## SOCIETY FOR ETHNOPHARMACOLOGY, INDIA (SFE-INDIA)

Report on the 4<sup>th</sup> International Congress (SFEC -2017)



Organized by Uka Tarsadia University

Bardoli, Surat, Gujarat, India www.utu.ac.in





(Affiliated to: International Society for Ethnopharmacology) www.ethnopharmacology.in



## February 23-25, 2017

SFE-India was formed in 2013, registered under the West Bengal Society Registration act 1961, and affiliated to the International Society for Ethnopharmacology. The society has made its presence through the country, which provides networking opportunity for development and promotion of medicinal plants and natural products. The Society works on dissemination of knowledge in this area through different local chapters made in different parts of India with the major highlights on "Globalizing local knowledge and localizing global technologies."

## Program, participants and scientific interactions during the conference:

The 4<sup>th</sup> International Congress of Ethnopharmacology was held at Uka Tarsadia University, Bardoli, Surat, Gujarat, India during February 23-25, 2017 with the theme "Health care in 21<sup>st</sup> Century: Perspective of Ethnopharmacology and Medicinal Plant Research". The program was jointly organized by the Society for Ethnopharmacology, India (SFE, India) and the C.G. Bhakta Institute of Biotechnology & Maliba Pharmacy College, Uka Tarsadia University, Bardoli, Surat, Gujarat. The 4<sup>th</sup> International Congress of Society for Ethnopharmacology focused on recent advances in Ethnopharmacology and related aspects.

The program included keynote address, plenary lectures, oral and poster presentation in different areas:

- Dissemination of knowledge on education and research for promotion of medicinal plant and Ethnopharmacology
- Evidence based documentation and evaluation of safety, efficacy and quality of medicinal plant products in Indian systems of medicine
- Globalization of traditional medicine
- Scientific documentation and validation of traditional knowledge
- Ethnopharmacology in drug discovery and development- global scenario
- Phytochemical, pharmacological and microbiological screening of medicinal plants
- Bioprospecting of natural products
- Quality control and standardization of herbal medicine
- Integrative approach in healthcare Role of medicinal plants
- Plant breeding, Genetics & Biotechnology
- Conservation & propagation of rare, endangered & threatened medicinal plants

The Congress was attended by over 1000 delegates from several countries and different states of India with 78 plenary and special lectures, 105 oral and 400 poster presentations on diverse fields of the medicinal plants and ethnopharmacological research.

The program was started with a welcome address by Prof. Dr. R. Krishnamurthy, Organizing Chairman SFEC-2017 followed by the introductory talk of Dr. Pulok K. Mukherjee, Secretary, Society for Ethnopharmacology, India (SFE, India). The program was inaugurated by Dr. Dinesh R Shah, Vice Chancellor, Uka Tarsadia University, Surat, Gujrat followed by the introductory lectures of Shri Kiritbhai Patel, Vice President, Uka Tarsadia University, Prof. M Heinrich, UCL School of London, London, UK, Dr Shailesh Shah, Patron, SFEC-2017, Prof. R Bauer, President, ISE, UK, Prof. Vd. K S Dhiman, Director General, CCRAS, New Delhi, Shri. Shekhar Dutt, Ex-Governor, Chhattisgarh, MP, India, Dr. Pratim Banerji, President, SFE-India, Prof. A G Ambali, Vice Chancellor, University of Ilorin, Nigeria, Dr J R Mehta, Registrar, Uka Tarsadia University, Mr. B K Sarkar, Vice President, SFE-India. In their lectures, they gave emphasis on the importance of medicinal plants research based on the traditional knowledge and

ethnopharmacology. They also mentioned about the rich biodiversity of India and its wealth of medicinal plants which is being nurtured by the diverse tribal community of India. They deeply acknowledged the vital role of the conference on the development of healthcare through ethnopharmacology based drug development. They recommended to extent the financial benefits to the tribal community, which are coming from the cultivation and trading of medicinal plants. They also acknowledge the contribution of Society for Ethnopharmacology for the development of medicinal plant research and dissemination of knowledge in the field of ethnopharmacology. In the inaugural session, Society for Ethnopharmacology, India (SFE-INDIA) annual awards were conferred to different eminent scientist/ industries for outstanding contributions on Ethnopharmacology. SFE-INDIA was very much fortunate to offer the SFE – Outstanding International Ethnopharmacologist Award – 2017 (Pranab Banerji Memorial Award) to Dr. Mark Blumenthal, Founder & Executive Director, American Botanical Council for his outstanding contributuin in ethnopharmacology, ethnobotany and allied fields. Prof. Vd. K S Dhiman, Director General, Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences received SFE -Outstanding National Ethnopharmacologist Award – 2017 (Harihar Mukherjee Memorial Award). SFE – ZANDU Award – 2017 (Best Research on Plant Drugs) was conferred to Dr. Surinder Kumar Sharma, Ex-Advisor Ayurveda, Dept. of AYUSH, Ministry of Health, Government of India. Dr. S P Thyagrajan, Professor, Dean (Research), Sri Ramachandra University, Porur, Chennai received the "SFE – Lifetime Achievement Award – 2017" (Bisheswar Saha Memorial Award). Dr. Dinesh R Shah, Vice Chacellor, Uka Tarsadia University (UTU), Bardoli, Gujarat received "SFE - Special Recognition Award - 2017". The "SFE-Outstanding Service Award - 2017" was given to Dr. Ramar Krishnamurthy, Coordinator, Director, C.G. Bhakta Institute of Biotechnology, Surat, Bardoli, Gujarat. From this year, two new awards have been declared in the memories of late Dr. P.K. Debnath and Dr. Tuhinadri Sen. The SFE- Young Ethnopharmacologist Award – 2017 (P K Debnath Memorial Award) was given to Dr. Sayeed Ahmad, Asst. Professor, Department of Pharmacognosy and Phytochemistry, Jamia Hamdard University, New Delhi. The SFE-T Sen Oration Award – 2017 was conferred to Dr. Motlalepula G Matsabisa, Director, IKS Lead Programme Department of Pharmacology, Faculty of Health Sciences, South Africa. Dr. Chandana C. Barua, Professor, Dept. of Pharmacology and Toxicology, College of Veterinary Science, Guwahati was endowed with SFE- Outstanding Local Chapter Award – 2017 for her remarkable contribution to SFE-INDIA.

In this conference, several special lectures and plenary lectures were delivered on critical issues for promotion and globalization of traditional medicine, ethnopharmacology and medicinal plant research by a galaxy of eminent scientists and researchers from all over the world. In the first session, keynote lectures were delivered by Dr. Mark Blumenthal, Founder & Executive Director American Botanical Council Austin where he focused on adulteration of botanical raw materials, extracts, and essential oils used for medicinal herbal products. The second keynote lecture was delivered by Prof. S P Thyagrajan, Dean (Research), Sri Ramachandra University Porur, Chennai on Medicinal Plants Research in Indian Systems of Medicine. In this conference more than 80 plenary and special lectures were delivered by several national and international speakers. Among the international delegates, the key speakers were Dr. Michael Heinrich UCL School of Pharmacy University of London, Prof. Rudolf Bauer President, ISE & Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences University of Graz, Austria, Dr. Puthiyaparambil Josekutty, Australia, Prof. Gudrun Ulrich-Merzenich University Clinic Centre Bonn Bonn, Germany, Dr. Motlalepula G. Matsabisa, University of the Free State Bloemfontein, South Africa, Dr. Bernd Merzenich AG Synergy Research and Experimental Medicine University, Germany, Prof. Dr. Kambizi Learnmore, African Centre for Herbal research, South Africa, Prof. Oyunbileg Yungeree, Institute of General and Experimental Biology, Mongolia, Prof. Marcello Iriti, Dept. of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, Italy, Prof. Temidayo Oladiji, University of Illorin, Nigeria, Prof. Sitesh C Bachar, University of Dhaka, Bangladesh and many more. All the speakers gave emphasize on several aspects of ethnopharmacology viz., plant metabolomics, conservation of medicinal plants, synergy aspects of medicinal plants, plant tissue culture, ethnobotany and several ethnopharmacological aspects of medicinal plants. These sessions were also chaired by several distinguished scientists, academicians in the field of ethnopharmacology.

The distinguished speakers from India were Prof. Vd. K S Dhiman Director General CCRAS, New Delhi, Dr. C K Katiyar Emami Limited Kolkata, Dr. Surinder Kumar Sharma Ex-Advisor Ayurveda, Dept. of AYUSH Ministry of Health, Gurgaon, Dr. Jayram Hazra Director NRIADD, Kolkata, Dr. Lalit Narayan Deputy Director, National Medicinal Plant Board (NMPB) Ministry of AYUSH, Govt. of India New Delhi, Dr. Debprasad Chattopadhyay, Indian Council of Medical Research Belgaum, Karnataka, Dr. Sayeed Ahmad Dept. of Pharmacognosy and Phytochemistry, Jamia Hamdard University, New Delhi, Prof. Rajib Bandyopadhyay, Dept. of Instrumentation and Electronics Engineering, Jadavpur University, Dr. G Geetha Krishnan, Medanta, Gurgaon,



Inaugural Programme of SFEC 2017



Valedictory Programme of SFEC 2017



SFE-India EC meeting during SFEC 2017



Annual Award ceremony of SFE-India during SFEC 2017



Participants and Dignitaries of SFEC 2017



SFE Associates



Participants of SFEC 2017



Global Platform meeting during SFEC 2017

Prof. Somenath Roy Dept. of Human Physiology with Community Health, Vidyasagar University, West Bengal, Prof. A S Raghavendra, University of Hyderabad, Hyderabad, Dr. Mohd. Aslam Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science & Technology, New Delhi and many more. In the third day of the conference, one interactive session on Ethnopharmacology, Ethnomedine and Ethnic Health Care Practices was called upon where the representatives of individual groups of traditional healers from different parts of India made interactions with the scientists, doctors and technologists based on their different activities from various places, states with varied culture and biodiversity. The meeting of the Global Platform for the Ethnopharmacology, Ethnomedicine and Ethnic Health Care Practices was also organized where different issues of medicinal plant research and the policy making of ethnopharmacological research were discussed in depth. The conference ended with a valedictory program with the prize distribution of scientific oral and poster presentation. In the valedictory program, special recognition was made by SFE-India & ISE, UK to the organizers to recognize their services for the promotion Ethnopharmacology in India. Thus the second congress of the society was very successful in every aspect.

## **Outcome of the conference:**

The conference provided an ideal platform for interaction, debate and dissemination of ideas amongst the distinguished professionals, eminent scientists and technologists and the traditional healers. This motivates the participants in a bigger way to carry out their research work along the novel path shown by the eminent researchers present through their presentations and discussions. Finally the attainment of the conference may lies in a bigger perspective as the participants enriched themselves and were motivated to carry out their research work along the novel path shown by the eminent researchers present through their presentations and discussions. With their input on the conference topic, the participants were able to take home an updated roadmap to develop future strategies on research work in the area of ethnomedicine as well as traditional medicine inspired drug discovery. Thus the International Conclave on was very successful in every aspect. Lastly a global platform was proposed to explore and disseminate the ethnopharmacological knowledge in the development of ethnic health care practices.

The 5<sup>th</sup> International Congress of the Society for Ethnopharmacology, India (SFEC 2018) and 18<sup>th</sup> International Congress of International Society for Ethnopharmacology (ISE SFEC 2018) will be organized by Dept. of Pharmacy, University of Dhaka, Bangladesh during January 13-15, 2018 at Dhaka, Bangladesh. We invite all of you to join the society and explore the opportunity. More information on the activities, awards and membership of the society is available on **www.ethnopharmacology.in**.

For further information you may please contact Prof. Pulok K. Mukherjee, Secretary, Society for Ethnopharmacology, India & Director, School of Natural Product Studies, Jadavpur University, Kolkata 700032, India.

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