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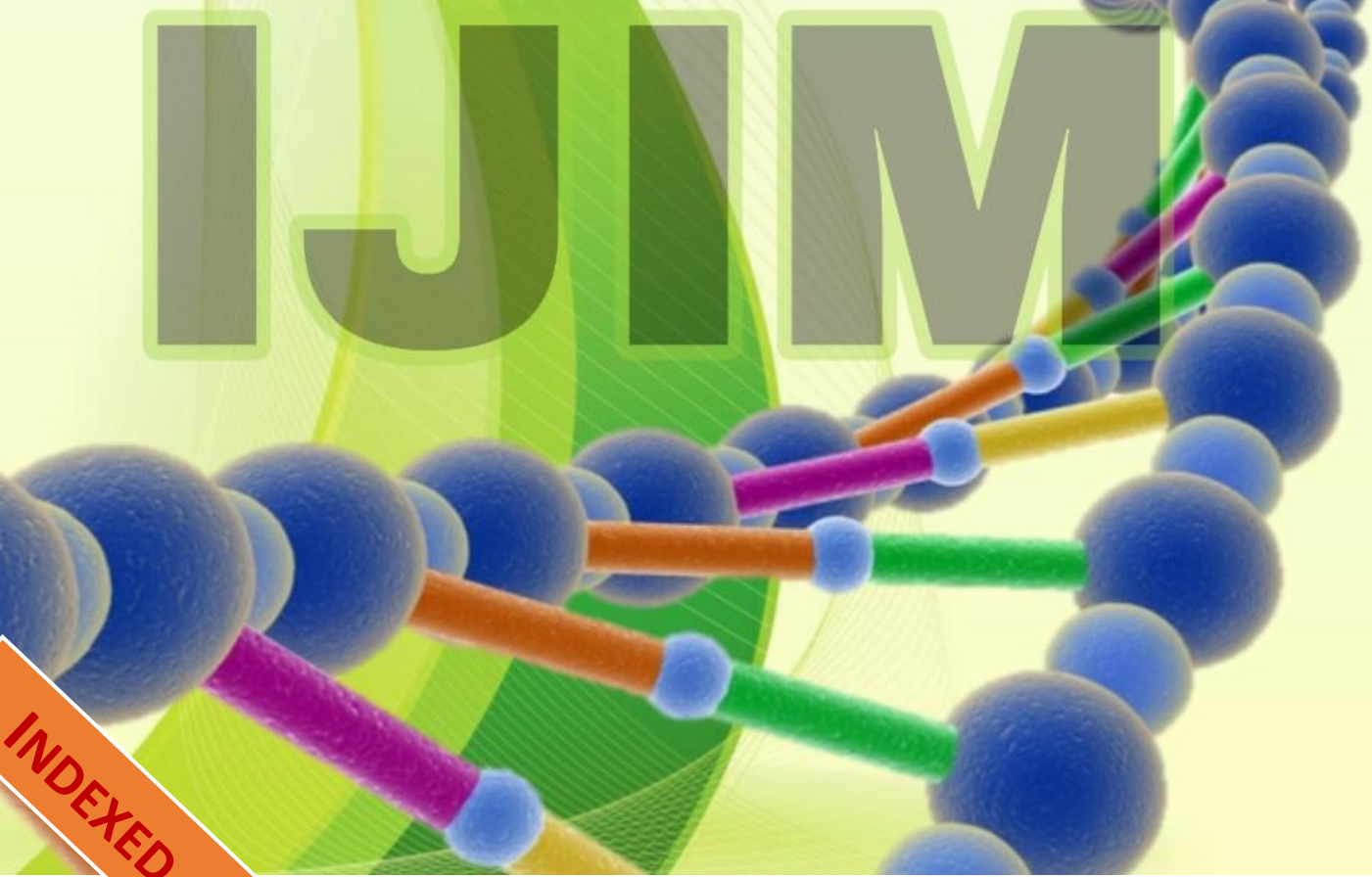

Review Article

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"A Pharmaceutical Study of Shadgunabalijarita Rasasindura Prepared by the Single-Step Kupipakva Method."

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ABSTRACT: Rasasindura is created through the Kupipakva method, which is a distinctive traditional pharmaceutical technique where, the medication is processed in a glass container known as Kupi, and the temperature is gradually increased in an EMF (traditional furnace). Classical texts indicate that Shodhana) Rasasindura exhibits improved therapeutic properties. The preparation of Shodhana) Rasasindura using the Kupipakva method takes a total of 72 hours. Meanwhile, Shodhana) Rasasindura is made by using one part of Parada and six parts of Gandhaka via the Kupipakva method, requiring 48 hours to complete. Traditionally, the making of Shodhana) Rasasindura entails a laborious, repeated procedure of incorporating Gandhaka (Sulfur) into Parada (Mercury). This research examines the pharmaceutical viability of a one-step preparation process, utilizing a total ratio of 1:6 (Mercury:Sulfur) executed in a single Kupipakva cycle. The fuming and flaming phase of Shadguna Rasasindura preparation extends over a longer duration. The formation of compounds in Shadguna Rasasindura occurred more slowly. The temperature range for preparing Shadguna Rasasindura is maintained between 600°C and 650°C. The findings underscore the thermal characteristics, yield efficiency, and physicochemical stability of the final product.

KEYWORDS: Rasasindura, Kupipakva method, Parada, Gandhaka, Shadguna Rasasindura, Temperature, Pharmaceutical viability

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INTRODUCTION:

The global interest in *Ayurvedic* herbomineral medications is growing steadily[1]. Their rising demand is attributed to their therapeutic effectiveness, safety, and logical pharmacological outcomes. *Parada* (Mercury) and *Gandhaka* (Sulphur) are key components of *Rasasindura* however, their ratios can differ across various formulations, with a range from 1:1/6 to 1:6[1]. The *Kupipakwa Rasayana* technique is frequently utilized by *Ayurvedic* practitioners to address a variety of conditions, including *Prameha* (Polyuria), *Shoola* (colicky pain), *Bhagandara* (fistula in ano), and *Jwara* (fever). This method serves functions such as *Rasayana* (promoting healthy tissues) and *Vajeekarana* (enhancing vitality), aiding in issues like digestive disorders, fever, urinary tract infections, respiratory illnesses, as well as promoting sexual health and rejuvenation[2]. *Rasasindura* is an exceptional mercurial preparation crafted using the *Kupi-pakwa Rasayana* technique, where the material involved is placed in a narrow-mouthed, short-necked glass container covered with several layers of clay-coated muslin cloth. This mixture is then digested by gradually applying increasingly intense heat to achieve the desired quality of the final product. Nowadays, heavy metal toxicity is regarded as a significant concern. the sublimed mercury compounds commonly used in *Ayurvedic* treatments, such as *Shadgunabalijarita Rasasindura*[3], are considered safer than other options .Numerous researchers have confirmed findings from toxicity studies. When preparing *Kupipakwa* medicine, increasing the ratio of sulfur to mercury complicates the preparation process. Failures in the preparation of *Kupipakwa* medicines have often been observed when sulfur and mercury are mixed in equal proportions (*Samagunabalijarita*)[4]. The likelihood of failure tends to rise with a higher amount of sulfur. In this current study, an effort has been made to establish a standardized method for preparing *Shodhana).* Consequently, this study aims to conduct pharmaceutical standardization and document the actual yield following *Shadguna Gandhaka Jarana*. Historically, the "*Shadguna*" (sixfold) sulfur variant is recognized for its enhanced therapeutic qualities, which are believed to stem from the *Gandhaka Jarana* process. While traditionalists favor a method involving sequential additions, there is also the option of a Single-Step approach method aims to standardize the heating cycle to ensure uniform sublimation and bond formation in a controlled environment.

Materials and Methods

The necessary raw materials of the necessary quality were gathered from the neighborhod marketplace.

They were verified and put through the *Kupip akwa* process of *Shodhana* (purification) and *Pachana* (digestion).The preparation of *Shod hana) Rasasindura* shall follow the instructions in the classical source "*Rasa Tarangini*[5]."Utilizing physicochemical metrics and organoleptic characteristics, the created formulation will be evaluated.The ex peri-

mental investigation will be conducted in co mpliance with OECD criteria[6] .

1. Collection of Raw Material from certified seller
2. Drug Cleaned and Dried *Shodhan* of *Parad* and *Gandhak*
3. Preparation of *Kajjali* in 1:6 (*Parad:Gandhak*) Ratio
4. *Bhavana* of *Kumari swarasa* to *Kajjali Mardan*
5. Filing of *Kupi* with *Kajjali*
6. Put *Kupi* in EMF Preparation of *Shadgunabalijarita Rasa Sindoor.*

Raw Material Purification (*Shodhana)*[7]

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Before the pharmaceutical process, the raw materials underwent rigorous purification:

Shodhan[8] **of *Parad***[9]

Materials

A. *Parad* B. *Lashuna Kalka* C. *Khalwayantra*

1. To eliminate *Parad Doshas*, *Parad Shodhan* will be performed for three to seven days by taking *Lashun Kalka* (paste) using *Khalva Yantra.*

mercury.

2. The *Parad Samhita* mentions *Shodhan* with *Lashun* as one of many *Parad Shodhan* techniques.

3. *Lashun* is natural remedy for *Parad Bandh*, contains sulfur & is an antidote for heavy metal toxicity.

4. *Shodhan* process reduces toxicity of

Images No 1.-Parad Shodhan

Shodhan* of *Gandhak[10]

Purification of raw sulphur. In a steel wok coated with cow *ghee,* raw sulphur was melted entirely. The melted sulphur was then poured through a cotton cloth into a vessel filled with lukewarm cow milk, allowed to sink to the bottom, and then collected. It was then properly cleaned in hot water multiple times and allowed to dry in the shade.

Materials

1. *Ashuddha Gandhak* 2. *Goghruta* 3. *Godugdha* 4. Water as required 5. *Vastra*

Process

1. *Godugdha* will be taken in a stainless-steel vessel to cleanse *Gandhak (*sulphur). *Goghrita,* a type of ghee derived from cow's milk, will be spread over a four-layer muslin cloth and attached to the container's mouth.
2. *Gandhak* will reach a temperature of 115°C to 123°C, which is its melting point.
3. *Gandhak* will be melted and then put into a jar filled with *Godugdha* after being passed through muslin material that will have been smeared with *Ghrita*.
4. *Gandhak* will be removed from the container when it will be settled to the bottom.
5. After two more repetations of this procedure, the finished product will be removed.
6. The greasy portion of the *Ghrita* will be completely removed by repeatedly washing it in hot water. After that, it will be dried and ground into *Shuddha Gandhak* powder.
7. After being gathered, the product will be sealed in an airtight glass container to keep out moisture and light.

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Images No 2.-Gandhak Shodhan

***Kajjali* Preparation**[11]

Preparation of *Shadguna Kajjali* with *Bhavana* of Aloe vera *swarasa*[12].

- Purified Mercury (1part) and Purified Sulphur (6parts) were weighed & taken in the mortar and triturated till the total mass was converted into a fine black, smooth, lusterless powder.
- Obtained *Kajjali* was also taken into the mortar pestle, and Juice of the Aloevera(*Kumari)* was added till the mixture became muddy.
- Then this mixture was triturated for 24 hours [6 hours daily] until it became dry and fine.

***Shadguna Kajjali* Preparation**[13]**:**

Materials:

1.*Shudha Parada*:105 g. 2.*Sudhha Gandhaka*: 600g.

Method: *Mardana*

Equipments:

Khalva Yantra, Spatula, Steel plate, Steel Spoon etc.

Procedure:

1.*Shodita Parada* and *Shodita Gandhaka* were taken in equal quantity and triturated in *Khalva Yantra*. Gradually the white color of *Parada* and greenish yellow color of *Gandhaka* disappear and a black powder was formed.

2.Trituration was continued till the powder became jet black in color and very fine like *Kajala* and fulfilled all the criteria of *Kajjali.*

3.Average to and fro movements of *Peshani* were 20-22 times/ minute.

4.*Mardana* was done for 6hrs daily.

Observations:

1.After 12hours of trituration,the color of *Gandhaka* started transforming in to blackish yellow.

2.After 24hours of trituration, *Parad* particles almost disappeared and the mixture turned into dark black color. But when rubbed between the fingers a small particle wasseen.

3.After 48hours of trituration,it appeared that the *Kajjali* was prepared.But when it was examined under sunlight,luster of free *Parad* particles were observed.

4.After 72hours of trituration,the mixture completely turned into *Kajjali* and fulfilled all the criteria of *Kajjali.*

5.Thus, prepared *Kajjali* was fulfilling the test of *Varitara* and *Rekhapurnatva* too.

6.The entire powder became fine,black,smooth, lusterless.

Showing different phases of *Shadguna Kajjali* during preparation

Hours	Observations
At 0 minute	*Parada* + *Gandhaka*
After 15 minutes	*Gandhaka* changed to yellowish green
After 30 minutes	Grey colour with *Parada* globules
After 45 minutes	Dark grey colour with yellow streaks
After 1 hr	Absence of *Parada* globules

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After 6 hrs	Blackish colour with shiny particles
After 12 hrs	Shiny particles
After 18 hrs	Test for *Kajjali* was absent
After 24 hrs	It turned to black fine powder
After 48 hrs	Attained *Rakhapurnatva*
After 72 hrs	*Varitara* and *Unama* tests were positive

Table No 1-Time and Phases *of Kajjali* Preparation (1:6 ratio)

Physical examination: -

TEST	APPEARANCE OF *KAJJALI*
APPEARANCE	AMORPHOUS
COLOUR	JET BLACK
SMELL	NOT SPECIFIC
TOUCH	SMOOTH

Table no 2-Physical Parameter of Kajjali

Images No 3-Kajjali Preparation with Kumari swaras bhavana

Precautions:

1.To prepare *Kajjali*,*Gandhaka* should always be taken in fine powder form.

2.Trituration should be done slowly and cautiously to check the loss of *Parada*.

3.*Khalava* should be kept covered when the process is not in progress.

Results:

1.Weight of *Shudha Parada* :105g.

2.Weight of *Shudha Gandhka*: 562g.

3.Weight of *Kajjali* obtained: 685g.

Cause of weight Loss

1.Spilling of mixture during trituration.

2.Sometimes particles of *Kajjali* adhere to *Khalva* which is difficult to collect.

3.Some quantity of *Kajjali* was lost during performing the confirmatory test of the product.

Preparation of *Shadgunabalijarita Rasasindura*[14] :-

The whole procedure of *Rasasindura* preparation was categorized under 3 headings

1.*Purva Karma*

2.*Pradhana Karma*

3.*Paschat Karma*

Purva Krama

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1.Preparation of *Kacha Kupi*
2.Filling of *Kajjali* into *Kacha Kupi*
3.Placing of *Kacha Kupi* in *Valuka Yantra*

Pradhana Krama

1.Heating Schedule (*Kramagni tapa*)
2.Observation and recording of temperature
3.Sealing with cork to *Kacha Kupi* and self-cooling of the apparatus

Pashchat Karma

1.Removal of *Kacha Kupi* from *Valuka Yantra*
2.Breaking of *Kach Kupi*
3.Collection of Final Product

Kupi Nirmana[15]

Equipment -*Kacha Kupi*, Clean Cloth according to size of *Kacha Kupi, Multhanimitti* Water.

Procedure:

1.A clean and dry *Kacha Kupi* with narrow mouth having capacity around 700ml was taken (green colour beer bottle).
2.A clean cloth was taken that was smeared with *Multhanimitti*. This mud smeared cloth was wrapped around the *Kupi* from all the sides to cover it uniformly.
3.This was kept for complete drying, the whole procedure was repeated for 7 times,each wrapping was done after complete drying of previous layer.
4.It will take maximum 4hours for drying one layer of wrapped *Multani mitti* cloth.

Precaution:

1.Wrapping was performed without any fold in the layer of cloth and air gaps.
2.Stony particle in the *Multani mitti* was removed before applying to the cloth.
3.Tight packing was done especially over bottom.

Observation:

1.Initially for drying each layer time period was less compare to successive layer.
2.It will take maximum 4 hours for drying one layer of wrapped *Multani mitti* cloth.
3.*Kupi* went on becoming thicker and thicker.

KupiPoorna[16]

Materials: Prepared *Kupi*, funnel, weighing Machine, *ShadgunaKajjali* 200g.

Procedure:

1.A clean funnel was placed over the mouth of the *Kacha Kupi*, mixture was slowly added into the two *Kacha Kupi* through the funnel.
2.Mouth of the funnel was cleared using the spatula while filling the mixture.
3.Mouth of the *Kupi* was temporary covered by using cork.
4.Each *Kupi* is filled with 200gms.

Observation:

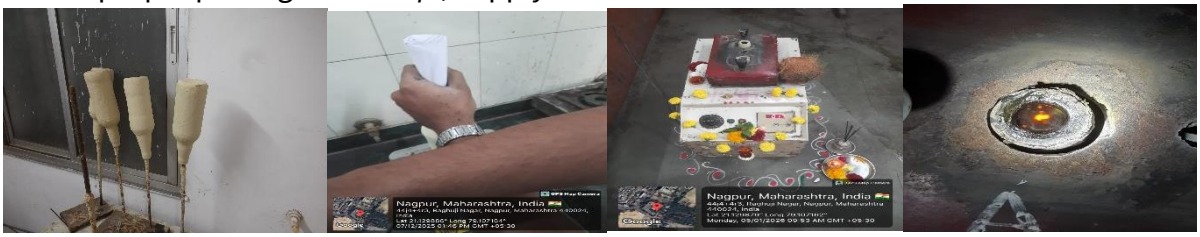
1.Usage of funnel facilitates easy filling of the mixture in to the *Kupi* without spillage.
2.*Kajjali* was again triturated for half an hour before filling the *Kupi*.
3.Inner aspect of the *Kupi* was cleaned and dried properly with a clean cloth tied over a stick.
4.Care was taken to spread the *Kajjali* uniformly inside the *Kupi.*

Kupi Sthapana[17]

Materials: EMF(Electric muffle furnace), bottle filled with *Shadguna balijariata Kajjali*[18] .

Procedure[19]

1.Take an EMF of good quality.
2.The *Kupi* was then placed in it at given place.
4.After proper placing of the *Kupi,* supply continuous electric current to EMF.



Images No 4-Shadgunabalijarita Rasasindura Preparation Stages

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Pradhana karma

The specific observations during *Pradhana karma* were as follows:

Heating Schedule:

The heating was provided via EMF using a graduated *Agni* (thermal) schedule:

1. ***Mridu Agni* (Mild):** 100°C – 250°C (11 hours)
2. ***Madhyama Agni* (Moderate):** 250°C – 450°C (28 hours)
3. ***Teekshna Agni* (Intense):** 450°C – 630°C (9 hours)

Time	Temperature	State Of *Kajjali*	Observation
10:00am	36^0 C	Dry powder form like *Kajjali*	*Kupisthapana*
12:05pm	120^o C	*Kajjali* starts heating	*Kajjali* was totally dried with *gandhak* smell
1:00pm	140^0 C	Puffiness in *Kajjali*	Smell+ Fumes observed
2:00pm	160^0 C	Material can be seen through torch, liquification started + Melting observed	White fumes+ Yellow fumes+ *Sheetashlaka* inserted Thick semisolid product adhered to *Sheetashalaka*
5:00pm	215^0 C	Melting *Kajjali*	Profused fumes+ Smell of sulphur
6:30pm	220^0 C	Melting can be seen through torch	Smell of sulphur+densed fumes
9:00pm	280^0 C	Melting contineous	Smell of sulphur+fumes
10:00pm	290^0 C	Movement of the molten *Kajjali* was Appreciated through torch	Dense sulphur fumes
12:30am	323^0 C	Dark reddish shining boiling Material seen through torch light	Insertion of hot *Shalaka* continued. Blue flame appeared at the mouth of the *Kupi* and dancing of *Parada* was observed after taking out the *Shalaka*
3:00am	355^0 C	Boiling *Kajjali* with Red colour	Dense sulphur fumes still persist
9:00am	387^0 C	Red+Orange Base	After inserting hot *Shalaka* 5-8inch height flame emerged
10:00am	423^0 C	Red Base	Dense sulphur fumes still persist+blue flame
12:00pm	432^0 C	Red Base	Blue flame+*Kajjali* is rising up with increase temperature
1:00pm	430^0 C	Red Base	Fumes density decreased
3:00pm	400^0 C	Red Base	Blue flame
4:00pm	380^0 C	Bottom of *Kupi* was found red hot.	Insertion of hot *Shalaka* continued.
5:00pm	400^0 C	Red base	Flame disappeared, only visible on inserting hot *Shalaka*
7:00pm	410^0 C	Dry base with red colour	light fumes emerged out
12:00am	418^0 C	No reaction after hot *shalaka* insertion	Base was hot red,fumes totally absent,*Parad* was sticking to neck of bottle
1:00am	425^0 C	No fumes,dry base	Corking done
3:00am	500^0 C		*Kupi* in EMF With Corking
7:30am	600^0 C		*Kupi* in EMF With Corking
8:30am	625^0 C		*Kupi* in EMF With Corking
10:00am	640^0C		EMF stoped, *Kupi* in EMF With Corking

Table No 4- Stages of *Shadgunabalijarita Rasasindura* with Temp and Observation

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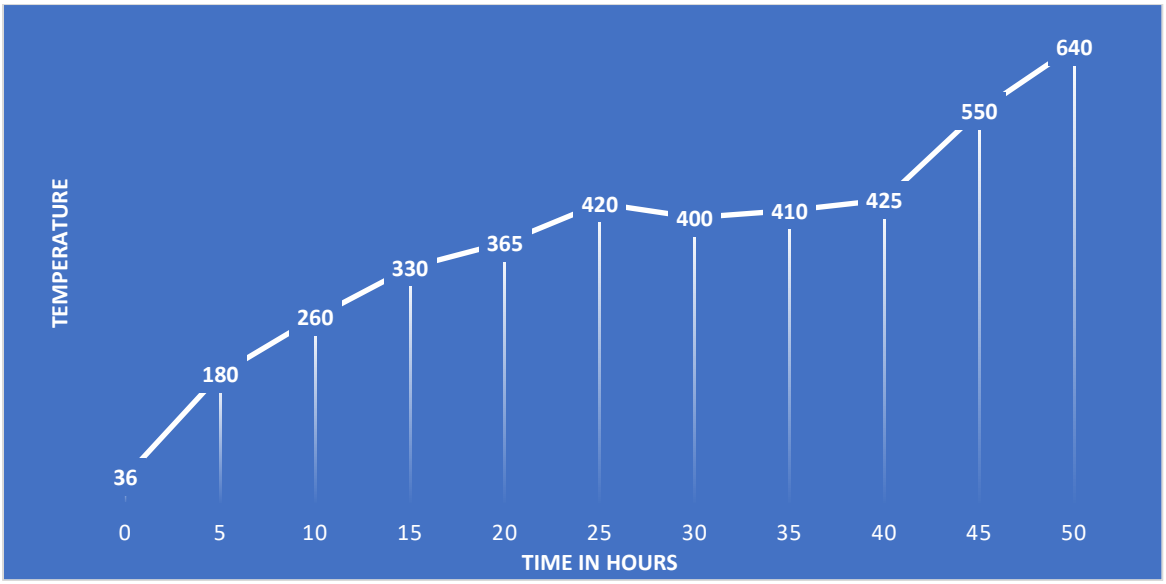

Graph no 1. Temperature Variation Across Time

Precautions:

1.*Kajjali* was again triturated for ½hour before filling of into *Kupi.*

2.The *Kupi* was kept exactly in Space provided in machine so that homogenous temperature would be obtained[20].

3.Precautions were taken while *Kupi* mouth closed with cork.

4.*Kupi* was removed from furnace and broken carefully.

5.Eyes and nose were protected by wearing glass and mask throughout the practical.

Images No 5-Final stage of Shadgunabalijarita Rasasindura

Kupi Bhedana

Materials: Knife,Thread, Kerosene, Matchbox, *Kupi* containing *Shadaguna Kajjali*, clean container.

Procedure:

- The bottle was carefully removed from the EMF.
- The outer layer of the bottle was scrapped carefully with the help of a knife to remove the *Multanimitti* coating and then the *Kupi* was wiped with wet cloth.
- kerosene dipped thread was tied around the bottle and was set to fire. When the thread burnt, it was wrapped with wet cloth then broke the bottle in two halves.
- *Shadgunabalijarita Rasasindura* was obtained as a whole block just by tapping the bottle.

Observations:

1.After taking out the *Kupi* from EMF, the upper portion was black in colour.

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2.After complete removal of layers, the bottle was cleared then shiny and dark colour sublimated product was observed.

3.There was a thick collection of *Rasasindura* in the neck region, where as the lower portion contained grey coloured residue.

4.Block of *Shadgunabalijarita Rasasindura* was shiny greyish red coloured.

Images No 6-Breaking of Kupi and Product extraction

Critical Observations:

- **Fuming Stage:** Profuse yellow fumes of sulphur were observed during the mid-stage of *Madhyama Agni*.
- ***Chakra Nanatva*:** The formation of a sulphur "ring" at the neck of the flask required frequent clearing with a hot iron rod (*Shalaka*).
- **Copper Coin Test:** Positive (no white deposit) after 16 hours, indicating the completion of the reaction.

Precautions:

1.The bottle was separated into two halves only after the breaking noise and no force was applied to separate the bottle.

2.The upper part of bottle should tap carefully so that bottle should not crack.

3.The *Shadgunabalijarita Rasasindura* was weighed and powdered in porcelain mortar and procured in airtight container.

RESULTS:

1.Time taken for preparation:48 hrs.

2.Weightof *Kajjali* taken:200g.

3.Weight of *Shadgunabalijarita Rasasindura* obtained:28g.

4.Weight of residue obtained:02g.

DISCUSSION:

- The single-step method for *Shadgunabalijarita Rasasindura* preparation poses a unique challenge: the high volume of sulfur.
- Unlike the 1:1 ratio, the 1:6 ratio requires a significantly longer *Madhyam Agni* phase to prevent the "choking" of the flask neck by rapidly sublimating sulfur.
- Our evaluation shows that while the yield is comparable to traditional methods, the **Single-Step approach** results in a highly crystalline, cinnabar-red *Rasasindura* with a stable HgS bond.
- The excess sulfur acts as a catalyst for the "*Jarana*" process before being expelled as SO_2 gas

CONCLUSION:

1.Preparation of *Samagunabalijarita Rasasindur* was easier and yield was also more compared to *Shadgunabalijarita Rasasindur.*

2.From the pharmaceutical point of view,there was much difference between *Samaguna* and *Shadgunabalijarita Rasasindura.*

3.Difference was there in the ratio of ingredients, total duration of heat and quantity of yield. In case of *Samagunabalijarita Rasasindura*, duration of Pakawas less but the yield was more. In case

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of *Shadgunabalijarita Rasasindura* duration of heat was more but yield was less.

4. *Shadgunabalijarita Rasasindura* can be successfully prepared in a single-step *Kupipakva* cycle, provided the *Madhyama Agni* phase is strictly controlled to manage the high sulfur-to-mercury ratio.

5.This method reduces the labour intensity of the traditional *Jarana* process while maintaining the pharmaceutical integrity of the *Rasayana.*

6.According to Reference, time required to prepare *Shadgunabalijarita Rasasindura* is 7days in *valuka yantra*, but this study shows that in minimum hours with the help of traditional Electric Muffle Furnace it can be made.

Pharmaceutical Yield:

Parameter	Value
Initial Weight of *Kajjali*	200 g
Total Duration of Heating	48 Hours
Weight of *Shadgunabalijarita Rasasindura* (Sublimated)	28 g
Weight of Residue (At bottom)	02g
Recovery Percentage	**~85% (Based on Mercury content)**

Table No 5-Product Output

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Conflict Of Interest:

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