

## Vaikranta

**Name:- Sanskrit-** vaikranta

**English-** Fluorite or Fluorspar or Tourmaline

**Synonyms:** Vaikranta i.e. Tourmaline, has many synonyms in sanskrit like vaikrant, kuvajraka ,jirnavajraka , churnavajraka.

### Varieties:

Rasaratnasamuchya have mentioned eight varieties of vaikranta according to its colour-

1. White
2. Red
3. Yellow
4. Blue
5. Gray
6. Black
7. Blackish
8. Multicoloured



**Dosage:** 5 to 10 mg.

### Properties and Usage:

- Vaikrant bhasm is cold in potency ,has sweet post digestive effect and it allviates all the doshas. It promotes the body strength, improves complexion, increase memory, stimulates appetite and is aphrodisiac and rejuvenating.
- It is used in fever, skin disease, leprosy, diabetes mellitus, piles, tumours, tuberculosis and ascites.

**Occurrence:** Canada, South Africa, Peru, Thailand. In India it accurs in Gujarat and Rajasthan.

**Characteristics:** It occurs in wide range of colours. It is fragile, octahedral, and may be faceted.

**Formulation:**

- Kandarpaśa
- Ratneshwara Rasa
- Nellakanta Rasa
- Jayasundara Rasa
- Vasant kusumakar Rasa
- Suchikabharana Rasa
- Ratnaprabha Vati
- Vardhamana Rasa

**Properties:**

1. It is heavy and has a cubic structure.
2. Hardness is 4 as per Moh's scale.
3. Its specific gravity is 3.18.
4. Refractive index of fluorite is 1.43.
5. Chemical composition is  $\text{CaF}_2$ .
6. In ancient times, it was used as substitute for diamond.
7. On heating, it shines but with further heating it gets molten.
8. It is insoluble in water.
9. It has the ability to melt, mix with the impurities of metals and float over the molten metals from where it used to be separated. That's why ancient metallurgist used to mix vaikranta in the ore during extraction.

**Purification:**

Vaikranta is purified by streaming it in the decoction of Kulattha ( *Dolichos biflorus*) for nine hours in dola yantra.

**Incineration:**

Purified Vaikranta is mixed with equal quantity of pure sulphur and mixture is processed with lemon juice and subjected for 8 gajaputs. A fine incineration of fluorite gets formed.

**Test:**

A good quality Vaikranta bhasm is pinkish- white in colour, soft, tasteless and odourless .It fills the ridges of tips of fingers and floats on water, when sprinkled.