

A Translation of the New Edition of the *Suśrutasaṃhitā*

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Kalpasthāna, adhyāya 3

Introduction

Translation

1 And now we shall explain the rule (*kalpa*) that is the required knowledge about mobile poisons.¹

2

3 The full explanation about the sixteen carriers (*adhiṣṭhāna*) of the mobile poisons, that have been mentioned by me in brief, will be stated.

2

4 In that context, they are:

- sight and breath,
- teeth and nails,
- **mouth**,
- urine and faeces,
- **menstrual blood**,
- semen,
- **penis**,
- saliva,
- **lethal points**,
- nipping with the mouth (*mukhasaṃdaṃśā*),
- fart (*avaśardhita*),³
- **anus**,⁴
- bones,
- bile,
- bristles (*śūka*), and
- corpses.

5 TBA

6 **The enemies of the king pollute the waters, roads and foodstuffs in enemy**

Come back to the issue of "kalpa". Look up passages in the Kośa.

1 In contrast to stationary, plant poisons. No reference is made to Dhanvantari (see Birch, Wujastyk, Klebanov, Parameswaran, et al. 2021).

2 "Carrier" for base, foundation (*adhiṣṭhāna*) tries to capture the idea that the author will describe the creatures in which poisons inhere.

3 This interpretation comes from Ḍaḥaṇa on 5.3.4 (Su 1938: 567), but he reads विशर्धित.

4 Ḍaḥaṇa on 5.3.4 (Su 1938: 567) noted this reading.

territory. The experienced physician, who has learned how to purify things, should clean up those polluted things.

- 7 Polluted water is slimy and smells of tears.⁵ It is covered with froth and covered with streaks. The frogs and fish die, the birds are crazed and, along with the wetland creatures, they wander about aimlessly.
- 8 Men, horses and elephants who swim in it experience vomiting, delusion, fever, swelling and sharp pains.⁶ He should try to purify that polluted water, after curing their ailments.
- 9 And so, he should burn axlewood and garjan oil tree, as well as corky coral tree, with crimson trumpet-flower tree and small-flowered crape myrtle and weaver's beam tree, and with golden shower tree and white cutch tree. Then he should sprinkle that ash, cold, on the waters.
- 10–11 And in the same way, putting a handful of the ash in a pot, one may also purify water that one wants.
If any one of the limbs of cows, horses, elephants, men or women, touch a place on the ground that enemies have spoiled with poison, or a ford or rock or a flat surface, then it swells up and burns and its hair and nails fall out on that place.⁷
- 12 In that situation, he should grind up country sarsaparilla together with all the aromatic items, with alcoholic drinks. And then he should sprinkle the paths that need to be used with waters mixed with mud.⁸ And if there exists another path, he should go by that.⁹
- 13 When grasses and foods are polluted, people collapse, fall unconscious. And others vomit. They get loose stool (*viḍbheda*) or they die.¹⁰ One should apply to them the therapy as described.
- 14 Alternatively, one should wipe various musical instruments with antidotes that remove poison and then play them. What is called the most excellent paste for a musical instrument is silver mineral (*tārāvitāra*) together with

5 अस्त्र normally means “tears,” but rarely means “blood.”

6 On the polysemy of elephant/snake (*nāga*), see Semeka-Pankratov 1979.

7 “Swells up” translates an unclear reading that was probably श्यति, which may be an irregular form of √श्, श्या, श्थि (see Whitney 1885: 175–176).

8 Our “alcoholic drinks” translates *surā*. For a discussion of this term at our period see McHugh 2021: 37–39 *et passim*.

9 Ḍaḥaṇa on 5.3.12 (Su 1938: 568) cited a similar reading for the fourth pāda, but with a negative particle, “and if there is no other way, one should go by that.”

10 In “they get loose stool,” the verb अर्च्छन्ति (√र्च्), transmitted in both Nepalese manuscripts, has an irregular initial guṇa vowel.

Tellicherry bark and Indian sarsaparilla,¹¹ and an amount of of nutgrass equal to that, together with the bile called “brown cow.” By the sound of the musical instrument, even terrible poisons that may be present are destroyed.¹²

¹¹ We follow Ḍalhaṇa in these identifications.

¹² The ingredients of this paste are difficult. Ḍalhaṇa was guessing about the identities of तारा (silver) etc. He said that सुतार (in his text) was mercury, which is impossible at this date. सुरेन्द्रगोप was perhaps gold or कुरुविन्द is possibly ruby, but Ḍalhaṇa noted opinions that it was nutgrass, while others said it was a whetstone or a very special metallic gem.

Editions and Abbreviations

Ah 1939	Kuṃṭe, Aṇṇā Moreśvara, Navare, Kṛṣṇaśāstrī, and Parādkar, Hariśāstrī (1939) (eds.), श्रीमद्वाग्भटविरचितम् अष्टाङ्गहृदयम्, श्रीमदरुणदत्तविरचितया सर्वाङ्गसुन्दराख्यया व्याख्यया, हेमाद्रिप्रणीतया आयुर्वेद-सायनाह्वया टीकया च समुल्लसितम् = <i>The Astāṅgahṛidaya</i> (6th edn., Mumbayyām: Nirṇayasāgara Press), ark:/13960/t3tt6967d .
Anup	<i>Anup Sanskrit Library</i> (n.d.).
Anup	<i>Anup Sanskrit Library</i> (n.d.).
Apte	Apte, Vaman Shivaram (1992), <i>The Practical Sanskrit-English Dictionary</i> (Kyoto: Rinsen Book Company), ISBN: 4-653-00038-7; Reprinted from Gode and Karve 1957-9.
AS	<i>Asiatic Society</i> (n.d.).
As 1980	Āṭhavale, Ananta Dāmodara (1980) (ed.), <i>Aṣṭāṅgasaṅgrahaḥ. Śrīmad Vṛddhavāgbhaṭaviracitaḥ Induvyākhyāsahitaḥ</i> (Pune: Maheśa Ananta Āṭhavale, Śrīmad Ātreya Prakāśanam), ark:/13960/t9773bb9z .
Bhela 1921	Mookerjee, Ashutosh and Ananta Krishna Shastri, Vedantabisharad (1921) (eds.), <i>The Bhela Samhita. Sanskrit Text</i> (Calcutta: University of Calcutta), ark : / 13960 / t3sv3157j ; Based on two copies made of the Thanjavur codex unicus (MS Thanjavur TMSSML 10773, Burnell 1880: 63-4, P. P. S. Sastri 1933: #11085).
Bhela 2000	Krishnamurthy, K. H. (2000), <i>Bhela-saṃhitā. Text with English Translation, Commentary and Critical Notes</i> (Haridas Ayurveda Series, 8; Varanasi: Chaukhambha Visvabharati).
BL	<i>British Library</i> (n.d.).
Ca. 1941	Ācārya, Yādavaśarma Trivikrama (1941) (ed.), महर्षिणा पुनर्वसुनोपदिष्टा, तच्छिष्येणाग्निवेशेन प्रणीता, चरकदृढबलाभ्यां प्रतिसंस्कृता चरकसंहिता, श्रीचक्रपाणिदत्तविरचितया आयुर्वेददीपिकाव्याख्यया संवलिता (3rd edn., Mumbayyām: Nirṇaya Sagara Press), URL , accessed 01/01/2018.
HIML	Meulenbeld, Gerrit Jan (1999-2002), <i>A History of Indian Medical Literature</i> , 5 vols. (Groningen: E. Forsten), ISBN: 9069801248.

- Su 1915 Ācārya, Yādavaśarma Trivikrama (1915) (ed.), सुश्रुतसंहिता, सुश्रुतेन विरचिता, वैद्यवरश्रीडल्हणाचार्यविरचितया निबन्धसंग्रहाख्यव्याख्यया समुल्लसिता, आचार्योपाह्वेन त्रिविक्रमात्मजेन यादवशर्मणा संशोधिता = *The Sushrutasamhita of Sushruta, the Nibandhasangraha Commentary of Shri Dalhaṇāchārya* (Mumbayyām: Nirṇaya-sāgaramudrāyantrālaye), [ark : / 13960 / t3sv0mt50](https://nirayasaagara.org/ark:/13960/t3sv0mt50), accessed 29/07/2020; [HIML](https://nirayasaagara.org/HIML): IB, 312 edition *v.
- Su 1931 Ācārya, Yādavaśarma Trivikrama (1931) (ed.), सुश्रुतसंहिता, वैद्यवरश्रीडल्हणाचार्यविरचितया निबन्धसंग्रहाख्यव्याख्यया समुल्लसिता, महर्षिणा सुश्रुतेन विरचिता, सूत्र-निदान-शारीर-चिकित्सा-कल्पस्थानोत्तरतन्त्रात्मकः. आचार्योपाह्वेन त्रिविक्रमात्मजेन यादवशर्मणा संशोधिता = *The Sushruta-samhitā of Sushruta with the Nibandhasangraha Commentary of Shree Dalhaṇāchārya* (2nd edn., Mumbayyām: Pāṇḍuraṅga Jāvajī at the Nirṇayasāgaramudrāyantrālaye), [ark : / 13960 / t9j41sg94](https://nirayasaagara.org/ark:/13960/t9j41sg94), accessed 09/06/2020; [HIML](https://nirayasaagara.org/HIML): IB, 312 edition *v.
- Su 1938 Ācārya, Yādavaśarma Trivikrama and Ācārya, Nārāyaṇa Rāma (1938) (eds.), श्रीडल्हणाचार्यविरचितया निबन्धसंग्रहाख्यव्याख्यया निदान-स्थानस्य श्रीगयदासाचार्यविरचितया न्यायचन्द्रिकाख्यपञ्जिकाव्याख्यया च समुल्लसिता महर्षिणा सुश्रुतेन विरचिता सुश्रुतसंहिता (3rd edn., Bombay: Nirṇayasāgara Press), [ark : / 13960 / t09x0sk1h](https://nirayasaagara.org/ark:/13960/t09x0sk1h); [HIML](https://nirayasaagara.org/HIML): IB, 313, edition cc ('the vulgate').
- Su 1938² Ācārya, Yādavaśarma Trivikrama and Ācārya, Nārāyaṇa Rāma (2004) (eds.), महर्षिणा सुश्रुतेन विरचिता सुश्रुतसंहिता, श्रीडल्हणाचार्यविरचितया निबन्धसंग्रहाख्यव्याख्यया निदानस्थानस्य श्रीगयदासाचार्यविरचितया न्यायचन्द्रिकाख्यपञ्जिकाव्याख्यया च समुल्लसिता (Vārāṇasī: Caukhambhā Kṛṣṇadāsa Akādamī); Reprint of the third, 1938 edition (Su 1938).
- Su 1939 Ācārya, Yādavaśarma Trivikrama and Śarman, Nandakiśora (1939) (eds.), सुश्रुतसंहितायाः सूत्रस्थानम्. श्रीचक्रपाणिदत्तविरचितया भानुमतीव्याख्याया समेतम् = *Sushrut-saṅhitā (sūtra Sthān) with Bhānumatī Commentary by Chakrapāṇi Datta with Introduction by Gaṇanāth Sen* (Śrīsvāmī Lakṣmīrāma Nidhi Granthamālā = Shri Swāmī Lakshmī Rām Trust Series, 1; [Jaipur]: Śyāmasundara Śarman), [ark : / 13960 / t54g0d12m](https://nirayasaagara.org/ark:/13960/t54g0d12m); Printed at the Nirṇayasāgara Press, Bombay.

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- TMSSML *Tanjore Maharaja Serfoji Saraswati Mahal Library* (n.d.).
- Viṣṇudh. Śarman, Madhusūdāna and Śarman, Mādhavaprasāda (1912) (eds.), विष्णुधर्मोत्तरपुराणम् = [Viṣṇudharmottarapurāṇa] (Mumbai: Khemarāja Śrīkṛṣṇadāsa at the Śrīveṅkaṭeśvara Steam Press), [ark : / 13960 / t6qz6fr23](#); Lithograph format. Edited on the basis of a manuscript belonging to the astrologer Śudhākaraśarman of the Varanasi Sanskrit Pāṭhaśālā.

Index of Manuscripts

The numbers after the colon refer to pages in this document.

Thanjavur TMSSML 10773, 6

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Lexical Index

<i>adhiṣṭhāna</i> base, foundation, 3 carriers, 3	fart <i>avaśardhita</i> , 3	<i>mukhasaṃdaṃśā</i> , 3
<i>avaśardhita</i> fart, 3	<i>kalpa</i> rule, 3	rule <i>kalpa</i> , 3
base, foundation <i>adhiṣṭhāna</i> , 3	loose stool <i>viḍbheda</i> , 4	silver mineral <i>tārāvitāra</i> , 4
bristles <i>śūka</i> , 3	<i>mukhasaṃdaṃśā</i> nipping with the mouth, 3	<i>śūka</i> bristles, 3
carriers <i>adhiṣṭhāna</i> , 3	<i>nāga</i> elephant/snake, 4 nipping with the mouth	<i>tārāvitāra</i> silver mineral, 4
elephant/snake <i>nāga</i> , 4		<i>viḍbheda</i> loose stool, 4

Botanical Reference Works

ADPS	Sivarajan, V. V. and Balachandran, Indira (1994), <i>Ayurvedic Drugs and Their Plant Sources</i> (New Delhi, Bombay, Calcutta: Oxford & IBH Publishing).
AVS	Warrier, P. K., Nambiar, V. P. K., and Ramankutty, C. (1994–6) (eds.), <i>Indian Medicinal Plants: A Compendium of 500 Species</i> . Vaidyaratnam P. S. Varier’s Arya Vaidya Sala, Kottakal (Madras: Orient Longman).
Chopra	Chopra, R. N., Nayar, S. L., and Chopra, I. C. (1956), <i>Glossary of Indian Medicinal Plants</i> (3rd reprint, 1992, New Delhi: Council of Scientific and Industrial Research); vol. 2: R. N. Chopra, I. C. Chopra, and Varma (Chopra suppl.).
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CIPP	Pillay, V. V. (2010), “Common Indian Poisonous Plants,” in D. A. Warrell, T. M. Cox, and J. D. Firth (eds.), <i>Oxford Textbook of Medicine</i> (5th edn., Oxford University Press), 1371–5. DOI: 10.1093/med/9780199204854.003.090302 .

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- GVDB Singh, Thakur Balwant and Chuneekar, K. C. (1972), *Glossary of Vegetable Drugs in Brhatrayi* (Varanasi: Chowkhamba Sanskrit Series Office).
- IGP Griffiths, Mark (1994), *The New Horticultural Society Index of Garden Plants* (London: Macmillan).
- NK Nadkarni, K. M. (1982a), *Dr. K. M. Nadkarni's Indian Materia Medica, with Ayurvedic, Unani-tibbi, Siddha, Allopathic, Homeopathic, Naturopathic & Home Remedies, Appendices & Indexes ... in Two Volumes*, ed. A. K. Nadkarni, 2 vols. (3 ed., revised and enlarged by A. K. Nadkarni, Bombay: Popular Prakashan), ISBN: 8171541429, [URL](#).

Glossary and Index of Medical Substances

- axlewood (*dhava*) *Anogeissus latifolia* (Roxb. ex DC.) Wall. ex Guill & Perr. See [AVS](#): vol. 1, 163 f, [Chopra](#): 20, 4
- corky coral tree (*pāribhadra*) *Erythrina suberosa* Roxb. See [GVDB](#) 245, 4
- country sarsaparilla (*anantā*) *Hemidesmus indicus*, (L.) R. Br. See [ADPS](#): 434, [AVS](#): vol. 3, 141–5, [NK](#): #1210. But see [GVDB](#): 13 for complications that may suggest that it is to be equated with *sārivā*, which may sometimes be *Cryptolepis* or *Ichnocarpus frutescens* R. Br. ([GVDB](#): 429–431), 4
- crimson trumpet-flower tree (*pāṭalā*) *Stereospermum chelonides*, (L. f.) A. DC. See [GJM](#) 573, [AVS](#): vol. 5, 192 ff, [ADPS](#): 362 f, [AVS](#): vol. 3, 1848 f, [IGP](#) 1120,
- Dymock et al. [1890](#): vol. 3, 20 ff, 4
- garjan oil tree (*aśvakarṇa*) *Dipterocarpus turbinatus* Gaertn. f. See [GVDB](#): 28, [Chopra](#): 100, 4
- golden shower tree (*rājadruma*) *rājadruma* = *āragvadha*. *Cassia fistula* L. See [GVDB](#) 37, 4
- Indian sarsaparilla (*sārivā*) → *anantā* (*Hemidesmus indicus*, (L.) R. Br. [ADPS](#): 434, [AVS](#): vol. 3, 141–5, [NK](#): #1210) and black creeper (*pālindī*. *Ichnocarpus frutescens*, (L.) R.Br. or *Cryptolepis buchanani*, Roemer & Schultes [AVS](#): vol. 3, 141, 3.145, 3.203, [NK](#): #1283, #1210, [ADPS](#): 434), 5
- nutgrass (*mustā*) *Cyperus rotundus*, L. See [ADPS](#): 316, [AVS](#): vol. 2, 296, [NK](#): #782, 5
- small-flowered crape myrtle (*sidhraka*)

Lagerstroemia parviflora Roxb. See
[GVDB](#): 432, [4](#)
Tellicherry bark (*kuṭaja*) Holarrhena
pubescens Wall. ex G.Don, with Wrightia
tinctoria and W. arborea considered
[GVDB](#): 101–102, [ADPS](#): 267–270, [5](#)
weaver's beam tree (*muṣkaka*) Schrebera

swietenoides, Roxb. See [AVS](#): vol. 5, 88,
Lord, [NK](#): #2246, [4](#)
white cutch tree (*somavalka*) Acacia
polyacantha, Willd. See [AVS](#): vol. 1, 30,
[IGP](#) 7, GJM 602, [AVS](#): vol. 2, 935; *pace*
[NK](#): #1038, [4](#)

Todo list

- Come back to the issue of "kalpa". Look up passages in the Kośa. . . . 3

