**Anacardium orientale**, a homeopathic remedy prepared from the marking nut tree, is a deep-acting remedy with a primary affinity for the **mind and nervous system**, particularly in states of mental confusion, anxiety, and feelings of a split personality. Its properties are defined by a unique combination of psychological symptoms, including a conflict between good and evil impulses.

### **Key Homeopathic Properties of Anacardium Orientale:**

**1. Mental and Emotional Symptoms (The Anacardium "Type"):**

* **The "Two Wills" or Split Personality:** This is the most characteristic and striking symptom of Anacardium. The person feels as if they have two wills, one urging them to do good and the other urging them to do evil. They may be tormented by a conflict between these opposing impulses.
* **Lack of Confidence and Mental Weakness:** The person has a profound lack of self-confidence and a weak memory, particularly for recent events.1 They may feel as if they are a "stranger to themselves."
* **Profound Anxiety:** There is a deep and overwhelming anxiety, especially about the future. This anxiety can be so severe that it can lead to a state of great fear and even panic.
* **Maliciousness and Cruelty:** The person may have a tendency towards maliciousness, cruelty, and a desire to harm others. They may curse, swear, or have a perverse desire to do things that they know are wrong.
* **Brain Fog:** The mind feels foggy and heavy. They may have difficulty concentrating and may feel a sensation of a "plug" or a "band" around the head.

**2. Physical Symptoms:**

* **Digestive System:** Anacardium has a strong affinity for the digestive tract. A classic keynote is that the stomach pain is **relieved by eating**. The person may feel a gnawing, empty sensation in the stomach that is temporarily satisfied by food.
* **Constipation:** Constipation is a common symptom, where the person feels a constant urge to go but the stools are difficult to pass.2
* **Skin:** The remedy is used for a variety of skin conditions, particularly those that are intensely itchy and have a vesicular or pustular eruption.3 The itching is often accompanied by a burning sensation.
* **Pains:** The pains are often described as a sense of pressure, as if a dull plug were being pushed into the body.

### **Generalities and Modalities:**

* **Aggravations:** Symptoms are generally worse from emotional distress, mental exertion, and from hot weather. The stomach pain is worse when the stomach is empty.
* **Ameliorations:** The patient may feel better from eating, from resting, and from warmth.

In homeopathic practice, Anacardium Orientale is chosen when the totality of the patient's symptoms matches its unique and often severe symptom picture. The presence of a conflict between two wills, combined with a lack of confidence and digestive symptoms that are relieved by eating, are the key indicators for its use. It is a deep-acting remedy and should only be prescribed by a qualified homeopath.