



Antimicrobial, Antioxidant Activities & Phytochemical Screening of *F. Benghalensis* Bark

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ABSTRACT: The *Ficus benghalensis* is an important herbal plant used in Ayurveda as a traditional medicinal system of India. Plant based natural constituents can be derived from part of the plant like bark. Medicinal plants have been used as an exemplary source for centuries as an alternative remedy for treating human disease because they contain numerous active constituents of therapeutic value. Medicinal plants like *Ficus benghalensis* are rich source of antimicrobial agents. Plants are used medicinally in different countries and are the source of potential and powerful drugs. *F. benghalensis* was screened for phytoconstituents and found to be flavonoid rich. Gram positive bacteria like *Staphylococcus aureus* and *Bacillus subtilis* as well as gram negative bacteria like *Aromonas hydrophilla* and *Escherichia coli* were used and antimicrobial activity of the concentrated extracts was evaluated by the diameter zone of inhibition against the above microorganisms. Plant extracts were active against both gram positive and gram negative bacteria. The study also conducted on the isolation of the chemical constituents present in the plant. For antioxidant activity, total reductive potential and total antioxidant activity were performed for evaluation of plant extract's antioxidant activity. The bark is used in inflammation, swelling at neck, gonorrhoea, scabies, mouthwash for tooth ache, and for strengthening gums, and steeped freshly burnt bark has been said to cure cases of obstinate hiccup. The latex is used in inflammations and hemorrhages. © 2014 iGlobal Research and Publishing Foundation. All rights reserved.

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