

## Kakoli an Important Medicinal Plant of Ayurveda: A Classical Review Based on Various Ayurvedic Nighantu and Kosha

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### Abstract

Kākoli is one of the most extravagant plants of the nature. It is grouped among Aṣṭavarga plants, Jivaniya, Śukrajanana and Bṛmhaṇiḃa gaṇa in different ayurvedic scriptures. It is also one of the important constituent of preparations like Cyavanaprāśa-rasāyana, Aṣṭavarga-cūrṇa, Bṛmhaṇi-guṭikā and Vājikara-ghṛta, etc. It grows primarily at a height of more than 1500 m in India and different parts of the world. It has been used in many parts of the world in traditional healing system as well as in the treatment of a number of diseases since the ancient times. The rhizomes are used for medicinal purpose. The therapeutic utility of kākoli is wide ranging and is mainly based on its action. It is very important medicinal herb in India since ancient times.

**Keywords:** Kākoli; Nighaṇṭu; Āyurveda; Kośa; Aṣṭavarga.

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### Introduction

Description of kākoli is found in different nighaṇṭu i.e. Dhanvantari-nighaṇṭu, Guṇaratnamālā, Hṛdayadīpaka-nighaṇṭu, Kaiyadeva-nighaṇṭu, Madanpāla-nighaṇṭu, Paryāyamuktāvalī and Sauśruta-nighaṇṭu (Table 1). According to nighaṇṭu, kākoli is madhura (swādu); guru, snigdha; śīta vātapittaśāmaka and śleśmakāraka. It is used to treat śoṇita vikāra, kṣaya, śośa, jwara, dāha, raktapitta, tṛṣā and arti. It also acts as jivaniya, bṛhaṇa vṛṣya, stanyakara, śukravardhaka, balya, vayahasthāpaka, rasāyana, śukrala, ojaskara and jīvavardhana. Kākoli is also described in different Kośa grantha, i.e. Amara-Kośa, Śivakośa, Vācaspatyam, Dravyaguṇa-kośa, Śabdakalpadruma and Bedī Vanaspati-kośa.

### Description of Kākoli in Nighaṇṭu

**Vedic-Nighaṇṭu:** According to Yāska the Nighaṇṭu

is a collection of rare or difficult words gathered by earlier sages for easier understanding. The history of nighaṇṭu literature is very old. The Vedic nighaṇṭu is the oldest extant lexical work in the sanskrīta, which has been commented on by Yāska in his Nirukta. It is also oldest Indian treatise on etymology. The author of this nighaṇṭu is unknown but Yāska, Skanda and Devarāja have written their commentaries. This nighaṇṭu consists of three kāṇḁa, the first of which is called Naighaṇṭuka-kāṇḁa. The second is known as Naigama-kāṇḁa and the last is called Daivata-kāṇḁa according to Yāska. In this nighaṇṭu etymology of 1770 vaidika words are found. Out of them 1341 words in Naighaṇṭuka-kāṇḁa, 278 words in Naigama-kāṇḁa and 151 words are found in Daivata-kāṇḁa. But unfortunately description of kākoli is not found.<sup>1</sup>

**Sauśruta-Nighaṇṭu:** Historically, Sauśruta-nighaṇṭu is considered to be the oldest nighaṇṭu. The writer of this nighaṇṭu is not precisely clear but some



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scholars believed that it is written by Maharṣi Suśruta. In Sauśruta-nighaṇṭu the dravyas are arranged in thirty-five gaṇa or groups. Each group has indication in particular diseases. Therefore the synonyms have been given for each drug of

every gaṇa. In this nighaṇṭu kākoli is mentioned in Kākolyādi- gaṇa: 208. In this gaṇa seven synonyms (kākoli, vāyasoli, dhīrā, vīrā, madhurā, jīvaniyā and dhvāmkṣoli) are mentioned for kākoli.<sup>2</sup>

**Table 1:** Classification of kākoli in different nighaṇṭu

S. No.	Nighaṇṭu	Gana/ Varga	Reference
1.	Sauśruta-nighaṇṭu <sup>2</sup>	Kākolyādi-gaṇa	Sau. ni. Kākolyādi gaṇa: 208
2.	Aṣṭāṅga-nighaṇṭu <sup>5</sup>	Vidāryādi-gaṇa	Aṣ. ni. Vidāryādi gaṇa: 15 (p. 03)
3.	Paryāyaratnamālā <sup>6</sup>	Madhura-gaṇa	Pary. :455, 1630, 1715 (pg. 24, 68,71)
4.	Siddhasāra-nighaṇṭu <sup>3</sup>	-	Sid. sā. Ni.: 41 (p.372)
5.	Camatkāra-nighaṇṭu <sup>8</sup>	-	Ca. ni. :8, 13 (p. 16)
6.	Madanādi-nighaṇṭu <sup>7</sup>	Jīvaniya-gaṇa	Ma. ni. 8: 3 (p. 82)
7.	Dhanvantari-nighaṇṭu <sup>10</sup>	Guducyādi-varga	Dh. ni. Guducyādi varga : 132-133 (p. 47)
8.	Śabdacandrikā <sup>11</sup>	Vṛkṣādi-varga; Triphalādi-varga; Aṣṭavarga	Śabd. vṛkṣādi varga: 221 Śabd. triphalādi varga: 27
9.	Soḍhala-nighaṇṭu <sup>13</sup>	Guducyādi-varga	So. ni. guducyādi varga: 186-188 (p. 38) So. ni. guducyādi varga: 162-163 (p. 232)
10.	Mādhava-dravyagaṇa <sup>14</sup>	Vividhausadhi-varga; Aṣṭavarga	Mā. dr. vividhausadhi varga: 77-78 (p. 6)
11.	Abhidhānaratnamālā <sup>15</sup> (Śaḍrasa Nighaṇṭu)	Swāduskandha	Abhi. ra. swāduskandha: 3 (p. 3) Abhi. ra. swāduskandha: 13 (p. 4)
12.	Siddhamantra <sup>16</sup>	Vātapittaghna-varga	Sidd. vātapittaghna varga: 62 (p. 30)
13.	Hṛdayadīpaka-nighaṇṭu <sup>17</sup>	Tripāda-varga Nānārtha-varga	Hṛ. ni. Tripāda varga: 35 (pg. 16) Hṛ. ni. Nānārtha varga: 129 (pg. 79)
14.	Vaidyaśataśloki <sup>44</sup>	Praśasta rasāyana auśadha	Vai. śat. : 117 (p. 74-75)
15.	Madanapāla-nighaṇṭu <sup>18</sup>	Abhayādi-varga	Mad. pā. ni. : 72 (p. 20-21)
16.	Rāja-nighaṇṭu <sup>21</sup>	Guducyādi-varga	Rā. ni. Guducyādi varga: 25-27 (p. 30-31)
17.	Kaiyadeva-nighaṇṭu <sup>22</sup>	Auśadhi-varga	Kai. ni. Ośadhi varga: 83-85 (p. 19)
18.	Bhāvaprakāśa-nighaṇṭu <sup>23</sup>	Haritakyādi-vargaḥ	Bhā. ni. Haritakyādi vargaḥ: 132-137 (p. 59)
19.	Śivakoṣa <sup>38</sup>		Śiva. : 9, 69, 218, 253, 344, 363 and 384
20.	Śāligrāma-nighaṇṭu <sup>29</sup>	Aṣṭavarga	Śā. ni. Aṣṭavarga: p. : 127
21.	Nighaṇṭu-ādarśa <sup>30</sup>	Aṣṭavarga	Ni. ād. Aṣṭavarga: p. : 184 (vol. 1)
22.	Śānkara-nighaṇṭu <sup>31</sup>	Aṣṭavarga	Śā. ni. Aṣṭavarga: p. 13
23.	Priya-nighaṇṭu <sup>36</sup>	Aṣṭavarga; Jīvaniya gaṇa	Pr. ni. Aṣṭavarga: 89-90 (p. 92) Pr. ni. Jīvaniya gaṇa : 98-99 (p. 93)
24.	Abhidhanamanjari <sup>35</sup>	Jīvaniya-gaṇa	Abhi. Madnādigaṇa saptama varga: 139, 141 (p. 42, 43)
25.	Paryāyamuktāvali <sup>28</sup>	Karkaṭākhyādhīna gandhavarga; Bhautikādi nānārtha varga; Aṣṭavarga	Par. mu. Karkaṭākhyādhīna gandhavarga: 28, 35 (p. 18, 19) Par. mu. Bhautikādi nānārtha varga : 208 (pg. 152-153)
26.	Guṇaratnamālā <sup>24</sup>	Haritakyādi-varga; Aṣṭavarga	Guṇa. Haritakyādi varga: p. 55, 59

*Siddhasāra-Nighaṇṭu* or *Sārottara-Nighaṇṭu* (7<sup>th</sup> Century A.D.): The text Siddhasāra is written by Ravigupta. Therefore this work is known as Siddhasāra of Ravigupta. It is similar to other classical text of Āyurvedic system and called as Siddhasāra- Samhitā and at the end contains a

nighaṇṭu portion known as Siddhasāra-nighaṇṭu. In this nighaṇṭu only synonyms of medicinal plants are described. In this nighaṇṭu the four synonyms of kākoli (Siddhasāra. 41) (p. 372) are found. These synonyms are kākoli, dhīrā, payasyā and arkapuṣpikā.<sup>3</sup>

*Haramekhalā-Nighaṇṭu* (8<sup>th</sup> Century A.D.): It is a famous treatise written by Mādhuka. This book contains seven pariccheda. This nighaṇṭu is also appended at the end of the text Haramekhalā. Unlike other nighaṇṭu it is in prose form. But unfortunately description of kākoli is not found in this nighaṇṭu.<sup>4</sup>

*Aṣṭāṅga-Nighaṇṭu* (8<sup>th</sup> Century A.D.): Several scholars thought that this was the work of Ācārya Vāhaṭa who was popularly called as Vāgbhaṭa or Vahatācārya. It is said to be oldest nighaṇṭu written by Vāhaṭa and considered to be an appendix of Aṣṭāṅgaḥṛdaya. Kākoli is placed under Vidāryādi gaṇa: 15 (p. 3). In this gaṇa five synonyms are mentioned for kākoli as kākoli, kabari, vīrā, dhvāmṅṣoli and kṣīraśuklikā.<sup>5</sup>

*Paryāyaratnamālā* (9<sup>th</sup> Century A.D.): The Paryāyaratnamālā is known as one of the works of Indian Materia Medica by Mādhava. It is briefly known as Ratnamālā. As its name implies, this work is a synonymous Medical lexicon or nighaṇṭu in its broadest sense. It incorporates numerous words of common parlance. In this nighaṇṭu the five synonyms of kākoli are found Paryā. 456, 1633 (p. 24, 68). These synonyms are vīrā, payasyā, kākoli, dhvāmṅṣoli, śitapākī. It is also described in Madhura-gaṇa: 1715-1716 (p. 71).<sup>6</sup>

*Madanādi-Nighaṇṭu or Candra-Nighaṇṭu* (10<sup>th</sup> Century A.D.): Madanādi-nighaṇṭu or Candra-nighaṇṭu is written by Candranandana in 10<sup>th</sup> century A.D. Madanādi-nighaṇṭu is so called because it deals with drugs enumerated in the Madanādigaṇa of Aṣṭāṅgaḥṛdaya. It also contains a section of miscellaneous dravya. Kākoli is described under Jivaniya-gaṇa (Ca. Ni. 8:3). In this nighaṇṭu the eleven synonyms of Kākoli are found. These synonyms are kākoli, kabaḍi, kāṇā, dhvāmṅṣoḍi, kṣīraśuklikā, śuklā, kṣīrā, vāyasoli, vīrā, śūrā and payasvinī (p. 82).<sup>7</sup>

*Camatkāra-Nighaṇṭu* (10<sup>th</sup> Century A.D.): This nighaṇṭu is written by Raṅgācārya, the son of Rāghavācārya. In this nighaṇṭu synonyms of medicinal plants are described. In this text, some names have been used for more than one drug. In this nighaṇṭu madhurā (Ca. ni. :8) (p. 16) and kākoli (Ca. ni. :13) (p. 16) these two synonyms of kākoli are found.<sup>8</sup>

*Dravyagaṇa-Saṅgraha* (11<sup>th</sup> Century A.D.): This work is also known as Dravyagaṇa or Cakrapānidatta Dravyagaṇa Saṅgraha. It is a work of Narayandatta. Cakrapāni has given the identification of dravyas according to morphological feature and habitat. In this nighaṇṭu the drugs have been described

along with their properties and grouped in fifteen varga. But unfortunately description of kākoli is not found.<sup>9</sup>

*Dhanvantari-Nighaṇṭu* (11<sup>th</sup> Century A.D.): It is one of the important nighaṇṭu of dravyagaṇa. It was very popular among scholars. The period of this nighaṇṭu is also an unknown factor. Dhanvantari nighaṇṭu because of its association with the divine name of 'Dhanvantari' has been regarded in some circle as the oldest among the nighaṇṭu but this does not hold correct. In several manuscripts, Mahendra bhogika, son of Kṛṣṇabhogic has been considered as the author of this work. In Dhanvantari nighaṇṭu kākoli has been described under Guḍūcyādi-varga: 132. In this nighaṇṭu the nine synonyms of kākoli are found. These synonyms are kākoli, madhurā, śuklā, kṣīrā, dhvāmṅṣolikā, vāyasthā, svādumāmsi, vāyasoli and karṇikā (p.47). According to dhanvantari nighaṇṭu kākoli is sweet (Svādu) in taste, śitavīrya, pacifies the vātapitta and jvara. It is useful in burning sensation, consumption and increases kapha and śukra.<sup>10</sup>

*Śabdacandrikā* (11<sup>th</sup> Century A.D.): Śabdacandrikā is also one of the works of Cakrapānidatta. It is a compilation of herbs as well as minerals also. This work is divided into nine varga. It is written on the pattern on koṣa having synonyms of words. In this book kākoli is mentioned in two places [vrkṣādi-varga: 221 and triphalādi-varga: 27]. In this book kākoli, vakuli and veśyā these three synonyms of kākoli are found.<sup>11</sup>

*Nighaṇṭuśeṣa* (11<sup>th</sup> Century A.D.): It is a very valuable nighaṇṭu written by Hemacandrācārya sūrī. The author is also known as Jainācārya Hemchandra. This nighaṇṭu contains description of herbs along with their synonyms and medicinal properties. This work has been divided into six Kāṇḍa. It can be said that it is a valuable contribution to the literature of nighaṇṭu. The description of kākoli is not found in this book.<sup>12</sup>

*Soḍhala-Nighaṇṭu* (12<sup>th</sup> Century A.D.): Soḍhala nighaṇṭu or nighaṇṭu of Soḍhala or Nighaṇṭusāra sangraha or Nighaṇṭusarvasva is based on Indian Materia Medica. It is written by Ācārya Soḍhala. This nighaṇṭu is divided into two parts. First part is available by the name of Nāmasangraha and second part by the name of Guṇasaṅgraha. In this nighaṇṭu the synonyms of kākoli is found at Guḍūcyādi-vargaḥ: 186 (p. 38) and the properties are described at Guḍūcyādi-vargaḥ: 162-163 (g. 232).<sup>13</sup>

*Mādhava-Dravyagaṇa* (A.D. 1250): This nighaṇṭu was composed by Mādhava Kavi. This work is

very extensive in comparison with other nighaṅṭu. This work is divided into 29 varga. In this nighaṅṭu the description of kākoli is found under the Vividhausadhi varga: 77 (p. 6). As per this nighaṅṭu, kākoli is śīta, madhura and guru. It is used to treat dāha, raktapitta, śoṣa, tṛṣā and jvara.<sup>14</sup>

*Abhidhānaratnamālā or Śaḍrasa-Nighaṅṭu (12-13<sup>th</sup> Century A.D.):* Abhidhānaratnamālā or Śaḍrasa nighaṅṭu is a nighaṅṭu of synonymous style. This nighaṅṭu is named Śaḍrasa because the contents of this nighaṅṭu are divided into six chapters according to taste. The classification of dravyās according to rasa (taste) is very important from the practical point of view. In this nighaṅṭu kākoli is placed under Svāduskandha: 3, 13 (p. 3, 4). Kākoli, kabari, vīrā, madhurā and vāyasolikā are the five synonymous names given for kākoli.<sup>15</sup>

*Siddhamantra and Prakāśa (13<sup>th</sup> Century A.D.):* This work is penned by Vaidyācārya Keśava. The commentary on Siddhamantra is known as Prakāśa and written by Bopadeva, the son of Keśava. In this work the drugs have been described according to their effect on doṣa, rasa, guṇa, vīrya and vipāka. In this book kākoli was mentioned under Vātapittaghana-varga: 62 (p.30).<sup>16</sup>

*Hṛdayadīpaka-Nighaṅṭu (14<sup>th</sup> Century A.D.):* In the tradition of ayurvedic texts of 14<sup>th</sup> century, Paṇḍita Bopadeva wrote Hṛdayadīpaka nighaṅṭu. It is an important and certified treatise which is classified in eight parts. In this book kāṇā, vāyasthā, kākoli and vīrā these four synonyms of kākoli has been described under Tripāda-varga: 35 (p. 16) and Nānārtha-varga: 129 (p.79).<sup>17</sup>

*Madanapāla-Nighaṅṭu (14<sup>th</sup> Century A.D.):* Madanapāla-nighaṅṭu is also known as Madanānighaṅṭu and Madanavinoda. This treatise is written by Nṛpa Madanapāla. In this book kākoli is described under Abhayādi-varga: 72 (p. 20). Kākoli, madhurā, vīrā, kāyasthā, kṣīraśuklikā, dhvāmṅṣoli, vāyasoli, svādumāmsī, payasvinī are the synonyms given for kākoli.<sup>18</sup>

*Āyurveda-Mahodadhi (14<sup>th</sup> Century A.D.):* It is also known as Suśeṇa-nighaṅṭu. It is written by Suśeṇa deva. This is an ancient treatise of Āyurveda which defines the correct eating methods for healthy living. It includes the beautiful description of benefits offered by different ingredients of food in a very simple and interesting way. But unfortunately description of kākoli is not found.<sup>19,20</sup>

*Rāja-Nighaṅṭu (14<sup>th</sup> Century A.D.):* Rāja-nighaṅṭu name itself indicates that it is the king among all

the nighaṅṭu. The original name of Rāja-nighaṅṭu is Abhidhānacūḍāmaṇi. It is also known as Nighaṅṭurāja and Dravyābhidhānagaṇa-saṅgraha. It is written by Narhari Pandita. In this nighaṅṭu kākoli has been described under Guḍūcyādi-varga: 25-26 (p. 30). Kākoli, madhurā, kākī, kālīkā, vāyasolikā, kṣīrā, dhvāmṅṣikā, vīrā, śukla, dhīrā, medurā, dhvāmṅṣoli, svādumāmsī, vāyasthā, jivini are the synonyms given for kākoli.<sup>21</sup>

*Kaiyadeva-Nighaṅṭu (A.D. 1425):* This treatise is penned by Kaiyadeva. The original name of this book is Pathyāpathya vibodhakaḥ. In this nighaṅṭu kākoli has been described under Oṣhadhi varga: 83 (p. 19). In this book fifteen synonyms of kākoli are mentioned as kākoli, kabari, kaṇā, svādumāmsī, medurā, śuklakṣīrā, vāyasoli, dhvāmṅṣoli, kṣīraśuklikā, kāyasthā, madhyamā, śukla, dhīrā, vīrā, payasvinī.<sup>22</sup>

*Bhāvaprakāśa-Nighaṅṭu (16<sup>th</sup> Century A.D.):* It is an important treatise of Āyurveda. It is one of the classical works of Bhāvamisra. This nighaṅṭu is a bridge between medieval and modern period. Bhāvamisra has described Aṣṭavarga with their morphology, habitat, etc. He has also given substitutes to be taken in place of the Aṣṭavarga.

In this nighaṅṭu kākoli has been described under Haritakyādi-varga: 135 (p.59). Kākoli, vāyasoli, vīrā and kāyasthikā are the synonymous names given for kākoli.<sup>23</sup>

*Guṇaratnamālā:* This treatise was penned by Bhāvamiśra. It is one of the famous book among the nighaṅṭu. In this book Kākoli has been described under Haritakyādi-varga (p. 55, 59). Kākoli, vāyasoli, vīrā and kāyasthikā are the synonymous names given for kākoli.<sup>24</sup>

*Sarasvatī-Nighaṅṭu (16<sup>th</sup> Century A.D.):* It is an important treatise of Āyurveda. The name, period and the date of the compiler of this nighaṅṭu is not known exactly. This book is divided into six chapters. This nighaṅṭu contains many new plants and their synonyms which are not found in other nighaṅṭu. But unfortunately description of kākoli is not found.<sup>25</sup>

*Rājavallabha-Nighaṅṭu (18<sup>th</sup> Century A.D.):* This book is penned by Vaidya Śiromaṇi Rājavallabha. This book has been divided into six chapters. The description of kākoli is not found in this book.<sup>26</sup>

*Laghu-Nighaṅṭu (18<sup>th</sup> Century A.D.):* As the name Laghu indicates that it is small book consisting of about 500 lines. This nighaṅṭu is written by Vyāsa

Keśavarāma. It is written in synonymous style. In this nighaṇṭu description of kākoli is not found.<sup>27</sup>

*Paryāyamuktāvalī* (A.D. 1887): This book is written by Haricaranasena. This book consists of 23 chapters. In this book kākoli has been described under Bhautikādi nānārtha varga: 208 (p. 152-153) and Karkaṭākhyādhīna gandhavarga: 28, 35 (p. 18, 19). Payasyā, kākoli, vīrā, dhvāmkṣoli and śītapākī are the five synonyms of kākoli given in this book.<sup>28</sup>

*Śāligrāma-Nighaṇṭu* (19<sup>th</sup> Century A.D.): This book is written by Lala Śāligrāma Vaisya. In this book kākoli has been described under Aṣṭavarga (p. 126). Kākoli, śītapākī, payasyā and vāyasolikā are the four synonyms of kākoli given in this book.<sup>29</sup>

*Nighaṇṭu-Ādarśa* (A.D. 1928): The author of this book was Vaidya Bāpālāla. This book was published in two volumes. The basic principles of dravyaguṇa are described in the first volume. In the first volume of this book, the description of kākoli is found under Aṣṭavarga (p. 184).<sup>30</sup>

*Śānkara-Nighaṇṭu* (1935): This nighaṇṭu is composed by Rajavaidya Shankardutta Gauda. He was the Adhyaksha of Vanaushadhi Bhandara, Jabalpur. This nighaṇṭu was published in 1935. This book includes the detailed description of medicinal plants, different types of puṭa, yantra and specific medicinal formulations along with Unani remedies. In the first part of this book kākoli has been described under Aṣṭavarga (p. 13) and substitute of kākoli has also been mentioned (p.13). It is very important to know that kākoli has been given great importance in various formulations such as Phala-kalyāṇaka-ghṛta (p. 361), Śatāvārī-ghṛta (p. 362) and Cyavanaprāśa (p. 369) quoted in third part of this book.<sup>31</sup>

*Mahauśadha-Nighaṇṭu* (1971): It was composed by Shri I.P. Tripathi and compiled by Aryadas Kumar Singh in 1971. The book is also famous by the name "Dravya nāma guṇa hastapustikā". It contains detailed description of synonyms, guṇa, karma, habitat and morphology of different plants. But unfortunately there is no description of kākoli.<sup>32</sup>

*Āyurvedīya-Ośadhi-Nighaṇṭu*: This nighaṇṭu is a Sanskr̥ta rendering of the Malayalam dictionary. This is compiled by the renowned physician, Kumaran Krishnan. In this book several names of Kākoli has been mentioned in different places like, kākoli (p.116), vayasthā (p. 625), vīrā (p. 666) and śītapākī (p. 710).<sup>33</sup>

*Nighaṇṭa-Śīromaṇi*: This nighaṇṭu is written by

Raghava Kavi. It is a collection of Sanskr̥ta names and medicinal properties of various medicinal plants from different nighaṇṭu. In this nighaṇṭu Kākoli is described in Gudūcyādi-varga: 39-43 (p. 3). Kākoli, madhurā, kākī, vāyasā, vāyasulikā, kṣīrā, dhvāmkṣikā, vīrā, śuklā, dhīrā, medurā, dhvāmkṣoli, swādumāsā, vayasthā, jīvanī, kokilā, kākōṣṇī, kavalī, kāṇā, śuklakṣīrā, kṣīrasukalikā, kāyasthā, tapasvinī and vāyasoli are the twenty four synonyms of kākoli given in this book.<sup>34</sup>

*Abhidhānamāñjarī*: This is a unique treatise penned by Bhiṣagārya. In this book Kākoli has been described under Madanādi-gaṇa, saptama-varga: 141 (p. 43). Kākoli, madhurākhyā, śuklakṣīrā, pāyasā, kāyasthā, dhvāmkṣākṣī, sanṣobhī, kaṇā and jīvinī are the nine synonyms of kākoli given in this book.<sup>35</sup>

*Priya-Nighaṇṭu* (20<sup>th</sup> Century A.D.): This nighaṇṭu is written by Priya Vrat Sharma in 20<sup>th</sup> century A.D. He has named this book as Priya nighaṇṭu after his name. The importance of this nighaṇṭu is to give a clear idea of the plants. In this nighaṇṭu he mentioned kākoli in Śatpuṣpādi-varga under Aṣṭavarga: 89 (p. 92) and Jīvanīya-gaṇa: 99 (p. 93).<sup>36</sup>

#### **Kākoli in Koṣa-grantha:**

*Amara-Koṣa* (5<sup>th</sup> Century A.D.): This koṣa is written by Paṇḍita Amara Singh. In this book Kākoli is mentioned under Dvitiya kāṇḍa vanaushadhi-varga: 144 (p. 227). In this book Vāyasoli, svādurasā and vayasthā these three synonyms of kākoli has been described.<sup>37</sup>

*Śivakoṣa* (A.D. 1677): This book is written by Pt. Shivadatta Misra. In this work name of plants, trees and herbs are given. Kākoli is extensively described in this book (verse. 9, 69, 218, 253, 344, 363 and 384).<sup>38</sup>

*Vācaspatyam*: *Vācaspatyam* (Bṛhat saṃskṛtābhidhānam) is written by Śrī Tārānātha Tarkavācaspati Bhaṭṭācārya. In this koṣa synonym of kākoli along with their interpretation is mentioned at various places. In this book karṇikā (p. 1714, vol. 3), kākoli (p. 1854, vol. 3), kāyasthā (p. 1936, vol. 3), kālikā (p. 2013, vol. 3), kṣīrā (p. 2378, vol. 3), jīvanī (p. 3128, vol. 4), dhīrā (p. 3892, vol. 5), payasyā (p. 4232, vol. 5), śuklakṣīrā (p. 5127, vol. 6) and svādumāmsī (p. 5387, vol. 6) these synonyms of kākoli has been described.<sup>39</sup>

*Dravyaguṇa-Koṣa* (1997): This koṣa is written by Priya Vrata Sharma and published in 1997. It contains Ayurvedic terms relating to basonyms, synonyms,

properties and actions of medicinal plants. In this koṣa (p. 37, 38) kākoli, kākolidwaya, kākoliyugm, kākolyau and kākolyādi-gaṇa are described.<sup>40</sup>

*Śabdakalpadruma (20<sup>th</sup> Century A.D.):* This koṣa is penned by Shree Rājā Rādhākānta Deva Bahādura. In this koṣa synonym of kākoli along with their interpretation is mentioned at various places. In this koṣa arkapuṣpikā (g. 102, vol. 1), kākoli (p. 80, vol. 2), kāyasthā (p. 98, vol. 2), kālikā (p. 112, vol. 2), kṣīrakākoli (p. 236, vol. 2), kṣīraśuklikā (p. 237, vol. 2), kṣīrā (p. 237, vol. 2), kṣīrṇī (p. 238, vol. 2), dhīrā (p. 798, vol. 2), payasyā (p. 46, vol. 3), payasvinī (p. 46, vol. 3), madhurā (p. 601, vol. 3), madhyamā (p. 604, vol. 3), medurā (p. 780, vol. 3), vāyasolikā (p. 341, vol.4), vāyasoli (p. 341, vol.4), śuklakṣīrā (p. 117, vol. 5), śuklā (p. 117, vol. 5), sukoli (p.362, vol. 5) and svādumāmsī (p. 491, vol. 5) these synonyms of kākoli has been described.<sup>41</sup>

*Bedī-Vanaspati-Koṣa:* This is a unique book on medicinal plants, written by Prof. Ramesh Bedi. The author has used the whole Indian literature including Vedic, Jain, Buddhista, Puranika and Epic works of Sanskr̥ta literature along with Ayurvedic Nighaṇṭu. In this book kākoli (vol. 2, p. 201), kākoli (vol. 2, p. 201), kākolidvaya (vol. 2, p. 202), kākoliyugala (vol. 2, p. 202), kākoliyugalā (vol. 2, p. 202) and kākolayau (vol. 2, p. 202) these terms are described.<sup>42</sup>

*Secrets of Aṣṭavarga Plants:* This is a unique book on Aṣṭavarga plants written by Acharya Balkrishna. In this book madhurā (p. 21), śuklā (p. 21), kṣīrā (p. 21), vayasthā (p. 21), svādumāncī (p. 21), vāyasoli (p. 21), payasyā (p. 21), kṣīraśuklikā (p. 21), jīvaniyā (p. 21), sitapākī (p. 21), kāyasthā (p. 21), dhvānkṣākṣī (p. 21), dhvānkṣoli (p. 21), payasvinī (p. 21), sitapākī (p. 21), vakulī (p. 21), veśyā (p. 21), kavari (p. 21), vīrā (p. 21), arkapuṣpikā (p. 21), kapattī (p. 21), kaṇa (p. 21), śuklakṣīrā (p. 21), dhīrā (p. 21), pāyasā (p. 21), sankṣepī (p. 21), medurā (p. 21), madhyamā (p. 21), śuklā (p. 21), kṣīrakākolikā (p. 21), aṣṭamī (p. 21), jīvanī (p. 21), kaṇā (p. 21), kāyasthikā (p. 21), kākī (p. 21), kālikā (p. 21) and kṣīravīṣāṇikā (p. 21) these synonyms of kākoli has been described.<sup>43</sup>

## Conclusion

This is a step to prepare an authentic database to identify the correct botanical source of kākoli on the basis of Sanskrit nomenclature, because this is a very valuable medicinal plant and commonly

used in various specific ayurvedic medicinal formulations.

Now kākoli suffered a serious problem of identification, authentication and adulteration with addition of spoiled, inferior, spurious drugs that are inferior in therapeutic properties and used to enhance commercial profits. Therefore, there is an urgent need to evolve exclusive identifying features of kākoli by pharmacognostical and phytochemical analysis so as to serve as a ready reference for all physicians and pharma industry in identification of genuine plant in the nature as well as a raw material for mass consumption.

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