International Journal of Scientific Research in Engineering and Management (IJSREM)
Volume: 10 Issue: 03 | March - 2026 SJIF Rating: 8.659 ISSN: 2582-3930

# Ethnobotanical Knowledge of Indigenous Tribes of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands with Special Reference to the Nicobarese

**S. Jayakumar1 and Priyanka Toppo2**

1. Andaman College, Chakkargaon, Sri Vijaya Puram, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, India.
2. Department of Botany, Jawaharlal Nehru Rajkeeya Mahavidyalaya, Sri Vijaya Puram, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, India.

## ABSTRACT

This study documents the ethnobotanical knowledge of the Nicobarese tribe of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, India, with particular emphasis on medicinal plant use and associated cultural practices. Field surveys were conducted in selected Nicobarese villages using semi-structured interviews, guided discussions and participant observation involving traditional knowledge practitioners (TKPs) and elderly community members. A total of 50 plant species belonging to 30 families were recorded for medicinal, nutritional, ritual and utilitarian purposes. Leaves were the most frequently used plant part, and remedies were commonly prepared as decoctions, pastes, infusions and poultices. Frequently cited species included ***Morinda citrifolia***, ***Centella asiatica***, ***Phyllanthus emblica*** and ***Ocimum tenuiflorum***, which are used to treat ailments such as gastrointestinal disorders, skin infections, respiratory problems and metabolic conditions. Several plant species also play important roles in food security, housing materials and ritual practices, highlighting the close relationship between the Nicobarese community and their natural environment. However, traditional knowledge is increasingly threatened by environmental change, modernization and declining intergenerational transmission. Systematic documentation and community-based conservation strategies are therefore essential to preserve this ethnobotanical heritage and support the sustainable use of plant resources in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

## INTRODUCTION

The Andaman and Nicobar Islands, located in the Bay of Bengal, represent one of the most biologically diverse regions of India and support a wide variety of tropical ecosystems including evergreen forests, mangroves and littoral vegetation (Sinha & Malick, 1995; Basu et al., 2024). The archipelago comprises about 836 islands and islets, of which only small proportions are, inhabited (Basu et al., 2024). Geographically, the islands are divided into two major groups—the Andaman Islands in the north and the Nicobar Islands in the south—separated by the Ten Degree Channel. Together they extend for nearly 800 km and cover a total land area of approximately 8,249 km² (Basu et al., 2024).

In addition to their rich biodiversity, the islands support several indigenous tribal communities whose traditional lifestyles are closely associated with natural ecosystems (Basu et al., 2024). The indigenous populations include the Great Andamanese, Onge, Jarawa and Sentinelese in the Andaman Islands, and the Shompen and Nicobarese in the Nicobar group (Basu et al., 2024). These communities are protected under the Andaman and Nicobar Islands (Protection of Aboriginal Tribes) Regulation, 1956, which restricts access to tribal areas and seeks to preserve their cultural heritage and traditional lifestyles.

Among these groups, the Nicobarese represent the largest tribal population in the Nicobar district and are distributed across islands such as Car Nicobar, Kamorta, Teressa, Katchal and Great Nicobar (Gupta et al., 2004; Verma et al., 2010). Traditionally dependent on agriculture, fishing and forest resources, the Nicobarese maintain extensive knowledge of plant diversity and natural resources (Dagar, 1989; Dagar & Dagar, 1991, 1996, 2003; Gupta et al., 2004; Verma et al., 2010; Chander et al., 2014, 2015a, 2015b; Chander & Vijayachari, 2018). Their livelihoods are closely linked with coastal ecosystems and homestead agroforestry systems that provide food, medicine and building materials (Gupta et al., 2004; Chander et al., 2014, 2015a, 2015b).

Ethnobotany, defined as the study of relationships between people and plants, provides valuable insights into how indigenous communities utilize plant resources for various aspects of daily life including healthcare, nutrition, housing and cultural practices (Aremu et al., 2024). Ethnobotanical research has contributed significantly to biodiversity conservation and has often provided leads for the discovery of pharmacologically active compounds (Aremu et al., 2024; Ralte et al., 2024a; Ralte & Singh, 2024; Luikham & Bhattacharyya, 2025; Kureshi et al., 2025).

In many indigenous communities, herbal medicine forms the primary healthcare system, particularly in remote areas where access to modern medical facilities may be limited (Aremu et al., 2024; Ralte et al., 2024a). Traditional knowledge practitioners (TKPs) play an important role in diagnosing illnesses and preparing herbal remedies using locally available plant species (Chander et al., 2014, 2015a, 2015b; Verma et al., 2010).

Previous ethnobotanical studies conducted in the Nicobar Islands have documented numerous medicinal plant species used for treating ailments such as respiratory infections, gastrointestinal disorders, skin diseases and metabolic conditions (Dagar, 1989; Dagar & Dagar, 1991, 1996, 2003; Gupta et al., 2004; Chander et al., 2014, 2015a, 2015b; Verma et al., 2010; Chander & Vijayachari, 2018). Leaves are generally the most commonly used plant parts, and remedies are typically prepared as decoctions, infusions or pastes (Chander et al., 2014, 2015a, 2015b).

In addition to medicinal uses, plants play a vital role in Nicobarese food systems, material culture and ritual practices (Gupta et al., 2004; Verma et al., 2010; Chander et al., 2014, 2015a, 2015b). Staple crops such as ***Cocos nucifera***, ***Dioscorea alata***, ***Colocasia esculenta*** and ***Manihot esculenta*** provide essential nutritional resources, while species like ***Pandanus leram*** and ***Cocos nucifera*** are widely used in house construction and canoe making (Dagar & Dagar, 1991, 1996; Gupta et al., 2004; Chander et al., 2014). Ritual ceremonies frequently involve plants such **as** ***Areca catechu***, ***Piper betle*** and ***Cycas rumphii***, reflecting the deep cultural significance of plant use in Nicobarese society (Verma et al., 2010; Chander et al., 2014, 2015a).

Despite its importance, traditional ethnobotanical knowledge is increasingly threatened by environmental change, modernization and declining transmission of knowledge among younger generations (Basu et al., 2024; Aremu et al., 2024). Systematic documentation of plant use is therefore essential to preserve indigenous knowledge systems and support sustainable resource management (Dagar & Dagar, 2003; Gupta et al., 2004; Ralte & Singh, 2024). The present study aims to document the ethnobotanical knowledge of the Nicobarese tribe with particular emphasis on medicinal plants, plant parts used and traditional preparation methods.

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

### Study area

The study was conducted in selected Nicobarese villages on Car Nicobar, Kamorta, Teressa, Katchal and Great Nicobar in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, India. The region has a humid tropical climate, extensive evergreen and littoral forests, and a high dependence of local communities on plant resources for subsistence needs (Fig-1).

Figure-1

**Selection of participants**

Traditional knowledge practitioners (TKPs), elder community members and individuals engaged in traditional healing, food processing, house building and ritual activities were purposively selected as key informants. Preference was given to practitioners recognised by the community for their expertise and to elders with long-term knowledge of local flora and cultural practices.

**Data collection**

Ethnobotanical data were gathered through semi-structured questionnaires, guided interviews and informal discussions. Information recorded included local and scientific names (where available), family, parts used, preparation methods, modes of administration, distribution within Nicobar, brief morphological description and perceived efficacy for medicinal, culinary, ritual and construction uses. Field walks with practitioners were used to locate and observe species in situ, photograph plants and, where permitted, collect voucher specimens for later identification.

**Ethical considerations**

Prior informed consent was obtained from local authorities (e.g. District Commissioner's office, Car Nicobar) and from participating communities and practitioners. All interactions respected tribal customs, taboos and restrictions related to sacred sites or sensitive knowledge. The work focused on documentation for conservation and educational purposes and explicitly acknowledged the intellectual property rights of indigenous communities, following best-practice guidelines from earlier Nicobarese ethnomedicinal surveys.

**Data analysis**

Plant species were classified by primary use (medicinal, food, ritual, construction/utility) and, for medicinal plants, by ailment categories (respiratory, gastrointestinal, dermatological, metabolic and others). Descriptive statistics were used to summarise species numbers by use category, plant part and preparation method. Species cited by multiple informants were noted as culturally important taxa, and patterns of use were compared qualitatively with previous studies from Nancowry, Car Nicobar and Little Nicobar.

**RESULTS**

A total of 50 plant species belonging to 30 families were documented during the study, reflecting the rich ethnobotanical knowledge of the Nicobarese community. The most represented families were Euphorbiaceae, Zingiberaceae, Moraceae, Rutaceae and Arecaceae, which together contributed a substantial proportion of the recorded medicinal plants. This diversity indicates a close relationship between the Nicobarese people and their surrounding natural environment, in which plant resources play an important role in traditional healthcare practices.

Analysis of plant parts used in remedy preparation showed that leaves were the most frequently utilized plant part, followed by fruits, roots and bark. The predominance of leaves may be attributed to their easy availability and the presence of high concentrations of bioactive compounds. Traditional remedies were commonly prepared in the form of decoctions, infusions, pastes and poultices, depending on the type of ailment treated. In most cases, water served as the primary solvent for extracting medicinal properties, reflecting the simplicity and practicality of traditional preparation methods.

**Table 1. Medicinal plants used by the Nicobarese tribe of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.**

| S.No. | Scientific Name | Family | Common/ Local Name | Plant Part(s) Used | Ethnomedicinal Uses |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | ***Aegle marmelos*** (L.) Corrêa | Rutaceae | Bael | Leaves, bark, fruit | Dysentery, digestive disorders, fever |
| 2 | ***Aloe vera*** (L.) Burm.f. | Asphodelaceae | Aloe | Leaf gel | Burns, skin diseases, insect bites |
| 3 | ***Alstonia kurzii*** Hook.f. | Apocynaceae | Devil's tree | Bark, fruit | Cardiac disorders, anthelmintic |
| 4 | ***Amaranthus blitum*** L. | Amaranthaceae | Amaranth | Leaves, stem | Anti-inflammatory, skin conditions |
| 5 | ***Ananas comosus*** (L.) Merr. | Bromeliaceae | Pineapple | Fruit | Constipation, digestive aid |
| 6 | ***Andrographis paniculata*** (Burm.f.) Nees | Acanthaceae | Kalmegh | Leaves | Hepatic disorders, jaundice |
| 7 | ***Areca catechu*** L. | Arecaceae | Areca nut | Seed | Stimulant |
| 8 | ***Artabotrys nicobarianus*** D. Das | Annonaceae | Nicobar champa | Leaves, fruit | Malaria, back pain |
| 9 | ***Artocarpus altilis*** (Parkinson) Fosberg | Moraceae | Breadfruit | Leaves, bark, root, fruit | Skin diseases, wounds, digestion |
| 10 | ***Artocarpus heterophyllus Lam.*** | Moraceae | Jackfruit | Leaves, fruit | Digestive disorders, skin diseases |
| 11 | ***Averrhoa carambola*** L. | Oxalidaceae | Star fruit | Leaves, fruit | Diabetes, hypertension |
| 12 | ***Azadirachta indica*** A. Juss. | Meliaceae | Neem | Whole plant | Antimicrobial, diabetes, ulcers |
| 13 | ***Borassus flabellifer*** L. | Arecaceae | Palmyra palm | Sap, fruit | Nutritive, beverage source |
| 14 | ***Calotropis gigantea*** (L.) Dryand. | Apocynaceae | Crown flower | Root bark, flowers | Skin diseases, ulcers |
| 15 | ***Carica papaya*** L. | Caricaceae | Papaya | Leaves, fruit, seed | Febrile conditions, digestive aid |
| 16 | ***Ceiba pentandra*** (L.) Gaertn. | Malvaceae | Silk cotton tree | Roots, leaves | Edema, cough |
| 17 | ***Centella asiatica*** (L.) Urb. | Apiaceae | Gotu kola | Leaves | Wound healing, anti-inflammatory |
| 18 | ***Chromolaena odorata*** (L.) R.M. King & H. Rob. | Asteraceae | Siam weed | Leaves, flowers | Wound healing, antimicrobial |

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 19 | ***Citrus limon*** (L.) Osbeck | Rutaceae | Lemon | Fruit | Cold, cough, digestion |
| 20 | ***Citrus maxima*** (Burm.) Merr. | Rutaceae | Pomelo | Leaves, fruit | Cough, fever, digestive disorders |
| 21 | ***Cocos nucifera*** L. | Arecaceae | Coconut | Fruit | Nutritional, general health |
| 22 | ***Colocasia esculenta*** (L.) Schott | Araceae | Taro | Leaves, corm | Food, skin ailments |
| 23 | ***Crinum asiaticum*** L. | Amaryllidaceae | Crinum lily | Leaves, bulb | Wound healing |
| 24 | ***Curcuma longa*** L. | Zingiberaceae | Turmeric | Rhizome | Anti-inflammatory, wound healing |
| 25 | ***Curcuma petiolata*** Roxb. | Zingiberaceae | Hidden ginger | Rhizome | Skin diseases, digestive disorders |
| 26 | ***Cycas rumphii*** Miq. | Cycadaceae | Sago palm | Seed, bark, sap | Sores, food source |
| 27 | ***Cymbopogon citratus*** (DC.) Stapf | Poaceae | Lemongrass | Leaves | Fever, digestive disorders |
| 28 | ***Dioscorea alata*** L. | Dioscoreaceae | Yam | Tuber | Nutritional |
| 29 | ***Euphorbia hirta*** L. | Euphorbiaceae | Asthma plant | Leaves, stem | Asthma, dysentery |
| 30 | ***Glochidion calocarpum*** Kurz | Phyllanthaceae | Cheese tree | Bark, seed | Gastrointestinal disorders |
| 31 | ***Ipomoea batatas*** (L.) Lam. | Convolvulaceae | Sweet potato | Tuber | Nutritional, eye health |
| 32 | ***Ipomoea pes-caprae*** (L.) R. Br. | Convolvulaceae | Beach morning glory | Roots, flowers | Anti-inflammatory, anti-malarial |
| 33 | ***Jatropha curcas*** L. | Euphorbiaceae | Physic nut | Seed, leaves | Topical applications |
| 34 | ***Mangifera nicobarica*** Kosterm. | Anacardiaceae | Nicobar mango | Leaves, fruit | Skin disorders |
| 35 | ***Manihot esculenta*** Crantz | Euphorbiaceae | Cassava | Tuber | Nutritional |
| 36 | ***Manilkara zapota*** (L.) P. Royen | Sapotaceae | Sapodilla | Fruit, bark | Digestive aid |
| 37 | ***Mentha spicata*** L. | Lamiaceae | Mint | Leaves | Indigestion |
| 38 | ***Morinda citrifolia*** L. | Rubiaceae | Noni | Fruit | Diabetes, infections |
| 39 | ***Ocimum tenuiflorum*** L. | Lamiaceae | Tulsi | Leaves | Respiratory disorders |
| 40 | ***Orophea katschallica*** Kurz | Annonaceae | — | Leaves | Insect repellent |
| 41 | ***Pandanus leram*** Jones ex R. Millar | Pandanaceae | Screw pine | Fruit, bark | Construction, food |
| 42 | ***Phyllanthus emblica*** L. | Phyllanthaceae | Amla | Fruit | Antioxidant, digestive |
| 43 | ***Phyllanthus amarus*** Schumach. &Thonn. | Phyllanthaceae | Stone breaker | Leaves, fruit | Liver disorders |
| 44 | ***Piper betle*** L. | Piperaceae | Betel leaf | Leaves | Digestive aid |

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 45 | ***Piper longum*** L. | Piperaceae | Long pepper | Root, fruit | Respiratory disorders |
| 46 | ***Psidium guajava*** L. | Myrtaceae | Guava | Leaves, fruit | Diarrhea, digestion |
| 47 | ***Ricinus communis*** L. | Euphorbiaceae | Castor | Seed | Laxative, anti-inflammatory |
| 48 | ***Scindapsus officinalis*** (Roxb.) Schott | Araceae | Gajapippali | Fruit | Lactation support |
| 49 | ***Syzygium cumini*** (L.) Skeels | Myrtaceae | Jamun | Seed, fruit | Diabetes |
| 50 | *Zingiber officinale* Roscoe | Zingiberaceae | Ginger | Rhizome | Nausea, digestion |

## DISCUSSION

The Nicobarese of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands maintain a multifaceted and dynamic relationship with their environment, in which native plants serve as a foundation for healthcare, nutrition, material culture and ritual life (Dagar, 1989; Dagar & Dagar, 1991, 1996, 2003; Gupta et al., 2004; Verma et al., 2010; Chander et al., 2014, 2015a, 2015b; Chander & Vijayachari, 2018). The present documentation of 50 medicinal plant species complements earlier studies that reported 34 species in Little Nicobar and 132 species across the Nancowry group, indicating substantial intra-archipelagic variation and a rich pharmacopeia that remains incompletely explored (Chander et al., 2015a, 2015b).

### Medicinal practices and healthcare

Consistent with previous surveys, the Nicobarese rely heavily on plant-based remedies for primary healthcare, particularly for respiratory diseases, gastrointestinal disorders, skin conditions and febrile illnesses (Dagar, 1989; Dagar & Dagar, 1991, 1996, 2003; Gupta et al., 2004; Chander et al., 2014, 2015a, 2015b; Verma et al., 2010). Leaves constitute the most commonly used plant part, and remedies are prepared as decoctions, pastes, poultices or infusions, usually with water as the main solvent, reflecting both practicality and long-standing empirical knowledge (Chander et al., 2014, 2015a, 2015b; Chander & Vijayachari, 2018). TKPs act as custodians of this knowledge, diagnosing ailments and prescribing mono- or multi-herbal preparations, often combining species such as ***Morinda citrifolia***, ***Ocimum tenuiflorum*** and ***Glochidion calocarpum*** that have been identified as high-use-value taxa in quantitative ethnobotanical analyses (Chander et al., 2014, 2015a, 2015b).

The uses recorded here for species such as ***Morinda citrifolia*** (for infections, ulcers, metabolic and hepatic disorders), ***Phyllanthus emblica*** and ***P. amarus*** (for digestive and hepatic ailments) and ***Centella asiatica*** (for skin and inflammatory conditions) are broadly congruent with pharmacological studies and wider ethnomedicinal literature (Wang et al., 2002; Aremu et al., 2024; Ralte et al., 2024a; Ralte & Singh, 2024; Kureshi et al., 2025). Such convergence underscores the potential of Nicobarese herbal medicine as a source of bioactive compounds for future phytochemical and clinical investigations (Aremu et al., 2024; Kureshi et al., 2025).

### Food security and agroforestry

The Nicobarese diet is heavily influenced by the availability of cultivated and wild edible plants, many of which are integrated into homestead agroforestry systems (Gupta et al., 2004; Verma et al., 2010; Chander et al., 2014, 2015a, 2015b). Species such as ***Cocos nucifera***, ***Dioscorea alata***, ***Colocasia esculenta***, ***Ipomoea batatas*** and ***Manihot esculenta*** provide staple carbohydrates, while fruits such as ***Ananas comosus***, ***Carica papaya***, ***Mangifera nicobarica*** and ***Psidium guajava*** contribute vitamins, minerals and dietary fibre (Dagar & Dagar, 1991, 1996, 2003; Gupta et al., 2004; Singh et al., 2025). These multifunctional agroforests support both subsistence needs and ecological functions, including soil protection and habitat continuity (Sinha & Malick, 1995; Basu et al., 2024).

**Material culture and ritual significance**

Ethnobotanical practices extend beyond subsistence and medicine, encompassing construction, craft and ritual domains (Dagar, 1989; Dagar & Dagar, 1991, 1996, 2003). Plant materials used for house building, canoe making and fishing gear—particularly from ***Pandanus leram***, ***Cocos nucifera*** and selected timber species—reflect detailed ecological knowledge of mechanical properties, durability and resistance to marine conditions (Dagar & Dagar, 1991, 1996; Gupta et al., 2004; Chander et al., 2014). Ritual uses of plants, such as cycad leaves in ceremonial gates, areca nut and betel leaf in social exchanges and sacred trees in fertility and healing rites, highlight the role of flora in maintaining social cohesion and cultural identity (Verma et al., 2010; Chander et al., 2014, 2015a; Chander & Vijayachari, 2018).

**Threats to traditional knowledge and plant resources**

Despite its richness, Nicobarese ethnobotanical heritage faces multiple threats, including environmental degradation, deforestation, infrastructure development, climate-related events and cultural change (Sinha & Malick, 1995; Basu et al., 2024). Younger generations often show reduced interest in traditional practices, accelerating the risk of knowledge loss as elder TKPs pass away (Gupta et al., 2004; Verma et al., 2010; Chander et al., 2014). Natural disasters—most notably the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami—have also altered coastal habitats and affected the distribution of some useful species, underscoring the vulnerability of island ecosystems (Basu et al., 2024; Chander & Vijayachari, 2018).

Recent work has emphasized the importance of systematic documentation and community biodiversity registers in Nicobarese villages as a strategy to safeguard plant-use knowledge and link it to conservation initiatives (Dagar & Dagar, 2003; Gupta et al., 2004; Ralte & Singh, 2024). Integrating traditional herbal medicine into local primary healthcare programmes, while respecting intellectual property rights and customary laws, may further incentivize the conservation of both knowledge and the plant species on which it depends (Aremu et al., 2024; Ralte et al., 2024a, 2024b).

**Implications for conservation and future research**

The Nicobarese case provides an instructive example of how indigenous knowledge systems can support sustainable resource use and biodiversity conservation when given adequate recognition and institutional support (Aremu et al., 2024; Basu et al., 2024). Priorities for future research include detailed phytochemical and pharmacological studies of high-use-value species such as ***Morinda citrifolia***, ***Glochidion calocarpum*** and ***Ocimum tenuiflorum*** (Wang et al., 2002; Kureshi et al., 2025); participatory mapping of critical habitats for heavily used and endemic plants (Dagar & Dagar, 1996; Singh et al., 2025); and longitudinal studies on the transmission of ethnobotanical knowledge in the context of education, migration and socio-economic change (Ralte et al., 2024a, 2024b; Luikham & Bhattacharyya, 2025).

**CONCLUSION**

This ethnobotanical study of the Nicobarese tribe in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands reveals a complex and integrated relationship between indigenous communities and native plants, spanning medicinal, nutritional, material and ritual domains. A total of 50 medicinal plant species from 30 families were documented, complementing and extending earlier surveys in Nancowry, Car Nicobar and Little Nicobar and confirming the central role of herbal medicine in Nicobarese primary healthcare.

Traditional knowledge associated with these plants is predominantly transmitted orally and is largely concentrated among a diminishing number of traditional knowledge practitioners, making it highly vulnerable to loss due to demographic and cultural changes. At the same time, environmental pressures—including habitat alteration, climate variability and development activities—pose risks to both plant diversity and the ecological settings that sustain Nicobarese livelihoods.

To ensure long-term preservation of this biocultural heritage, future work should prioritise: (i) systematic documentation and community-owned databases of plant uses; (ii) in-depth phytochemical and pharmacological validation of key species; (iii) integration of validated traditional remedies into culturally sensitive primary healthcare strategies; and (iv) community-based conservation programmes that align local livelihoods with habitat protection. By adopting such a comprehensive approach, it will be possible to protect the ecological integrity of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands while sustaining the cultural identity and traditional knowledge of the Nicobarese people.

REFERENCE

**Aremu, A. O., Luo, B., & Mussarat, S.** (2024). Medical ethnobotany: Importance of traditional medicinal plant knowledge in healthcare systems. *BMC Complementary Medicine and Therapies, 24*, 216.

**Basu, S. K., Mukherjee, S. S., Fernandez, A. M., & Cetal-Ix, W.** (2024). Ethnomedicinal importance of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands. In *Basic handbook of Indian ethnobotany and traditional medicine* [add editor(s), pages, publisher, and place].

**Chander, M. P., Kartick, C., Gangadhar, J., & Vijayachari, P.** (2014). Ethnomedicine and healthcare practices among Nicobarese of Car Nicobar—an indigenous tribe of Andaman and Nicobar Islands. *Journal of Ethnopharmacology, 158*, 18–24.

**Chander, M. P., Kartick, C., & Vijayachari, P**. (2015a). Herbal medicine and healthcare practices among Nicobarese of Nancowry group of Islands—an indigenous tribe of Andaman & Nicobar Islands. *Indian Journal of Medical Research, 141*, 720–744.

**Chander, M. P., Kartick, C., & Vijayachari, P.** (2015b). Medicinal plants used by the Nicobarese inhabiting Little Nicobar Island of the Andaman and Nicobar Archipelago, India. *Journal of Alternative and Complementary Medicine, 21*, 373–386.

**Chander, P., & Vijayachari**, P. (2018). Ethnomedicinal knowledge among the tribes of Little Andaman Island, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, India. *Pharmacognosy Magazine, 14*(Suppl), S488–S493.

**Dagar, H. S.** (1989). Plants in folk medicine of the Nicobarese of Bampoka Island. *Journal of the Andaman Science Association, 5*, 69–71.

**Dagar, H. S., & Dagar, J. C**. (1991). Plant folk medicines among the Nicobarese of Katchal Island, India. *Economic Botany, 45*, 114–119.

**Dagar, H. S., & Dagar, J. C.** (1996). Ethnobotanical studies of the Nicobarese of Chowra Island of Nicobar group of islands. *Journal of Economic and Taxonomic Botany, Additional Series, 12*, 381–388.

**Dagar, H. S., & Dagar, J. C**. (2003). Plants used in ethnomedicine by the Nicobarese of islands in the Bay of Bengal, India. *Journal of Economic and Taxonomic Botany, 27*, 773–784.

**Gupta, S., Porwal, M. C., & Roy, P. S.** (2004). Indigenous knowledge on some medicinal plants among the Nicobari tribe of Car Nicobar Island. *Indian Journal of Traditional Knowledge, 3*, 287–293.

**Kureshi, A. A., Habibi, E., Sarker, S. D., & Nahar, L.** (2025). Ethnopharmacological and medicinal properties of *Allophylus dimorphus*. *Journal of Medicinal Natural Products*. Advance online publication. https://doi.org/[add DOI]

**Luikham, S., & Bhattacharyya, J.** (2025). Traditional medicinal plants used by indigenous people of Nagaland, India. *Natural Product Research*. Advance online publication. https://doi.org/[add DOI]

**Ralte, L., Sailo, H.,** & **Singh, Y. T.** (2024). Ethnobotanical study of medicinal plants used by indigenous communities of Mizoram, India. *Journal of Ethnobiology and Ethnomedicine, 20*, 2.

**Ralte, L.,** & **Singh, Y. T.** (2024). Ethnobotanical survey of medicinal plants used by ethnic tribes of Mizoram. *PLOS ONE, 19*(5), e0302792.

**Singh, L. J., Prakash, R. O.,** & **Mahadevakumara, S.** (2025). Description of endemic *Musa* species from the Andaman and Nicobar Islands. *Botany Letters*. Advance online publication. https://doi.org/[add DOI]

**Sinha, B. K.,** & **Malick, K. C.** (1995). Probable potential medicinal plants of Andaman and Nicobar Islands. *Bulletin of the Botanical Survey of India, 37*, 79–91.

**Verma, C., Bhatia, S.,** & **Srivastava, S.** (2010). Traditional medicine of the Nicobarese. *Indian Journal of Traditional Knowledge, 9*, 779–785.

**Wang, M. Y., West, B. J., Jensen, C. J., Nowicki, D., Su, C., Palu, A. K.,** & **Anderson, G.** (2002). *Morinda citrifolia* (Noni): A literature review and recent advances in Noni research. *Acta Pharmacologica Sinica, 23*, 1127–1141.