



**Hon. Nishikant Bhosale-Patil
(Dada)**

Founder, Prakash Shikshan
Mandal, Islampur



Prakash Shikshan Mandal's

LOKNETE RAJARAMBAPU PATIL

AYURVEDIC MEDICAL COLLEGE, HOSPITAL,

P.G.INSTITUTE AND RESEARCH CENTER, ISLAMPUR

DIST-SANGLI (MAHARASHTRA) INDIA

DEPARTMENT OF DRAVYAGUNA



BHALLATAKA

Marathi Name:

Botanical Name:

Synonyms:

Family:

Common Name:

Bibba, bhallataka, bhillava,

Semicarpus anacardium

Anacardium orientale

Anacardaceae

Marking Nut, dhobi nut tree, Indian marking nut tree, Malacca bean, marany nut, marsh nut, oriental cashew nut, varnish tree .

Description:

Marking Nut is a moderate-sized deciduous tree with large stiff leaves. Leaves are 7-24 inches long, 2-12 inches wide, obovate-oblong, rounded at the tip. Leaf base is rounded, heart-shaped or narrowed into the stalk, leathery in texture. Flowers are small, borne in panicles shorter than the leaves. Fruit is a drupe 1 inch long, ovoid or oblong, smooth and shining, black when ripe, seated on a fleshy cup. The stem yields, by tapping, an acrid, viscid juice from which a varnish is prepared. The nut yields a powerful and bitter substance used everywhere in India as a substitute for marking ink for clothes by washer men, hence it is frequently called Dhobi Nut. It gives a black colour to cotton fabrics, but before application it must be mixed with limewater as a fixator. The fruits are also used as a dye. They are also largely employed in Indian medicine. The fleshy cups on which the nuts rest and the kernels of the nuts are eaten.

Attributes-

Rasa-Katu, Tikta, Kashaya, Veerya- Ushna, Vipak-Madhur, Guna- Laghu, Tikshna, Snigdha.

Medicinal uses:

The fruit is useful in leucoderma, scaly skin, allergic, dermatitis, poisonous bites, leprosy, cough, asthma, and dyspepsia. It is extremely beneficial in the diseases like piles, colitis, diarrhea, dyspepsia, ascites, tumours and worms. The topical application of its oil on swollen joints and traumatic wounds effectively controls the pain.