

Study of Traditional Medicinal Practices among the Raj-Gonds of Korba District of Chhattisgarh

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ABSTRACT This paper documents the traditional knowledge of medicinal plants that are in use by the Raj-Gond tribes residing in Korba district of Chhattisgarh. The information was collected from community members as well as from traditional healers. Raj-Gonds believe that any disease is caused due to magico-religious elements, malnutrition and environmental imbalance. Raj-Gonds usually approach *Baiga* and *Vaidhraj*, who are the traditional healers. These healers also diagnose the disease through magico-religious methods. They identify the involvement of spirit, demons or deities. Raj-Gonds are pluralistic in seeking treatment for various illnesses and diseases. However, they prefer the traditional healers. The present study documented the information on various herbs including the derivatives or parts of the herbs they use, preparation of the drug for use, dosage, etc. The study warrants evaluating medical efficacy of these traditional medicines and documenting oral traditional knowledge, which persists among tribal communities.