensis</i> L.	Moraceae	Prop roots	Herbal Tooth stick
9.	<i>Streblus asper</i> Lous	Moraceae	Tender stem	Herbal Tooth stick
10.	<i>Pycnarrhena longifolia</i> (Decne ex Miq.) Bece	Meinspermaceae	Roots	Pasted fresh roots are used to get relief in after snake bite
11.	<i>Caryota mitis</i> Lour.	Arecaceae	Young shoot	Vomiting, stomachache
12.	<i>Gloriosa superba</i> L.	Liliaceae	Roots	Root paste is an antidote to snake bite

Herbal Remedies of Shompens

Table no.4

S. No.	Botanical Name	Family Name	Part used	Uses/Mode of preparation
1.	Myristica elliptica wall. ex Hook.f.	Myristicaceae	Seed, bark	Applied externally for skin disease
2.	Semecarpus kurzii Engler	Anacardiaceae	Fruit	Used externally to cure injuries
3.	Mallotus peltatus	Euphorbiaceae	Leaves	Leaf decoction used in stomach ailments
4.	Ophiorrhiza nicobarica Balakr.	Rubiaceae	Leaves	Fresh leaf paste with water applied in wounds
5.	Achyranthes aspera L.	Amaranthaceae	Root	Herbal tooth stick
6.	Acacia nilotica L. Wild. Sp. Indica (Benth) Brenan	Mimosaceae	Tender stem	Herbal tooth stick
7.	Smilax bracteata Presl. Var. Verruculosa (Merr.)T. Koyam	Smilacaceae	Mature stem	Herbal tooth stick
8.	Gloriosa superba L.	Liliaceae	Roots	Root paste is an antidote to snake bite
9.	Clitoria ternate L.	Papilionaceae	Seeds	Seed extract is given in snake bite
10.	Glochidion calocarpum Kurz	Euphorbiaceae	Seeds, bark	Seed bark paste applied in skin diseases
11.	Ardisia solanaceae (poir) Roxb.	Myrsinaceae	Root	Boiled root water used to wash the uterus after child birth
13.	Actoplanes canniformis (forst) k.schum	Marantaceae	Stem, root	Stem and root decoction taken orally in fever
14.	Croton argyratus Bl.	Euphorbiaceae	Seeds	Seeds are used as laxative and in stomach disorder
15.	Donax cannaeformis (G.forst.)	Marantaceae	Stem, root	Stem root decoction used orally in fever
16.	Macaranga nicobarica Balakr. And chakrab	Euphorbiaceae	Leaves	Leaf decoction used in stomach ailments

Herbal Remedies of Nicobarese

Table no.5

S.No.	Botanical Name	Family Name	Part used	Uses/ Mode of preparation
1.	Jatropha gossypifolia L.	Euphorbiaceae	Tender stem	Herbal tooth stick
2.	Uvarialurida Hook.f. and Thoms	Annonaceae	Mature stem	Herbal tooth stick
3.	Ocimum sanctum L.	Lamiaceae	Leaves	Leaf extract is given in cold cough
4.	Phyllanthus amarus schum and Thom.	Euphorbiaceae	Leaves	Leaves with coconut milk (mixture is kept 0-15 minutes) is given three times a day in Jaundice
5.	Sida acuta Burm.f.	Malvaceae	Leaves	Leaf with coconut milk used as hair mask in hair fall
6.	Morinda citrifolia L.	Rubiaceae	Leaves	Leaf juice is applied in cuts and wounds (effecting in promoting blood clotting)
7.	Albus precatoris L.	Papilionaceae	Roots	Root paste externally applied on snake bite
8.	Entada rheedei Spr.	Mimosaceae	Roots	Root decoction is used for the treatment of snake bites
9.	Cocculus hirsutus (L.) Diels	Menispermaceae	Roots	Root paste is used as antidote to snake poison
10.	Plumeria rubra L.	Apocynaceae	Bark	Bark is boiled in water and given to control loose motion also to kill the intestinal worms
11.	Barringtonia Asiatica	Barringtoniaceae	Leaves	Leaf paste is applied in fractures
12.	Physalis minima L.	Solanaceae	Leaves	Leaf juice is applied on the forehead in high fever
13.	Euphorbia hirta L.	Euphorbiaceae	Leaves	Coconut oil with leaves, mixture is applied to cuts

Figure-1 Showing Map of Andaman And Nicobar (Wikipedia)

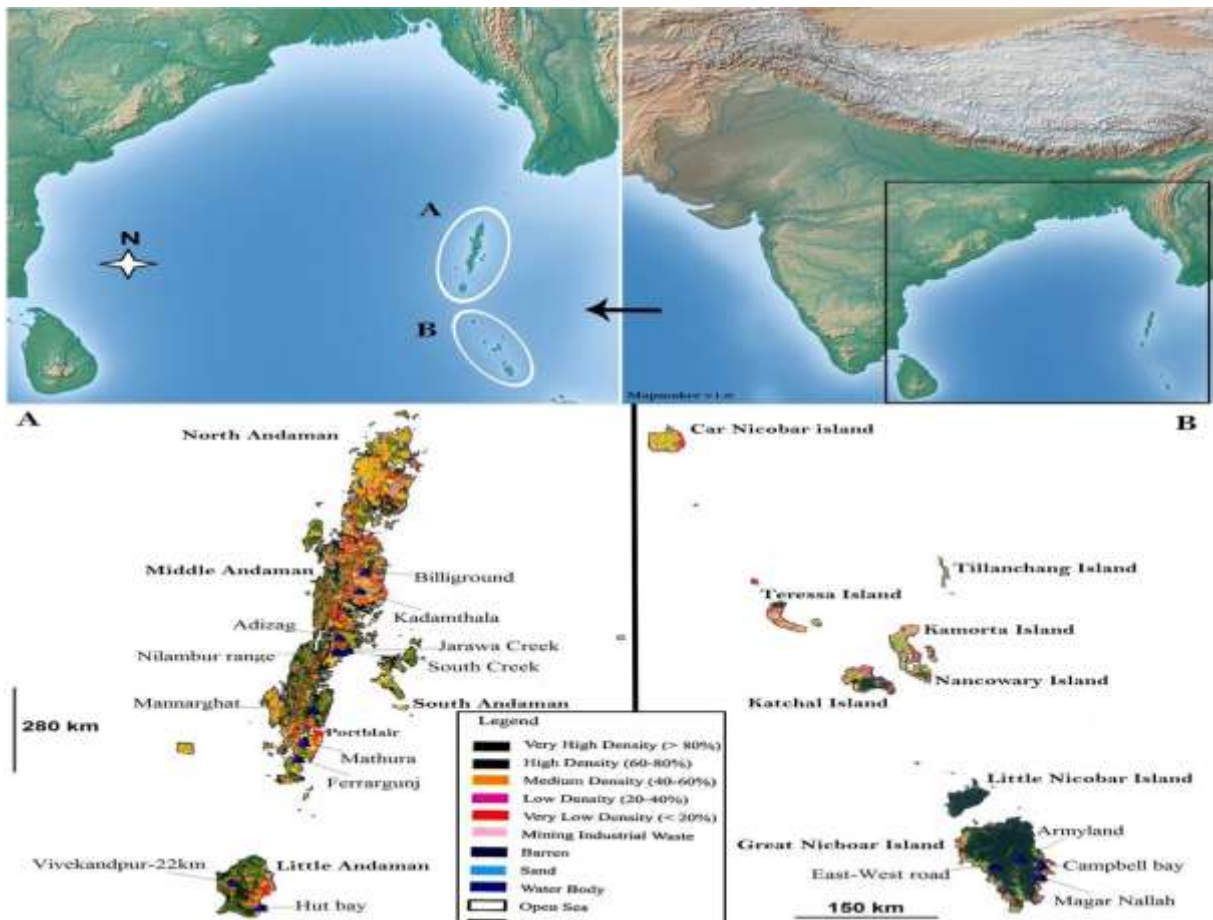


Figure-2 Map showing North,Middle, Little Andaman and Nicobar Island (Wikipedia)



Figure-3 Tribals Celebrating their festival (Wikipedia)



Figure-4 Jarawas Of Andaman (Wikipedia)



Jarawa Tribe

Figure-5 Sentinelese Tribes

