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Mythical divine remedial plants corresponded to Sun in Vedic and Western astrology: A scientific outlook

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Abstract

The fascinating cum intricate interaction between celestial bodies and remedial plant measures has flourished across every culture in the world since time immemorial. Initially, human observations of nature, celestial bodies and recurring phenomena have given rise to foretelling predictions. These experiences later paved the way for the development of astrological systems and astroethnobotany for humankind harmony, well-being, creating cultures, beliefs, prophecies, interpretations, and spiritual alignment. They had connections to mathematical computations, symbolic elements, energetic affinities and mythological narratives. However, the exact Sun divine remedial plants astral conjunction in astrology remains a mystery. In view of this, the Sun, the celestial body that gives life to Earth, was chosen for the analysis of myth to science because of its effects on the environment and all living things. The current study explores the mythical divine remedial plants linked to celestial body Sun used to mitigate Sun malefic effects in Vedic and Western astrological systems. Understanding the relationship between the flower colour and Sun horizon times in relation to the nature and colour of Sun friendly planets helps to decipher the secret doctrine of signature for assigning Sun divine remedial plants, which in turn aids in effectively predicting and suggesting Sun divine remedial plants for afflictions and malefic effects.

Keywords: Astroethnobotany, astrology, divine remedial plants, flower colour, planets, sun

1. Introduction

The information transmission regarding inherent natural linkages between earthly life and the cosmic realm occurred through the ages. Vedic and Western astrology are two distinct systems that delve into the influence of celestial bodies on human life. Vedic astrology, deeply rooted in ancient India, focuses on karma and cosmic forces shaping one's destiny by examining nakshatras, yogas, and dasas. In contrast, Western astrology, originating from Greek and Roman civilizations, places emphasis on psychological interpretations, shines a spotlight on zodiac signs and planetary aspects to interpret traits, behaviors, and life patterns. Regardless of the system, both act as powerful tools for self-reflection, personal growth, and comprehending the influences that shape the life of humankind.

1.1 Astrology and Indian culture

Astrology is an integral part of Indian culture as they seek astrologer predictions related to all auspicious and inauspicious religious rituals starting from birth to death and for health issues based on individual's natal chart in Indian system of Ayurveda and Siddha medicine. Astrologer prediction is based on the pre-determined position of planets in natal chart studies the energy of the planets related to the planet's movement at the time of prediction and suggests various remedial measures to planets adversity or malefic effects. All sects of people from the urban to rural, the most educated to the most ignorant and the higher to the lower social strata believe that the astrological remedial measures will emancipate the planets malefic effects.

1.2 Need for the study

Despite the abundance of astrologically proven remedial plants and herbs available in the market, there is limited well-documented standardization due to its reliance on oral tradition, practical focus, and cultural nuances. Astrology's Selective preservation, language complexities, societal stigma, and lack of institutionalization have added to the challenges of

recording and spreading astrological remedial plants and its wisdom. There is a science behind every Indian tradition. If this fact is true, then there will be science behind the astrological remedial plants too. But, the exact basis of planets and astrological remedial plants interrelation in emancipating the planets malefic effects remain mystic till date. Hence, there is a need to dig deeper into the specific connections between the plants and the planets used in remedial measures for the better understanding of whether these practices have any practical use to humankind today. Our previous study documented and analyzed the astrological plants associated with Moon's remedial measure. In light of this, the present study was designed to explore the various remedial plants associated with Sun along with their vibrant flower colors in order to understand the relationship between flower colour, and Sun phases in relation to the nature, colour, and friendly planets of the Sun. This may help to decipher the secret doctrine of signature correspondences for assigning Sun divine remedial plants, which in turn aids in effectively predicting and suggesting Sun divine remedial plants for afflictions and malefic effects. By exploring these plants with respect to Vedic and Western astrology, offers a profound insight into the intricate web of connections between celestial influences in both the system and illuminates the intricate connection between celestial entities, botanical energies, and human spirituality.

2. Literature survey

The literature survey period was from December 2021 to January 2023. The primary source of information relevant to Sun divine remedial plants was collected from religious, Vedic, conventional, and modern astrology literature, while the secondary data collected from electronic sources were combined to provide a coherent documentation of the subject's state-of-the-art. The information gathered through systematic literature survey includes only the plant species attributed to the sun to ward off its negative effects. Plants related with the sun were cited in common names, and it was difficult to reconcile a large number of dispersed allusions to ancient plants in non-botanical terms with modern nomenclature. Hence, in order to avoid ambiguity when

creating the plant list, it is necessary to scrutinize remedial plants and correctly identify their scientific names prior to scientific validation. As a result, scientific name validation was made with utmost care between the plants of the ancients and those of today to avoid incorrect identification. Using the online theplantlist.org database, the species and family names were verified. Because of their imprecise nature or etymological ambiguities, only the English common names are listed in the table.

3. The sun in astronomy

The perfect sphere sun, an active G-type main sequence yellow dwarf star of hot plasma located at the center of our solar system is essential for life on Earth as it provides light, heat, and energy necessary for various biological processes. It is primarily composed of hydrogen (about 74% by mass), helium (about 24% by mass), and with small amounts of heavier elements. The sun generates its energy through a process called nuclear fusion. In its core, hydrogen atoms combine to form helium, releasing a tremendous amount of energy in the process of light, heat, and provide the sun's radiation. The sun's surface is not solid but consists of several distinct layers. A visible surface of the photosphere has an average temperature of about 5,500 degrees Celsius (9,932 degrees Fahrenheit). Whereas, the dark regions on the photosphere called sunspots, are cooler areas associated with strong magnetic fields. It exhibits various phenomena like sunspots, solar flares, solar wind, coronal mass ejections, heat and light, driving weather patterns, ocean currents, photosynthesis, affecting satellites, power grids, communication systems and much more unknown processes or effects on earth.

3.1 The sun in astrology

In astrology, the Sun holds significant importance as it represents the core essence of an individual's personality and the ego. It is one of the most essential celestial bodies in astrological interpretations and plays a vital role in determining a person's zodiac sign, as well as their Sun sign traits and characteristics (Table 1).

Table 1: Characteristics assigned to sun as reported in Vedic astrology

Parameters	Astrological characters assigned or associated with Sun
Colour	Red (Golden yellow and Orange is also used)
Cloth (<i>vasthiram</i>)	Red
Gem stone	Ruby
Metal	Gold and Copper
God	Lord Shiva
Mantra	Om Sum Sunadraya Namaha
Day	Sunday
Element	Fire
Biological Humour	<i>Pitham</i> (Hot)
Causal of disease	Disturbances in <i>Pitham</i>
Ruled body	Bone, Brain, Circulatory System, Eyes, Head, Heart, Lungs, Stomach
Body parts affected during malefic effects of Sun	External: Eye (Left eye in females and right eyes in males) Internal: Heart, skin, stomach, head, lungs, bone (spinal Cord and joints), brain, circulatory and immune system.
Disease caused	Baldness, Bone fractures, bone cancer, Cardiac Problem, dental problems, Epilepsy, erratic blood circulation, Eye diseases, Headache, overheating, fever, blood pressure, neuralgia, weak immune system
Associated traits	Masculinity, strength, self-assurance, bravery, kind heartedness, gladness, heat, bitterness, characters of ego, a sense of purpose, and vitality.
House	lord of the 5th house
Outcomes	Produces favourable outcomes when positioned in houses 1 to 5,8,9,11, and 12, however the 6th, 7th, and 10th houses are unfavourable terrible houses for the Sun.
Friendly planets	Moon, Jupiter, and Mars
Enemy planets	Saturn, Venus, Rahu, and Ketu
Neutral planet	Mercury

3.2 The sun and it's mystical astrological remedial measures

Astrological remedial measures are methods used to either balance the weak or afflicted planets or minimize or invalidate the effects of past actions or their detrimental effects owing to karma in one's horoscope, which are nothing, but mystical, metaphysical, and esoteric remedies. These

precautions are said to aid in either preventing or curing losses that could happen due to the negative influences of planets. Due to one's karma, sun-related ailments cannot be completely cured, but they can be lessened with the help of the right astrological remedies. There are numerous methods and approaches to accomplish remedies (Table 2).

Table 2: Categories of mystical astrological remedies

S. No.	Remedies type	Astrological practice and purpose
1	Mantras	Chanting specific mantras helps to strengthen the weak planets
2	Yantra	Use of geometric designs made on copper or silver plates to balance the planets in one's horoscope
3	Remedial Products	Wearing various products such as gems, Rudraksha, crystals, charms, and herbs help to balance the planets in one's horoscope.
4	Service	Performing selfless service helps to reduce the negative effects of planets in one's horoscope
5	Donations	Donating to charity reduce the negative effects of planets in one's horoscope
6	Change of attitudes and habits	Changing one's attitudes and habits reduce the negative effects of planets in one's horoscope
7	Astrological consultation	Consulting with an astrologer to get a better understanding of one's horoscope and the remedies that can be used to balance the planets
8	Fasting	Voluntary restriction or sacrifice of consuming food or any desire at as a strong remedy to nullify the bad effects and empowers the planets optimistic outcome
9	Blessings	Blessings of elders including parents, teachers or gurus reduce the negative impact
10	Colour therapy	Every planet has its own specific colour to which it reverberates and responds. Use of malefic planets colour reduce the effect.
11	Folk remedies in astrology	Usage of specific words that helps to get rid of everyday problems and issues. The words vary with culture.
12	Religious	Prayer, rituals, worship of God and goddesses, performing sacrificial fire, yatra to temples
13	Spiritual	Rejuvenating yoga and meditation which satisfies and empowers the planets permanently

3.3 Mythical Divine Remedial plants

Astrological remedial plants also referred as mythical divine remedial plants is one of the remedial measures comes under the category of remedial products used to strengthen the power of benefic planets or to ward off negative effects of malefic planets or to balance the planets in one's horoscope (Table 2). Wearing costly stones to heal the planets is not practicable for everyone hence, seers assigned roots of various herbs in astrology to appease the planets. In addition, the planets exert their effect on plants and their medicinal properties. These plants undoubtedly have the same effect as the intended gem effect. These plants are beneficial for treating illnesses linked to the planets as well as for propitiate the planets. Moreover, engaging with remedial plants can be a way to connect with nature and promote well-being, but can vary based on beliefs and cultural practices.

3.3.1 The sun and its mystical divine remedial plants

The best defense against the harmful effects of the sun on

humankind is plants. Remedial plants are recommended only after a thorough examination of a person's birth chart as it helps in measuring the duration of sun ailments which, in turn, helpful for predicting of remedial plants. Herbs are not recommended by astrologers to strengthen weak planets since they don't have a thorough understanding and unaware of the form, quality, and chosen herbs that balance the energy system of human life, as well as the technique of energizing or activating the herbs with prayers. The incorrect usage of herbs is more dangerous than mantras and precious stones because it confuses or disturbs the astral dimension. Depending on the severity of the affliction, remedial herbs can be taken alone or in combination. Plants recommended for Sun ailments by the astrological seers were compiled (Table 3) and arranged according to evolutionary relationships, followed by an alphabetical listing of the scientific name of the plant, along with its common name, family and flower colour.

Table 3: Sun and its associated mythical divine remedial plants in Vedic and Western astrology.

S. No.	Remedial Plants	Common name	Family	FC	V/We
Gymnosperm					
1	<i>Cedrus deodara</i> (Roxb. Ex Lamb.) G. Don	Cedar	Pinaceae	Y	We
2	<i>Ginkgo biloba</i> L.	Gingkoo	Ginkgoaceae	G	We
3	<i>Juniperus communis</i> L.	Juniper	Cupressaceae	Y	We
4	<i>Larix decidua</i> Mill.	Larch	Pinaceae	Y	We
5	<i>Pinus ponderosa</i> Douglas ex C. Lawson	Pinus	Pinaceae	Y	We
6	<i>Pseudotsuga menziesii</i> (Mirb.) Franco	Fir	Pinaceae	Y	We
7	<i>Sequoia sempervirens</i> (D. Don) Endl.	Red wood	Taxodiaceae	R	We
Angiosperm					
Dicot					
8	<i>Acer rubrum</i> L.	Red Maple	Sapindaceae	R	We
9	<i>Aegle marmelos</i> (L.) Correa.	Wood Apple	Rutaceae	W	V
10	<i>Althaea officinalis</i> L.	Marshmallow	Malvaceae	R	We
11	<i>Anagallis arvensis</i> L.	Pimpernel	Primulaceae	R	We

12	<i>Angelica archangelica</i> L.	Angelica	Apiaceae	W	We
13	<i>Aquilaria malaccensis</i> Lam.	Lignum Aloes	Thymelaeaceae	W	We
14	<i>Boswellia sacra</i> Flueck.	Indian frankincense	Burseraceae	Y	We
15	<i>Calendula officinalis</i> L.	English Marigold	Compositae	Y	We
16	<i>Calotropis gigantea</i> (L.) Dryand.	Crown Flower	Apocynaceae	W	V
17	<i>Calotropis procera</i> (Aiton) Dryand.	Calotropis	Apocynaceae	P	V
18	<i>Capsicum annuum</i> L.	Cayenne	Solanaceae	W	We
19	<i>Centaureum erythraea</i> Rafn	Centaury	Gentianaceae	P	We
20	<i>Cerocarpus betuloides</i> Nutt.	Cerocarpus	Rosaceae	W	We
21	<i>Chelidonium majus</i> L.	Celandine	Papaveraceae	Y	We
22	<i>Cichorium intybus</i> L.	Chicory	Compositae	B	We
23	<i>Cinnamomum camphora</i> (L.) J. Presl	Camphor	Lauraceae	Y	V
24	<i>Cinnamomum verum</i> J. Presl	Cinnamon	Lauraceae	W	V
25	<i>Citrullus colocynthis</i> (L.) Schrad.	Colocynt	Cucurbitaceae	Y	V
26	<i>Citrus medica</i> L.	Citron	Rutaceae	W	V
27	<i>Citrus X limon</i> (L.) Burm. f.	Lemon	Rutaceae	W	V
28	<i>Citrus X sinensis</i> (L.) Osbeck	Orange	Rutaceae	W	We
29	<i>Commiphora myrrha</i> (Nees) Engl.	Myrrh	Burseraceae	Y	We
30	<i>Dianthus caryophyllus</i> L.	Carnation	Caryophyllaceae	P	We
31	<i>Drosera rotundifolia</i> L.	Rosa Solis	Droseraceae	R	We
32	<i>Echium vulgare</i> L.	Viper Bugloss	Boraginaceae	B	We
33	<i>Euphrasia officinalis</i> L.	Eyebright	Scrophulariaceae	B	We
34	<i>Fagus grandifolia</i> Ehrh.	Beech-tree	Fagaceae	Y	We
35	<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> L.	Ash tree	Oleaceae	P	We
36	<i>Helianthus annuus</i> L.	Sunflower	Compositae	Y	We
37	<i>Heliotropium arborescens</i> L.	Heliotrope	Boraginaceae	P	We
38	<i>Hibiscus rosa-sinensis</i> L.	Hibiscus	Malvaceae	R	V
39	<i>Humulus lupulus</i> L.	Hops	Cannabaceae	Y	We
40	<i>Hydrastis canadensis</i> L.	Goldenseal	Ranunculaceae	W	We
41	<i>Hypericum crux-andreae</i> (L.) Crantz	St. Peters wort	Hypericaceae	Y	We
42	<i>Hypericum perforatum</i> L.	St. John's wort	Hypericaceae	Y	We
43	<i>Inula helenium</i> L.	Elecampane	Compositae	Y	We
44	<i>Juglans nigra</i> L.	Black Walnut	Juglandaceae	Y	We
45	<i>Juglans regia</i> L.	Walnut	Juglandaceae	Y	We
46	<i>Lablab purpureus</i> (L.) Sweet	Lablab bean	Leguminosae	P	We
47	<i>Laurus nobilis</i> L.	Bay laurel	Lauraceae	Y	We
48	<i>Lawsonia inermis</i> L.	Henna	Lythraceae	R	V
49	<i>Levisticum officinale</i> W.D.J. Koch	Lovage	Apiaceae	Y	We
50	<i>Matricaria chamomilla</i> L.	Chamomile	Compositae	W	We
51	<i>Myrica pensylvanica</i> Mirb.	Bayberry	Myricaceae	Y	We
52	<i>Nelumbo nucifera</i> Gaertn.	Sacred Lotus	Nelumbonaceae	PI	V
53	<i>Nerium oleander</i> L.	Oleander	Apocynaceae	Y	V
54	<i>Olea europaea</i> L.	Olive	Oleaceae	Y	We
55	<i>Paeonia lactiflora</i> Pall.	Paeony	Paeoniaceae	R	We
56	<i>Petasites hybridus</i> (L.) G. Gaertn., B. Mey. & Scherb.	Butterbur	Compositae	R	We
57	<i>Piper longum</i> L.	Long Pepper	Piperaceae	Y	V
58	<i>Piper nigrum</i> L.	Black pepper	Piperaceae	Y	V
59	<i>Polygonum aviculare</i> L.	Knotgrass	Polygonaceae	W	We
60	<i>Populus balsamifera</i> L.	Balm of Gilead	Salicaceae	Y	We
61	<i>Potentilla erecta</i> (L.) Raeusch	Tormentil	Rosaceae	Y	We
62	<i>Potentilla reptans</i> L.	Cinquefoile	Rosaceae	Y	We
63	<i>Primula veris</i> L.	Cowslip	Primulaceae	Y	We
64	<i>Pterocarpus santalinus</i> L. f.	Red sandal wood	Leguminosae	Y	V
65	<i>Quercus leucotrichophora</i> A. Camus	Oak	Fagaceae	W	We
66	<i>Ruta bracteosa</i> DC.	Rue	Rutaceae	Y	We
67	<i>Salvia officinalis</i> L.	Garden Sage	Lamiaceae	P	We
68	<i>Salvia rosmarinus</i> Schleid.	Rosemary	Lamiaceae	P	We
69	<i>Santalum album</i> L.	Sandal	Santalaceae	R	V
70	<i>Sorbus aucuparia</i> L.	Rowan	Rosaceae	Y	We
71	<i>Tagetes erecta</i> L.	Tagetes	Compositae	Y	We
72	<i>Tagetes Lucida</i> Cav.	Yauthli	Compositae	Y	We
73	<i>Taraxacum officinale</i> Webb	Dandelion	Compositae	Y	We
74	<i>Tectona grandis</i> L.f.	Teak tree	Lamiaceae	W	V
75	<i>Viscum album</i> L.	Mistletoe	Santalaceae	Y	We
76	<i>Vitis vinifera</i> L.	Grapes	Vitaceae	W	We
Monocot					
77	<i>Acorus calamus</i> L.	Sweet Flag	Acoraceae	W	V
78	<i>Cocos nucifera</i> L.	Palm	Arecaceae	Y	V
79	<i>Crocus sativus</i> L.	Saffron	Iridaceae	P	V

80	<i>Dracaena cinnabari</i> Balf. f	Dragon blood tree	Asparagaceae	W	We
81	<i>Elettaria cardamomum</i> (L.) Maton	Cardamom	Zingiberaceae	Y	V
82	<i>Hordeum vulgare</i> L.	Barley	Poaceae	W	We
83	<i>Oryza sativa</i> L.	Rice	Poaceae	Y	V
84	<i>Triticum aestivum</i> L.	Wheat	Poaceae	Y	V
85	<i>Zingiber officinale</i> Roscoe	Ginger	Zingiberaceae	Y	V

*Flower colour (F): Y - Yellow, G - Green, R - Red, W - White, P - Purple, B - Blue, PI - Pink
 Astrology mention: V - Vedic, We - Western

3.3.2 Floristic analysis

The compiled list includes 85 species and belongs to spermatophytes. Out of 85 species, 78 species belong to angiosperms (91.77%) and 7 species belongs to gymnosperm (8.23%). In angiosperms, 7 species are monocots and 71 species are dicots. About 24 and 61 species are mentioned respectively in Vedic and Western astrology.

3.3.3 Flower colours analysis

Table 3 shows seven distinct colours. Maximum number of plants have yellow colour flowers (42), followed by those of the white (19), red (10), purple (9), blue (3), green (1) and pink (1) colour (Figure 1).

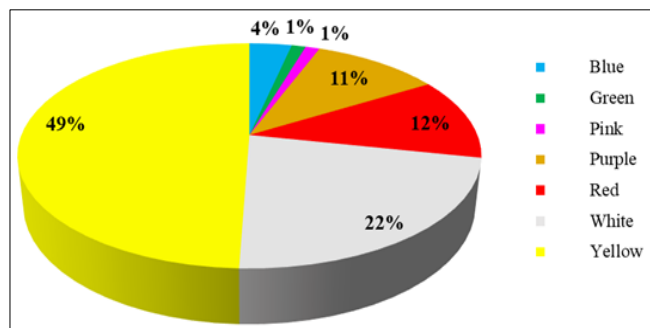


Fig 1: Flower colour analyses of sun divine remedial plants

3.3.4 Correspondences between divine remedial plants, Sun phases and Planets

To discover the mystery underlying the correspondences, the taxonomical attribute of flower colour of remedial plants was examined with the Sun phases and its respective physical appearance of sky along with the colours associated for planets in astrology (Table 4). The colour of Sun depends on the surface temperature, human eye perception of wavelength and light scattering. The sky is most frequently blue but it can

shift to other colours at specific times and conditions. The colour of the sun's light fluctuates based on its position in the horizon, appearing as yellow during the day, red, orange or pink at the lowest horizon (sunrise and sunset), white at noon, green during very deep thunderstorm clouds and purple during the occurrence of catastrophic events. Interestingly, the remedial plants flower colour coincides with the colour of Sun appearance. The true colour or appearance of Sun is yellow. Hence, the yellow colour is considered as a benefit of the highest order followed by white, red or orange red, purple, pink and green (Figure 1). The camphor that is white in colour, is used in all Hindu rituals in general whereas for neutralizing or overcome ill effects of sun, golden yellow or red or orange red colour flowering plants are used in particular to offer God. If the affliction intensity is high the purple colour flowering herbs are used as the colour is corresponded to catastrophic events. Astronomically, the sun appears purple due to increase solar radiation, volcano activity, increase in floating aerosols, air pollution, wildfires and high surface temperature. While, the green sky is an indication for the occurrence of hail and tornadoes. Hence, for cleansing the environment the ancestors used purple colour plants like *Calotropis gigantea* and *Crocus sativus*. Besides, the planets colour and its nature in astrology also have link with the Sun and remedial plants flower colour (Table 4). This clearly explains that only the plants with the flower colour of sun appearance were assigned as remedial plants for Sun and its associated events are corresponded to astrological purpose which supports the earlier report of Komalavalli and Shanthini. The plants that are assigned to the sun have great therapeutic and economic significance and are utilized all over the world to cure various ailments. Prior to making a remedial plant prediction, this factor is also considered. So far, certain features of forecasting remedial plants to sun have thus been shown, but the exact mechanism underlying connection and prediction still needs to be explored.

Table 4: Phases of the sun colour and its friendly planets

S. No.	Sun phases	Associated Colour	Planets	Astrological nature	Associated Colour
1	Sunrise	Red, Yellow, Orange	Mars	Friend	Red, Orange
2	Noon	White	Moon	Friend	White
3	Day	Blue	Saturn	Enemy	Blue, Purple
		Green	Mercury	Neutral	Green
		Purple	Venus, Rahu, and Ketu	Enemy	Purple, White
4	Sunset	Red, Yellow, Pink	Jupiter	Friend	Yellow

4. Conclusion

The vital old knowledge of astrology, religion and mythical divine remedial plants were purposefully hidden by ancient secretive societies for millennia to prevent the people from realizing true science behind facts. The present study will decrease the gap of alienation between science and theology. The planets colour and its nature in astrology have strongly interconnected with the physical appearance Sun and remedial plants flower colour. A holistic understanding of astrology, botany, pharmacognosy and therapeutic uses of sun divine

remedial plants aids in the discovery of hidden mysteries and doctrine of signatures in the years to come.

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