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Research Article

ROLE OF BASE PLATFORM TO PREPARE *PARPATI KALPANA* W.S.R. TO *RASA PARPATI*

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ABSTRACT

Parpati Kalpana is one of the famous *Kalpanas* of *Rasashastra* which is widely used and considered as a boon for digestive disorders. The *Parpati* name is given to this *Kalpana* as per its *Papad* or *Parpata* – thin flake – like appearance. *Parpati Kalpana* is mainly divided into *Sagandha* and *Nirgandha Parpati Kalpana. Rasa Parpati* is the type of *Sagandha Parpati Kalpana.* To prepare *Parpati kalpana*, at least one ingredient should get liquefied at normal heating and should get solidified when it gets cooled down, not only that, to get the thin flake like structure specific pressure needs to be applied. In present study *Rasa Parpati* was prepared by using *Samaguna Kajjali* (equal quantity of *Parada* and *Gandhaka*) and to check the cooling effect and the role of base platform; here three different platforms were made i.e., cow dung and wet clay mixed platform, only wet clay platform (Earthen platform) and ice block platform. Total nine samples of *Rasa Parpati* were prepared, three on each platform to check which platform is convenient to prepare *Rasa Parpati.* The average thickness of *Rasa Parpati* was found minimum (2.83mm) on cow dung and wet clay mixed platform whereas the maximum (4mm) on ice block platform i.e. 4mm. Average thickness of *Rasa Parpati* made on earthen platform was 3.57mm which is thicker than the Cow dung and wet clay mixed platform and thinner than the ice cube platform. Which indicates the best platform to make thinnest *Parpati* is cow dung and wet clay mixed platform.

KEYWORDS: *Parada*, *Gandhaka*, *Rasa Parpati,* Wet clay platform, Cow dung, Ice platform.

INTRODUCTION

Parpati is the unique form of *Rasa Aushadhis*, which is introduced in *Chakradutta*[1], for therapeutic use, firstly. But the procedure to prepare *Rasa Parpati* may be described in detail by *Acharya Vatsanka*, because it is found quoted in *Bhaishjya Ratnavali*[2] that, "*Shri Vatsanka Vinirmita Samyaka Rasa Parpati Shreshtha". Parpati* is also one of the 25 Bandha of *Parada* i.e. 8th *Bandha* which is named as *Pota Bandha*[3] and its method of preparation is similar to the preparation method of *Rasa Parpati*. In layman language *Parpati* is considered as a *Papad* like preparation having a physical characteristics such as it produces a specific sound on breaking, flat thin fakes and fresh on both sides. It is very difficult to standardize the *Parpati* in term of preparation because there are lots of variations found in daily routine from pharmaceutical to pharmaceutical and batch to batch. Therefore, a trial was made to establish some facts in terms of time, temperature and condition of preparation by taking the example of *Rasa Parpati.* Pharmaceutically, the main concept behind the preparation of *Parpati Kalpana* is to convert the liquefied material into a thin flake like appearance. The concept to develop *Rasa Parpati* from the *Kajjali* might be to change the therapeutic properties of *Kajjali* from *Guru* to *Laghu* and *Grahi* to *Sara Guna*. Here, an attempt was made to check the role of cooling effect as well as the base platform on which the pressure is applied to make *Parpati* from molten *Kajjali* to prepare *Rasa Parpati*. After the usage of *Rasa Parpati*, there is almost 22-23 preparation of *Sagandha Parpati*, described in classics. After 18th Century onwards certain *Nirgandha Parpati Yogas* like *Malla Parpati,*[4] *Shweta Parpati*[5] *Bola Parpati*[6] and *Bhallataka Parpati*[7] *Yogas* were developed which are not having *Parada* or *Gandhaka* as an ingredient. *Papada* (thin flake) like appearance of these *Nirgandha Parpati Kalpas* is the main reason to give them a name of *Parpati*. Therapeutically, *Rasa Parpati* is mainly used for diseases of digestive system i.e., Dysentery (*Grahani*), Cirrhosis of Liver (*Yakrit Vriddhi*), Ascites (*Jalodara*),

persistent Diarrhea (*Jirna Atisara*) and in Anemia (*Pandu)* also. In *Rasatarangini*[8], three types of *Paka* (stages) have been mentioned for *Parpati* preparations. These are *Mridu*, *Madhya* and *Kharapaka. Mridu* and *Madhya paka Parpati* is considered to be of therapeutic value and is advocated for clinical usage, but *Parpati* having *Kharapaka* is not recommended for clinical usage.[9]

MATERIALS AND METHODS

To prepare *Rasa Parpati*, *Samaguna Kajjali* (*Kajjali* made up using equal quantity of *Parada* and *Gandhaka*) was procured from the Pharmacy affiliated to Gujarat Ayurved University, Jamnagar. As per the pharmaceutical standardization point of view, apparatus and ingredients used to prepare *Rasa Parpati* are given below:

Table 1: Apparatus used to prepare *Rasa Parpati*

S.No.	Apparatus	Size and Shape of Apparatus
1.	*Lauha Darvi*	Round and 15.5cm diameter
2.	Steel Plate	Round and 25.5cm diameter
3.	Banana Leaves	Square and 20cm x 20cm
4.	Cow dung and wet clay platform	Round and 23cm diameter x 5cm thickness
5.	Earthen platform	Round and 23cm diameter x 5cm thickness
6.	Ice Platform	Round and 23cm diameter x 5cm thickness
7.	Spatula	-
8.	Coal furnace as a heating device	-
9.	Thermometer	-
10.	Pyrometer	-

Ingredients used:

1. *Samaguna Kajjali* [10] - 70g for each batch (Total 9 batches, 3 for each batch)
2. *Go Ghrita* - Q.S.

Preparation of *Rasa Parpati*

To prepare *Rasa Parpati* on three different platforms, three types of platforms were made up with the same thickness and diameter as mentioned above i.e., one platform was made up by using cow dung and wet clay in equal proportion, the second platform was made up by using only wet clay (Earthen Platform) and for the third platform, ice block was used. 70 g of *Samaguna Kajjali* was taken in a *Go Ghrita* Smeared *Lauha Darvi* and placed over the heating device to melt the *Kajjali* till the mixture turned into the *Pankwat* (Semisolid) form. The material was stirred periodically with the spatula to bring the uniformity in melting. Then the melted *Kajjali* was immediately poured on the smooth surface of *Ghrita* smeared banana leaf (which was kept on the different platforms) and covered with another *Ghrita* smeared banana leaf and it was immediately compressed by using a steel plate. Thus, the obtained melted material was solidified and converted flat in shape which was collected as *Rasa Parpati*. Three samples of *Rasa Parpati* were prepared on each platform hence total nine samples of *Rasa Parpati* were prepared.

RESULTS

Rasa Parpati was prepared on three different types of platform to check out the role of cooling effect and the impact of pressure on different platforms. On each platform three samples were prepared and observations are given below:

Table 2: Cow dung and wet clay platform

Parameters	Sample I	Sample II	Sample III
Weight of *Samaguna Kajjali*	70 g	70 g	70 g
Temperature of heating device	708^{o}C	751^{o}C	765^{o}C
Melting point of *Kajjali*	112^{o}C	110^{o}C	114^{o}C
Duration	2.30 min	1.19 min	1.10 min
Weight of *Parpati*	65 g	64 g	66 g
Thickness of *Parpati* (in centre)	2.8 mm	2.9 mm	2.8 mm

Table 3: Earthen Platform

Parameters	Sample I	Sample II	Sample III
Weight of *Samaguna Kajjali*	70 g	70 g	70 g
Temperature of heating device	770°C	751°C	730°C
Melting point of *Kajjali*	110°C	112°C	115°C
Duration	1.15 min	56 sec	1.05 min
Weight of *Parpati*	68 g	67 g	66 g
Thickness of *Parpati* (in centre)	3.5 mm	3.5 mm	3.7 mm

Table 4: Ice Platform

Parameters	Sample I	Sample II	Sample III
Weight of *Samaguna Kajjali*	70 g	70 g	70 g
Temperature of heating device	826°C	670°C	586°C
Melting point of *Kajjali*	110°C	112°C	114°C
Duration	1.37 min	1.36 min	1.23 min
Weight of *Parpati*	62 g	69 g	67 g
Thickness of *Parpati* (in centre)	4 mm	4 mm	4mm

Table 5: Average thickness of *Rasa Parpati* on each platform

Type of platform	Sample I	Sample II	Sample III	Average thickness
Cow dung and wet clay platform	2.8 mm	2.9 mm	2.8 mm	2.83 mm
Earthen Platform	3.5 mm	3.5 mm	3.7 mm	3.57 mm
Ice Platform	4 mm	4 mm	4 mm	4 mm

Other observations found during the melting of *Kajjali* was dark brownish yellow colored fumes and pungent odour of SO_2 and discoloration of Banana leaves was also observed on the portion where melted *Kajjali* was compressed. Impression of pressure on Ice platform was clearly appeared on the portion where melted *Kajjali* was compressed.

DISCUSSION

All the *Parpati Kalpas* must have an ingredient, having a property to melt on heat and after cooling it must be solidified. In *Sagandha Parpati Kalpas*, *Gandhaka* has this property whereas in *Nirgandha Parpati Kalpas Sphatika*, *Navasadar* etc. have the same property. Quantity of *Gandhaka* plays a major role in the *Parpati Kalpas* and in present study *Samaguna Gandhakyukta Kajjali* was taken to prepare *Rasa Parpati. Kajjali* in each batch was taken 70g by considering the size of *Lauha Darvi*. Variation in Temperature of heating device (Table 2, 3 and 4) was observed because coal furnace was used to prepare *Rasa Parpati* so the variation in duration of melting the *Kajjali* was also observed. (Table 2, 3 and 4). Weight of obtained *Parpati* in each batch was observed in between 62 to 69 g, so the weight loss of 1 g to 8 g was due to the burning of *Gandhaka* as well as the some quantity of material got adhered to the *Darvi* and Spatula too. Banana leaves were selected to pour the *Kajjali* on different media, as per its big size and easy availability. In this study, to compress the melted material steel plate was used instead of cow dung cake covered with banana leaf because of its easy handling. As shown in Table 5, thickness of *Rasa Parpati* was varied on each platform and on the Ice Platform the average thickness of the *Rasa Parpati* was observed maximum i.e., 4mm that was due to Ice as a platform, the molten *Kajjali* got solidified immediately and there was a minimum chance to compress it because of immediate cooling; and on earthen platform, *Rasa Parpati* was found thicker than the cow dung and wet clay and thinner than the ice platform. It was be due to cooling effect is lesser than the ice platform and quite more than the cow dung and wet clay, whereas *Rasa Parpati* was observed thinnest on cow dung and wet clay made of platform. It was due to the proper cooling effect so that the enough time and pressure can be applied to spread the molten *Kajjali*.

CONCLUSION

To check out the role of cooling effect as well as the pressure to prepare *Rasa Parpati* among three different platforms, i.e. equal part of cow dung and wet clay mixed platform, only wet clay platform

(Earthen Platform) and Ice Platform, the platform made up of Cow dung and wet clay was found best as the thinnest *Parpati* could be made up on this platform.

Traditionally cow dung platform is practiced to prepare the *Parpati* but only cow dung made platform was unable to bear the pressure for the *Parpati Kalpana* therefore, it is found that the equal quantity of cow dung and wet clay platform is best to prepare the *Rasa Parpati.*

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