The New Editic usrutasamhitā Dominik Wujastyk Andrey Klander of 4th February 2022 © Jason Birch and Dominik Wujastyk Andrey Klander of 4th February 2022 For Jason Birch and Dominik Wujastyk Andrey Klander of 4th February 2022 A Andrey Klebanov A Translation of the New Edition of the

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Abstract

The Suśruta Project is producing a new Sanskrit text edition of the Su-śrutasaṃhitā based on the early Nepalese manuscripts. As we gradually transcribe and edit the manuscripts, we are producing this new translation of the classic work.

 $_{\rm 1}$ $\,$ MS Kathmandu KL 699, MS Kathmandu NAK 1-1079, and MS Kathmandu NAK 5-333.

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Kalpasthāna, adhyāya 2

Translation

- 1 And now I shall explain what should be known about stationary poisons. 100
- 3 It is said that there are two kinds of poisons, stationary (*sthāvara*) and mobile (*jaṅgama*). The former dwells in ten sites, the latter in sixteen places.
- 4 Traditionally, the ten are: root, leaf, fruit, flower, bark, milky sap $(k \cdot \bar{s} ira)$, pith $(s \bar{a} ra)$, resin $(niry \bar{a} sa)$, the elements $(dh \bar{a} tu)$, and the tuber.
- 5 In that context,
 - the eight root-poisons are:
 - 1. liquorice $(kl\bar{\imath}taka)^{101}$, 102
 - 2. sweet-scented oleander (aśvamāraka) 103,
 - 3. jequirity $(gu\tilde{n}j\bar{a})^{104}$,
 - 4. aconite (subhangurā \rightarrow bhangura = ativiṣā?)¹⁰⁵ 106,
 - 5. *karaṭā,*¹⁰⁷ and ending with
 - 6. leadwort (vidyutśikhā $\rightarrow agni$ or rakta-śikhā?) 108 ,
 - 7. ? (ananta)¹⁰⁹, and
 - 8. ? (vijaya)¹¹⁰;¹¹¹ 112

Note about Gayī's edition.

100 No reference is made to Dhanvantari (see Birch, Wujastyk, Klebanov, Parameswaran, et al. 2021). "Stationary" here is a term contrasted with "moving," and signifies plants as opposed to animals and insects.

Get this right.

- 101 Glycyrrhiza glabra, L.; see AVS 3.84, NK #1136
- 102 Licorice eaten in excess can be poisonous.
- 103 Nerium oleander, L.; see ADPS 223, NK #1709
- 104 Abrus precatorius, L.; see AVS 1.10, NK #6, Potter 168
- 105 Aconitum ferox, Wall. ex Ser.; see NK #38
- 106 The plant is usually called just bhangurā without the prefix su-"good."
- 107 This poisonous root cannot at present be identified. Similar-sounding candidates include <code>karkaṭaka</code>, <code>karaghāṭa</code> (emetic nut), and <code>karahāṭa</code>, but since this is a prose passage, there would be no reason to alter the word to fit a metre. Monier-Williams et al. (MW: 255) cite an unknown lexical source that equates <code>karaṭa</code> (mn.) with safflower (<code>Carthamus tinctorius</code>, L.), but this plant does not have a poisonous root.
- 108 Plumbago zeylanica (or rosea?), L.; see NK #1966, 1967
- 109 ?; see ?
- 110 ?; see ?
- 111 The readings of the Nepalese manuscripts

- the leaf-poisons are:
 - 1. 'poison-leaf' (*viṣapatrikā*)¹¹³,
 - 2. 'dangling' $(lamb\bar{a})^{114}$,
 - 3. 'choice tree' (varadāru)¹¹⁵,
 - 4. thorn apple $(karambha)^{116}$, and
 - 5. 'big thorn apple' (mahākarambha)¹¹⁷;
- the twelve fruit-poisons are:
 - 1. kumudvatī (kumudvatī)¹¹⁸,
 - 2. renuka ()119
 - 3. thorn apple $(karambha)^{120}$,
 - 4. 'big thorn apple' (mahākarambha)¹²¹,
 - 5. ribbed gourd (karkotaka)¹²²,
 - 6. black cardamom (hareṇu)¹²³,

Abrin is not harmful if eaten, but an infusion of the bruised (not boiled) seeds injected or rubbed in the eyes can be fatal (NK). The dose can be quite small.

Large doses of the root-extract of rauwolfia can be fatal.

In large doses luffa is emetic and a drastic purgative.

The roots of both rose and white leadwort are very toxic.

Cannabis was not known in India at the time of the *Suśrutasaṃhitā* (Wujastyk 2002; McHugh 2021: 270). Meulenbeld (1989: 61, note 3) addressed the present text and noted specifically that the name is masculine (*vijaya*), not feminine (*vijayā*); this is true of the vulgate but the Nepalese readings have the feminine.

- 113 unknown; see?
- 114 unknown; see?
- 115 unknown; see?
- 116 Datura metel, L.; see AVS 2.305 (cf. Abhidhānamañjarī), NK #796 ff., Potter 292 f., ADPS 132.
- 117 Datura metel, L.?; see AVS 2.305 (cf. Abhidhānamañjarī), NK #796 ff., Potter 292 f., ADPS 132.
- 118 unknown; see?
- 119; see,
- 120 Datura metel, L.; see AVS 2.305 (cf. Abhidhānamañjarī), NK #796 ff., Potter 292 f., ADPS 132.
- 121 Datura metel, L.?; see AVS 2.305 (cf. Abhidhānamañjarī), NK #796 ff., Potter 292 f., ADPS 132.
- 122 Luffa acutangula, (L.) Roxb.? (Mormodica cochinchinensis, Spreng.? Cf. Luffa tuberosa); see AVS 3.347 (NK #1640, 1643; NK #1520)
- 123 Amomum subulatum, Roxb.?; see PVS Caraka 2.734, AVS 1.128, NK #154

¹¹² The roots of sweet-scented oleander are highly toxic, as are most parts of the plant. Jequirity does indeed contain a dangerous toxin called Abrin in its seeds and to a lesser extent in its leaves, but apparently not in its roots or bulb.

- 7. purple calotropis (*khadyotaka* \rightarrow *arka*?)¹²⁴,
- 8. carmarī ($carmar\bar{i}$)¹²⁵,
- 9. heliotrope (*ibhagandhā* \rightarrow *hastiśuṇḍa*?)¹²⁶,
- 10. 'snake-killer' (sarpaghāti)¹²⁷,
- 11. 'gladdener' (nandana)¹²⁸, and
- 12. 'juice-cooker' (*sārapāka*)¹²⁹;¹³⁰
- the five flower-poisons are:
 - rattan (*vetra*)¹³¹,
 - wild chinchona (kādamba)¹³²,
 - black pepper ($vall\bar{\eta}a \rightarrow marica$)¹³³,
 - thorn apple (karambha)¹³⁴, and
 - big thorn apple (mahākarambha)¹³⁵;
- the seven bark, pith $(s\bar{a}ra)$ and resin $(niry\bar{a}sa)$ poisons are:
 - 'gutboiler' (antrapācaka)¹³⁶,
 - 'blade' (kartarīya)¹³⁷,
 - wild mustard (saurīyaka)¹³⁸,
 - emetic nut ($karagh\bar{a}$ ța $\rightarrow karah\bar{a}$ ța? $\rightarrow madana$)¹³⁹,
 - thorn apple (*karambha*)¹⁴⁰,
- 124 Calotropis gigantea, (L.) R. Br.; see ADPS 52, AVS 1.341, NK #427, Potter 63
- 125 unknown; see?
- 126 Heliotropium indicum, L.; see AVS 3.136, NK #1203
- 127 unknown; see?
- 128 unknown; see?
- 129 unknown; see?
- 130 Bamboo is not toxic. Heliotrope flowers are abortifacient in large doses.
- 131 Calamus rotang, L.; see AVS 1.330, NK #413
- 132 Anthocephalus cadamba, Miq.; see NK #204
- 133 Piper nigrum, L.?; see NK #1929; Rā.6.115, Dha.4.85, Dha.2.88
- 134 Datura metel, L.; see AVS 2.305 (cf. Abhidhānamañjarī), NK #796 ff., Potter 292 f., ADPS 132.
- 135 Datura metel, L.?; see AVS 2.305 (cf. Abhidhānamañjarī), NK #796 ff., Potter 292 f., ADPS 132.
- 136 unknown; see?
- 137 unknown; see?
- 138 Cleome viscosa, L.? (cf. Rā.4.144); see AVS 2.116, NK #615
- 139 Randia dumetorum, Lamk.; see NK #2091
- 140 Datura metel, L.; see AVS 2.305 (cf. Abhidhānamañjarī), NK #796 ff., Potter 292 f., ADPS 132.

- wild asparagus (nandana \rightarrow bahuputrā?)¹⁴¹, and
- munj grass (*nārācaka*)¹⁴²;¹⁴³
- the three milky sap $(k \sin a)$ -poisons are:
 - purple calotropis ($kumudaghn\bar{\iota} \rightarrow arka?$)¹⁴⁴,¹⁴⁵
 - oleander spurge $(snuh\bar{\iota})^{146}$, and
 - 'web-milk' (jālakṣīri)¹⁴⁷;
- the two element $(dh\bar{a}tu)$ -poisons are:
 - 'foam-stone' (phenāśma)¹⁴⁸, and
 - orpiment $(harit\bar{a}la)^{149}$; 150
- the thirteen tuber-poisons are:
 - jequirity $(k\bar{a}lak\bar{u}ta)^{151}$, 152
- 141 Asparagus racemosus, Willd.; see ADPS 441, AVS 1.218, NK #264, IGP 103, IMP 4.2499ff., Dymock 482ff.
- 142 Saccharum bengalense, Retz.?; see NK #2184
- 143 The bark of wild asparagus (*Asparagus racemosus*, Willd.) is toxic.
- 144 Calotropis gigantea, (L.) R. Br.; see ADPS 52, AVS 1.341, NK #427, Potter 63
- 145 The name of this poison, <code>kumuda-ghnī</code>, means 'lotus killer'. In Sanskrit literature, the <code>kumuda</code> lotus is associated with the moon, since it blossoms by night. Since the sun causes this lotus to close, it is therefore an 'enemy' of the lotus. One of the chief words for the sun, <code>arka</code>, is also the name of <code>Calotropis gigantea</code>, which indeed has a milky juice which is a violent purgative, poison and abortifacient.
- 146 Euphorbia neriifolia, L., or E. antiquorum, L.; see ADPS 448, AVS (2.388), 3.1, NK #988, IGP 457b
- 147 unknown; see?
- 148 unknown; see?
- 149 Arsenii trisulphidum; see NK v. 2, p. 20 ff.
- 150 **Dutt-1922** conjectured that 'foam-stone' may be impure white arsenic obtained by roasting orpiment.
- 151 Abrus precatorius, L.? Cf. RRS 21.14.; see AVS 1.10, NK #6, Potter 168.
- The much later (perhaps sixteenth century) alchemical *Rasaratnasamuccaya* of pseudo-Vāgbhaṭa (21.14) says that the *kālakūṭa* poison, here translated as 'jequirity', is similar to '*kākacañcu*' or 'Crow's Beak', which is indeed a name for the plant jequirity or *Abrus precatorius*, L., more commonly called *guñjā* (not to be confused with *gañjā*). The black seed-pod is described as having a 'sharp deflexed beak' in botanical descriptions, so the Sanskrit name is quite graphic and appropriate. The poisonous scarlet seeds of *A. precatorius* can have a distinct black dot or tip, which could perhaps be translated '*kāla-kūta*', or 'Black Tip'.

The *Rājanighaṇṭupariśiṣṭa* (9.35) gives *kālakūṭaka* as a synonym for *kāraskara*, or *Strychnos nux-vomica*, L., whose seeds are notoriously poisonous.

- wolfsbane (*vatsanābha*)¹⁵³,
- Indian mustard (*sarṣapa*)¹⁵⁴,
- leadwort $(p\bar{a}laka \rightarrow citraka)^{155}$,
- 'muddy' (kardama)¹⁵⁶, the
- 'Virāṭa's plant' (vairāṭaka)¹⁵⁷,
- nutgrass (*mustaka*)¹⁵⁸,
- atis root (śrngīviṣa)¹⁵⁹,
- sacred lotus (prapuṇḍarīka)¹⁶⁰,
- radish $(m\bar{u}laka)^{161}$,
- 'alas, alas' (hālāhala)¹⁶²,
- 'big poison' (*mahāviṣa*)¹⁶³, and
- galls (*karkaṭa*)¹⁶⁴. 165

Thus, there are fifty-five stationary poisons.

6 There are believed to be four kinds of wolfsbane, two kinds of nutgrass, and six kinds of Indian mustard. But the rest are said to be unique types.

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153 Aconitum napellus, L.; see AVS 1.47, NK #42, Potter 4 f.
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¹⁵⁴ Brassica juncea, Czern. & Coss.; see AVS 1.301, NK #378

¹⁵⁵ Plumbago zeylanica (indica? rosea?), L.; see Rā. 6.124, ADPS 119, NK #1966, 1967

¹⁵⁶ unknown; see?

¹⁵⁷ unknown; see?

¹⁵⁸ Cyperus rotundus, L.; see ADPS 316, AVS 2.296, NK #782

¹⁵⁹ Aconitum heterophyllum, Wall. ex Royle; see AVS 1.42, NK #39

¹⁶⁰ Nelumbo nucifera, Gaertn.; see Dutt 110, NK #1698

¹⁶¹ Raphanus sativus, L.; see NK #2098

¹⁶² unknown; see Cf. Sodhalanighantu p.43 (sub bola) = stomaka = vatsanābha

¹⁶³ unknown; see?

¹⁶⁴ Rhus succedanea, L.; see NK #2136

¹⁶⁵ Leadwort root is a powerful poison. Nutgrass is tuberous, but non-toxic. Atis has highly toxic tuberous roots. Neither sacred lotus nor galls are toxic. The 'alas, alas' poison (\$halahala\$) is the mythical poison produced from the churning of the ocean at the time of creation: it occurs in medical texts such as the present one, and commentators identify it with one or other of the lethal poisons such as wolfsbane or jequirity. agra-indi makes the intriguing suggestion that the word \$halahala\$, possibly to be identified with Paṇini's \$hailihila\$ (P.6.2.38), may be of Semitic origin, although his evidence seems uncertain (stei-pers cites Persian \$halahil\$ 'deadly (poison)' as a loan from Sanskrit). mayr-kurz also cites a claim for an Austro-Asiatic origin for the word.

The effects of poisons

Root-poisons cause writhing (udvestana), moaning (pralapa), and delirium (moha). Leaf-poison is known for causing yawning, writhing limbs, and wheezing ($\dot{s}v\bar{a}sa$). Fruit-poisons cause swelling of the scrotum, a burning feeling, and a repugnance for food. Flower-poisons will cause vomiting, distension ($\bar{a}dhm\bar{a}na$), and delirium (moha). The use of bark, pith ($s\bar{a}ra$) and resin ($niry\bar{a}sa$) poisons will cause foul-smelling breath, coarseness ($p\bar{a}rusya$), a headache, and a flow of phlegm (kapha). The milky sap ($ks\bar{i}ra$)-poisons make one froth, and make the tongue feel heavy. The element ($dh\bar{a}tu$)-poisons give one a pain in the chest, make one faint, and cause a burning feeling on the palate. These poisons are classified as ones which are normally lethal after a period of time.

11-17 Symptoms of tuber poisoning

The tuber-poisons, though, are severe. I shall talk about them in detail. With jequirity $(k\bar{a}lak\bar{u}\dagger a)^{167}$, there is numbness, trembling, and rigidity. With wolfsbane $(vatsan\bar{a}bha)^{168}$, there is rigidity of the neck, and the faeces, urine, and eyes become yellow. With Indian mustard $(sar\$apa)^{169}$, the wind becomes defective $(v\bar{a}tavaigunya)$, there is constipation $(\bar{a}-n\bar{a}ha)$, and lumps (granthi) start to appear. With leadwort $(p\bar{a}laka \rightarrow cit-raka)^{170}$, everyone agrees that there is weakness in the neck, and speech gets jumbled. With the one called 'muddy' $(kardama)^{171}$, there is a discharge (praseka), the faeces pour out, and the eyes turn yellow. With the 'Virāṭa's plant' $(vairāṭaka)^{172}$, one's limbs hurt, and one's head becomes ill. With nutgrass $(mustaka)^{173}$, one's arms and legs grow stiff, and start to tremble.

¹⁶⁶ This is indeed the observed effect of the milky sap of Calotropis procera, R. Br. (NK).

¹⁶⁷ Abrus precatorius, L.? Cf. RRS 21.14.; see AVS 1.10, NK #6, Potter 168.

¹⁶⁸ Aconitum napellus, L.; see AVS 1.47, NK #38, Potter 4 f.

¹⁶⁹ Brassica juncea, Czern & Coss.; see AVS 1.301, NK #378

¹⁷⁰ Plumbago zeylanica (indica? rosea?), L.; see Rā. 6.124, ADPS 119, NK #1966, 1967

¹⁷¹ unknown; see?

¹⁷² unknown; see?

¹⁷³ Cyperus rotundus, L.; see ADPS 316, AVS 2.296, NK #782

- With atis root $(\dot{s}\dot{r}\dot{n}g\bar{\imath}v\dot{\imath}\dot{s}a)^{174}$, one's limbs grow weak, there is a burning feeling.
- With sacred lotus (*prapuṇḍarīka*)¹⁷⁵, one's eyes go red, and one's belly becomes distended.
- 16b With radish $(m\bar{u}laka)^{176}$ es, one is drained of colour, one vomits, one has hiccups, distension, and passes out.
- 17a With 'alas, alas' (hālāhala)¹⁷⁷, a man starts, after a while, to gasp and turn brown.
- 17b With 'big poison' $(mah\bar{a}vișa)^{178}$, one gets violent knots (granthi) and stabbing pains in the heart.
- 18a With galls (*karkaṭa*)¹⁷⁹, one leaps up laughing and gnashing one's teeth.
- These thirteen cited poisons which originate from tubers are fearfully potent. Experts know them all by these ten features: they are traditionally said to be dry $(r\bar{u}k sa)$, hot, sharp, rarified $(s\bar{u}k sa)$, fast-acting, pervasive, expansive (vik asa), limpid (visada), light, and indigestible.
- 19b- Because of their dryness they cause inflammation of the wind; their heat inflames the choler and blood. Because of their sharpness they unhinge the mind, and they cut through the connections with the sensitive points (*marman*). Because of being rarified they infiltrate and disconnect the parts of the body. Because they are fast-acting they kill quickly, and because of their pervasiveness they blend with one's physical constitution (*prakṛti*). Because they expand they destroy the humour (*doṣa*)s, element (*dhātu*)s, and the impurities. Because they are limpid they overflow, because they are light they are difficult to cure, and because they are indigestible they are hard to eliminate. And so they cause long suffering.
 - One can be certain that any poison which is instantly lethal, whether it be stationary, mobile, or artificial, will have all ten of these features.

¹⁷⁴ Aconitum heterophyllum, Wall. ex Royle; see AVS 1.42, NK #39

¹⁷⁵ Nelumbo nucifera, Gaertn.; see Dutt 110, NK #1698

¹⁷⁶ Raphanus sativus, L.; see NK #2098

¹⁷⁷ unknown; see Cf. Sodhalanighantu p.43 (sub bola) = stomaka = vatsanābha

¹⁷⁸ unknown; see?

¹⁷⁹ Rhus succedanea, L.; see NK #2136

Slow-acting poison

- A poison, whether it be stationary, mobile, or artificial, which has not completely gone from the body, but which is worn out or damaged by anti-toxic medicine, or else dried up by blazing fire, wind, or sunshine, or which has just lost its virulence by itself, becomes a 'slow-acting poison $(d\bar{u}s\bar{v}isa)$ '. Because it has lost its potency it is no longer lethal. It is surrounded by phlegm (kapha) and has an aftermath that lasts for years.
- If he is suffering from this, his stools and complexion deteriorate, he gets bad breath and a nasty taste in his mouth, and is very thirsty. He faints, vomits, his speech is slurred, and he is depressed. Also, he has the symptoms of contaminated dropsy (*duṣyodara*).¹⁸⁰
- If it lodges in his stomach (āmāśaya), his wind and phlegm become diseased; if it lodges in his intestines (pakvāśaya), his wind and choler become diseased. The man's hair and body are ruined, and he looks like a bird whose wings have been chopped off.
- 29a-c If it lodges in one of the body tissue (*dhātu*)s such as the chyle (*rasa*), it causes the diseases that were described as arising from the elements, and it rapidly becomes inflamed on nasty days which are cold and windy.
- Now listen to the preliminary signs of such a case: sleepiness, heaviness, yawning, slackness (viśleṣa) and exhilaration (harṣa), and a chafing of the limbs (aṅgamarda). Next, it causes food-mania (annamada) and indigestion, appetite-loss (arocaka), round blotches (maṇḍala), skin disease (koṭha), and delirium (moha). The body tissues dwindle away (kṣaya), the feet, hands, and face get swollen, dropsy develops, and there is vomiting and diarrhoea. Perhaps his colour may drain away and he may faint or have irregular fever (viṣamajvara). It may cause heightened, powerful thirst.
 - These various disorders are of many different types: one poison may produce madness, while another one may cause constipation $(\bar{a}n\bar{a}ha)$, and yet another may deplete the semen. One may cause slurred speech, while another pallid skin disease (kustha).

^{180 &#}x27;Contaminated dropsy' (*duṣyodara* or *dūṣyudara*) is described elsewhere as a condition which arises when women of ill-character mix nail clippings, hair, urine, faeces, or menstrual blood with a man's food, in order to gain power over him (2.7.11–13).

Traditionally, 'slow-acting poison' $(d\bar{u}s\bar{\iota}-visa)$ is so called because it corrupts $(d\bar{u}sayate)$ the body tissue $(dh\bar{a}tu)s$. This corruption is caused by repetitively keeping to certain locations, times, foods, and sleeping in the daytime.

34- The stages of slow poisoning

In the first shock of having taken a stationary poison, a person goes a brown colour, his tongue becomes stiff, he grows faint, and starts to gasp.

- In the second, he trembles, collapses, has a burning feeling, as well as a sore throat. When the poison reaches the stomach $(\bar{a}m\bar{a}\acute{s}aya)$, it causes pain in the chest (hrd).
- In the third, the roof of his mouth goes dry, he gets violent shooting pains (\hat{sula}) in the stomach $(\bar{a}m\bar{a}\hat{s}aya)$, and his eyes swell up and go a nasty, yellow colour.
- In the fourth shock, it causes the stomach and intestines to sting (toda), he gets hiccups, a cough, a rumbling in the gut (antra), and his head becomes very heavy.
- 38 In the fifth he dribbles phlegm (*kapha*), is drained of colour, his joints crack (*parvabheda*), all his humours are inflamed, and he also has a pain in his belly (*pakvādhāna*).
- 39a In the sixth, his consciousness is annihilated and he completely loses control of his bowels.
- 39b In the seventh, his shoulders, back and loins break, and he is finished.

Remedies for the stages of slow poisoning

- 40 In the first shock of the poison, he should vomit and be sprinkled with cold water. Then he should be made to drink an antidote (agada) together with honey and ghee.
- In the second, he should vomit as before, and then be given a purgative to drink.
- In the third, it is good for him to drink an antidote and take a nasal medicine (*nasya*) as well as an eye salve (*añjana*).
- 42a In the fourth, he should drink a medical antidote mixed with oil.

- In the fifth, he should be prescribed the antidote together with a decoction ($kv\bar{a}tha$) of honey and liquorice (madhuka)¹⁸¹.
- In the sixth, the cure is the same as for diarrhoea. And in the seventh, he should have medicated powder blown up his nose, and after having a 'crow's foot ($k\bar{a}kapada$)' cut made on his head, he should have a piece of bloody meat put on it.¹⁸²
- In the intervals between each shock, assuming that the above actions have been performed, one should give the patient cold porridge together with ghee and honey, to take away the poison.
- Both kinds of poison are destroyed by a porridge prepared with the stewed juice $(niṣkv\bar{a}tha)$ of the following: luffa $(koṣ\bar{a}takya)^{183}$, migraine tree $(agnimantha)^{184}$, velvet-leaf $(p\bar{a}th\bar{a})^{185}$, 'sun-creeper' $(s\bar{u}ryavall\bar{\iota} \rightarrow j\bar{\iota}vant\bar{\iota}?)^{186}$, heart-leaved moonseed $(amrt\bar{a})^{187}$, myrobalan $(abhay\bar{a})^{188}$ s, siris $(sir\bar{\iota}sa)^{189}$, white siris $(kin\bar{\iota}h\bar{\iota})^{190}$, selu plum $(selu)^{191}$, white clitoria $(giry\bar{a}hv\bar{a})^{192}$, the two kinds of turmeric $(rajan\bar{\iota})^{193}$, the two hogweed $(punarnav\bar{a})^{194}$ s (red and white), black cardamom $(harenu)^{195}$, the three pungent spices (trikatu) (dried

¹⁸¹ Glycyrrhiza glabra, L.; see AVS 3.84, NK #1136

¹⁸² Suśruta explains the term <code>avapīḍa</code> 'medicated nasal powder' as the procedure either of administering nasal drops (<code>avapīḍa</code>), or blowing medicated powder into the nose (4.40.44–46): it is particularly recommended for unconscious or incapable patients. The 'crow's-foot' procedure is also recommended later in the 'Section on Procedures' (5.5.24a) in cases of snake-bite. It is also described by Caraka (see p. ?? below).

¹⁸³ Luffa cylindrica, (L.) M. J. Roem. or L. acutangula, (L.) Roxb.; see ADPS 252, NK #1514 etc.

¹⁸⁴ Premna corymbosa, Rottl.; see IMP 1927, ADPS 21, NK #2025, AVS 4.348; GJM 523: = P. integrifolia/serratifolia, L.

¹⁸⁵ Cissampelos pariera, L.; see ADPS 366, NK #592, GJM 573, IMP 1.95; cf. AVS 2.277

¹⁸⁶ Holostemma ada-kodien, Schultes; see ADPS 195, AVS 3.167, NK #1242, IMP 3.1619

¹⁸⁷ Tinospora cordifolia, (Willd.) Hook.f. & Thoms.?; see ADPS 38, NK #2472 & 624, Dastur #229

¹⁸⁸ Terminalia chebula, Retz.; see ADPS 172, NK #2451, Potter 214

¹⁸⁹ Albizia lebbeck, Benth.; see AVS 1.81, NK #91

¹⁹⁰ Albizia procera, (Roxb.) Benth.; see GVDB 98, NK #93

¹⁹¹ Cordia myxa, L. non Forssk.; see GJM 529 (2), IGP 291b, cf. IMP 3.1677f; cf. AVS 2.180 (C. dichotoma, Forst.f.), NK #672 (C. latifolia, Roxb.)

¹⁹² Clitoria ternatea, L.; see AVS 2.129, NK #621

¹⁹³ Curcuma longa, L.; see ADPS 169, AVS 2.259, NK #750

¹⁹⁴ Boerhaavia diffusa, L.; see ADPS 387, AVS 1.281, NK #363

¹⁹⁵ Amomum subulatum, Roxb.?; see PVS Caraka 2.734, AVS 1.128, NK #154

ginger $(\sin t h \bar{\iota})^{196}$, long pepper $(pippal\bar{\iota})^{197}$, and black pepper $(mar-ica)^{198}$), the two Indian sarsaparillas $(s\bar{a}rive)$ (country sarsaparilla $(anant\bar{a})^{199}$ and black creeper $(p\bar{a}lind\bar{\iota})^{200}$) and country mallow $(bal\bar{a})^{201}$.

47-49 The 'invincible' ghee

There is a famous ghee called 'Invincible' (ajeya). It rapidly destroys all poisons and 'always conquers'. It is made with a mash (kalka) of the following plants: liquorice (madhuka)²⁰², Indian rosebay (tagara)²⁰³, costus (kuṣṭha)²⁰⁴, deodar (bhadradāru)²⁰⁵, black cardamom (hareṇu)²⁰⁶, Alexandrian laurel (punnāga)²⁰⁷, cherry (elavāluka)²⁰⁸, cobra's saffron (nāgapuṣpa)²⁰⁹, water-lily (utpala)²¹⁰, white clitoria (sitā \rightarrow śvetā?)²¹¹, embelia (viḍaṅga)²¹², sandalwood (candana)²¹³, cassia cinnamon (patra)²¹⁴, 'going-to-my-darling' (priyaṅgu)²¹⁵, rosha grass (dhyāmaka)²¹⁶, the two turmerics (ordinary turmeric (rajanī)²¹⁷ and Indian barberry (dāruharidrā)²¹⁸), the two

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196 Zingiber officinale, Roscoe.; see ADPS 50, NK #2658, AVS 5.435, IGP 1232
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¹⁹⁷ Piper longum, L.; see ADPS 374, NK #1928

¹⁹⁸ Piper nigrum, L.; see ADPS 294, NK #1929

¹⁹⁹ Hemidesmus indicus, (L.) R. Br.; see ADPS 434, AVS 3.141-5, NK #1210

²⁰⁰ Ichnocarpus frutescens, (L.) R.Br. or Cryptolepis buchanani, Roemer & Schultes; see AVS 3.141, 3.145, 3.203, NK #1283, #1210, ADPS 434

²⁰¹ Sida cordifolia, L.; see ADPS 71, NK #2297

²⁰² Glycyrrhiza glabra, L.; see AVS 3.84, NK #1136

²⁰³ Tabernaemontana divaricata (L.) R.Br. ex Roem. & Schultes.; see GJM 557, AVS 5.232

²⁰⁴ Saussurea costus, Clarke; see NK #2239

²⁰⁵ Cedrus deodara, (Roxb.ex D.Don) G. Don; see AVS 41, NK #516

²⁰⁶ Amomum subulatum, Roxb.?; see PVS Caraka 2.734, AVS 1.128, NK #154

²⁰⁷ Calophyllum inophyllum, L.; see AVS 1.338, NK #425

²⁰⁸ Prunus cerasus, L.?; see BVDB 58, NK #2037

²⁰⁹ Mesua ferrea, L.; see NK #1595

²¹⁰ Nymphaea stellata, Willd.; see GJM 528, IGP 790; Dutt 110, NK #1726

²¹¹ Clitoria ternatea, L.; see AVS 2.129, NK #621

²¹² Embelia ribes, Burm. f.; see ADPS 507, AVS 2.368, NK #929, Potter 113

²¹³ Santalum album, L.; see ADPS 111, NK #2217

²¹⁴ Cinnamomum tamala, (Buch.-Ham.) Nees; see AVS 2.84, NK #

²¹⁵ Callicarpa macrophylla, Vahl.; see AVS 1.334, NK #420

²¹⁶ Cymbopogon martinii (Roxb.) Wats; see AVS 2.285, NK #177

²¹⁷ Curcuma longa, L.; see ADPS 169, AVS 2.259, NK #750

²¹⁸ Berberis aristata, DC.; see Dymock 1.65, NK #685, GJM 562, IGP 141

Indian nightshade (*bṛhatī*)s (poison berry (*bṛhatī*)²¹⁹ and yellow-berried nightshade (*kṣudrā*)²²⁰), the two Indian sarsaparillas (*sārive*) (country sarsaparilla (*anantā*)²²¹ and black creeper (*pālindī*)²²²), beggarweed (*sthirā* \rightarrow *śālaparṇī*)²²³, and 'spotted-leaf' (*sahā* \rightarrow *pṛśniparṇī*)²²⁴.

50-52 Curing the 'slow-acting' poison

Someone suffering from 'slow-acting poison (dūsīvisa)' should be well sweated, and purged both top and bot-Then he should in all cases be made tom. to drink 'slow-acting the following antidote which removes poison':

Take long pepper $(pippal\bar{\imath})^{225}$, rosha grass $(dhy\bar{a}maka)^{226}$, spikenard $(m\bar{a}ms\bar{\imath})^{227}$, lodh tree $(s\bar{a}vara \rightarrow lodhra)^{228}$, nutgrass $(paripelava \rightarrow plava \rightarrow must\bar{a}?)^{229}$, soda crystals $(suvarcik\bar{a} \rightarrow suvarjik\bar{a})^{230}$, cardamom $(s\bar{u}ksmail\bar{a})^{231}$, 'scented pavonia' $(toya \rightarrow b\bar{a}laka)^{232}$, and 'gold-chalk' ochre (kanakagairika). This antitoxin, taken with honey, eliminates 'slow-acting poison'. It is called 'slow-acting poison antidote $(d\bar{u}s\bar{i}vis\bar{a}ri)$ ', and there is no situation where it is not recommended.

53–54 If there are any side-effect (*upadrava*)s, such as fever, a burning feeling, hiccups, constipation ($\bar{a}n\bar{a}ha$), depletion of the semen,

²¹⁹ Solanum violaceum, Ortega; see ADPS 100, NK #2329, AVS 5.151

²²⁰ Solanum virginianum, L.; see ADPS 100, NK #2329, AVS 5.164

²²¹ Hemidesmus indicus, (L.) R. Br.; see ADPS 434, AVS 3.141-5, NK #1210

²²² Ichnocarpus frutescens, (L.) R.Br. or Cryptolepis buchanani, Roemer & Schultes; see AVS 3.141, 3.145, 3.203, NK #1283, #1210, ADPS 434

²²³ Desmodium gangeticum (L.) DC; see Dymock 1.428, GJM 602, NK #1192; ADPS 382, 414 and AVS 2.319, 4.366 are confusing

²²⁴ Uraria lagopoides, DC; see GJM 577, Dymock 1.426, IMP 1.750ff., NK #2542; ADPS 382, AVS 2.319 4.366 are confusing

²²⁵ Piper longum, L.; see ADPS 374, NK #1928

²²⁶ Cymbopogon martinii (Roxb.) Wats; see AVS 2.285, NK #177

²²⁷ Nardostachys grandiflora, DC.; see NK #1691

²²⁸ Symplocos racemosa, Roxb.; see ADPS 279, NK #2420

²²⁹ Cyperus rotundus, L.; see ADPS 316, AVS 2.296, NK #782

²³⁰ Sodium carbonate; see NK 2, p. 101

²³¹ Elettaria cardamomum, Maton; see AVS 2.360, NK #924, Potter 66

²³² Pavonia odorata, Willd.; see ADPS 498, NK #1822

distension, diarrhoea, fainting, illness in the heart, bellyache (jaṭhara), madness, trembling, or others, then one should treat each one in its own terms, as well as using the anti-toxic medicines.

'Slow-acting poison' is curable $(s\bar{a}dhya)$ if caught immediately; it is treatable $(y\bar{a}pya)$ if it is of a year's standing; but it cannot be cured in someone who has unhealthy habits or who is weak $(k\bar{s}\bar{n}a)$.

Thus ends the second chapter, called 'on the knowledge of stationary poisons', in the Procedures Section of Suśruta's *Compendium*.

Abbreviations

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MW Monier-Williams, Monier, Leumann, E., Cappeller, C., et al. (1899), A Sanskrit–English Dictionary Etymologically and Philologically Arranged, New Edition (Oxford: Clarendon Press); 1970 reprint.

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Glossary

/a.a1	d ab all / a ab	ala a fira a cafe tha a limah a	:1-=4:
gor	d-chalk' ochre	chafing of the limbs	vikāśin 40
<i>(</i> ·	kanakagairika 45	aṅgamarda 41	eye salve
inv	incible'	chest	añjana 42
	ajeya 44	hṛd 42	food-mania
		chyle	annamada 41
ādhr	nāna	rasa 41	unnumuuu 41
	distension 39	coarseness	granthi
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