

## **SAN̄KAMUNI VIṢA VAITHIYAM 100 - A BOOK REVIEW**

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### **ABSTRACT**

Promulgating the Manuscripts as an edited, translated and published version leads to the dissemination of ancient *Siddha* Medical knowledge. Accordingly the Central Council for Research in Ayurveda and Siddha has given an elevation to the valuable branch of Siddha Toxicology by adding to its credit the translated works of a Tamil book *Saṅkamuni Viṣa Vaithiyam-100* published in English & Hindi. The original Tamil manuscript of this book written by the great sage *Siddhar Saṅkamuni* was published in Tamil (1991). The distinctiveness of this book is that, it describes some specific antidotes for various poisons ingested as well as for poisonous stings of several toxic creatures and insect bites. This book also deals with the therapeutic usage of drugs for many Chronic disorders such as Cancer, Venereal diseases, Musculo skeletal diseases and Skin diseases. This is an introductory article to encourage the Researchers to analyse the contents of the book and validate the various antidotes by means of experimentation so as to substantiate the extensive knowledge of Siddhars in an uncommon field like Toxicology also.

### **Introduction**

This book *Saṅkamuni Viṣa Vaithiyam-100* was published initially from the original manuscripts in Tamil, in the year 1991. Now it has been translated into English and Hindi and is being published to fulfill the objectives of the Central Council for Research in Ayurveda and Siddha by way of disseminating the ancient knowledge of Siddha system. The author *Saṅkamuni* is credited with many works such as *Saṅkamuni-400*; *Saṅkamuni-300*; *Saṅkamuni-200*; *Saṅkamuni-16*; *Saṅkamuni-8* etc., Giving antidotes for snake bites, stings of poisonous insects and other types of poisoning was his specialty. Almost all his works describe treatment for different types of poisoning. He has made use of all source materials, analyzed their relative importance and has fully documented it in his book. His particular interests are reflected in the chapters on snakebite and other poisonous stings. Here in this paper an attempt has been made to review this book *Saṅkamuni Viṣa Vaithiyam-100*.

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## Overview

This book is an important work in Siddha medical system. Only after a thorough analysis of the works of his predecessors and contemporaries did *Saṅkamuni* make his contribution of these valuable manuscripts. This he illustrated in his own words as follows.

*Anpathilē Thēraiyarthān Azakāyc Connār*  
*Kārappā Rāmathēvar Nūlka! Thōrum*  
*Kāttiṅār Karuvaḍakkam Kaṇḍu Ceythār*  
*Therinthiḍavē Kumpamuni Aiyār Nūlil*  
*Thīrkkamuḍaṅ Viśaṅga! Ellām Thīrnthupōka*  
*Varindhiḍavē Kalikkamoḍu Naciya Maika!*  
*Maṅi Manthira Avuḍathanika! Vakaiyāyc Connār.*

Since his predecessors had written the facts in poetical verses with hidden meanings, he has clearly taken pains to go through it, consult those learned contemporaries and wrote his work in a very simple format. His entire book is in a poetical form but the language used is very simple, which even a layman can understand

In the first part of the poem he describes the list of the raw materials, with the required measurements, used for the preparation of the drug. Next, step-by-step explanation about the preparation is given. Finally the indications, dose of the drug, adjuvant and the diet restrictions are mentioned.

## Antidotes

This book as the name indicates not only describes antidotes to poisonous stings and insect bites but also gives details about the antidotes for eradicating the toxic effects of the poisonous drugs consumed earlier. One of the important antidotes for snake venom is *Viśa Kuḍōri Kuzambu* and another is *Kalikkam*, which are described in detail. Thorough scientific evaluation on various aspects of these drugs is highly essential to prove the world the validity of these drugs.

The author states, since the drug *Viśa Kuḍōri Kuzambu* is very powerful and potent as a therapeutic agent, it may also cause certain reactions in the body. Hence He has narrated all those possible reactions along with the methods for managing them.

*Kollaḍā Vēkamuḷḷa Viṣa Kuḍōri*  
*Kuzambinuḍa Koḍumai Thannaik Kūravonnāthu*  
*Villaḍā Vayir Aṅaththal Kaṇḍathanal*  
*Mikavum Ōru Paccaricic Cōrril*  
*Thullaḍā Vellaṭṭin Pālai Ūrric*  
*Cuḍa Cuḍavē Uṇḍu Viṭṭāl Aṅaththalpōkum.*

Note : Normally the remedial drug for removal of poison is very strong. By consuming the drug some may develop dysentery. In such a condition one must consume hot cooked raw rice mixed in goat's milk.

*Aṅinthathoru Verrilaiyin Nullōr Uruṇḍai*  
*Aṅaiththum Aḍiththu Īnthiḍuvāy Arivu Cōrnthalza*  
*Paṅinthē Iḷa Vennīril Iḍaththīru Maiyē.*

Note: The tablet should be wrapped in a *Vettrilai* (Betel leaf - *Piper betel*) and consumed. In case of giddiness it should be taken along with hot water.

### **Tackling chronic diseases and other disease conditions**

This book also deals with drugs for many chronic illnesses such as Cancer, Venereal diseases, Musculo-skeletal diseases and Skin diseases etc., In certain drugs he prescribes various types of adjuvants to tackle different types of disease conditions. For example, the drug *Ghandi Rasa Mezuku* is indicated for all types of Skin diseases, Venereal diseases, Nervous disorders, Musculo skeletal disorders, Gastro intestinal disorders etc., Even with these drugs he anticipates possible reactions and develops the methods to counteract those conditions.

*Kūrathē Vaic Cūlaik Kaṭṭith Thanāl*  
*Villavē Avin Venṇey Nelli Kāyccāru*  
*Meḷaka Reṇḍu Nāḷ Muzukath Thīrum.*

Note : If one develops stomatitis, one should mix ghee and the fruit juice of *Nellikāi* (Indian Gooseberry - *Phyllanthus emblica*), apply it on the scalp and then wash off. This should be repeated for two days. Coarse rice cooked with water and milk to soft consistency should be consumed.

He also alters the adjuvants based on the constitution of the individuals. He has narrated different modes of administration of the drugs for snake venom. When the person is severely affected due to snakebite, two drops of the herbal juice of *Sirukan Piḷai* (*Aerva lanata*) is instilled in the eye, ear and nose.

*Uththamanē Pizinthiḍuvāy Nayanam Thanṇil*  
*Tharukāmal Vizi Ōṇrukku Iraṇḍu Coṭṭuc*  
*Cāru Pizinthu Nacyilum Carrē Vāru*  
*Marukāmal Ceviyilumōr Thivailai Vāru*  
*Maṇḍai Koṇḍa Viśaṅkaḷ Ellām Vañcip Pōkum.*  
*Vātha Udalōrkkuth Thēṇil*  
*Pariththiḍuvāy Ilaiththa Udalōrkku Āvin Neyyil.*

Note : The people with *Vātha* constituency have to consume the drug with honey and those with the predominance of Pitha have to consume it along with ghee.

### Conclusion

In every stanza he has stated “Don. ’tḍ reveal this to wicked people”. This proves his intention, that the benefit of the treatment should reach the common public through learned people only having a positive attitude. By repeatedly stating this, he wanted to inculcate in the practitioners mind a sense of responsibility for humanity and the need for maintaining moral values.

The author appears to have done an extensive survey to collect the materials for his book. The validity and safety of these drugs is yet to be proved by the Research personnel by conducting suitable experiments on animal models satisfying the required Pharmacological parameters.

### Acknowledgement

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## सारांश

### शंकमुनि विषवैद्यम् १०० - एक पुस्तक समीक्षा

आर. राजशेकरन, ए. राजेन्द्र कुमार, के. सुरेश एवं अला नारायण

सम्पादित, अनुवादित और प्रकाशित पाठ के रूप में प्रख्यात पाण्डुलिपियों द्वारा प्राचीन सिद्ध-चिकित्सा पद्धति का प्रचार-प्रसार होता है। तदनुसार केन्द्रीय आयुर्वेद एवं सिद्ध अनुसन्धान परिषद् ने अंग्रेजी एवं हिन्दी में प्रकाशित तमिल पुस्तक “शंकमुनि विषवैद्यम् १००” को संयुक्त करके सिद्ध विषविज्ञान की महत्त्वपूर्ण शाखा का उन्नयन किया है। महर्षि सिद्धर शंकमुनि द्वारा लिखित इस पुस्तक की आरम्भिक तमिल पाण्डुलिपि का तमिल भाषा में प्रकाशन सन् १९९१ में हुआ है। इस पुस्तक की यह विशेषता है कि इसमें विषपान, विषैले डंक एवं कीटदंश की चिकित्सा के लिए प्रतिविषों का वर्णन किया गया है। इस पुस्तक में अनेक जीर्ण व्याधियों जैसे कैंसर, यौन रोग, मांसपेशी-अस्थि सम्बन्धी रोग एवं त्वचा की व्याधियों की चिकित्सा का वर्णन किया गया है। इस पुस्तक के माध्यम से अनुसन्धान को बढ़ावा देने के लिए एवं प्रयोग के द्वारा विविध प्रतिविषों को प्रमाणित करने के लिए यह एक परिचायक लेख है।