

REPORT



SFEC 2017

4th International Congress of Society for Ethnopharmacology, India

Surat, Gujarat, India

February 23-25, 2017

Healthcare in 21st century: Perspectives of Ethnopharmacology & Medicinal Plant Research

Organized by



C.G. Bhakta Institute of Biotechnology & Maliba Pharmacy College

Uka Tarsadia University

Bardoli, Dist. Surat- 394350, Gujarat, India

www.utu.ac.in ; www.ethnopharmacology.in

Organizing Chairman : Prof.R.Krishnamurthy

Sponsored by

Uka Tarsadia University, Bardoli, Gujarat,
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Acknowledgements

The Local Organizing Committee of SFEC-2017 wish to acknowledge all individuals, organizations, agencies and departments who contributed so generously in one way or the another to the success of this conference, specifically to all the Dignitaries/Guest speakers, Session Chairman and Panelists who supported and/or participated in the conference.



Overview

The 4th International Congress of Society for Ethnopharmacology (SFEC-2017) was successfully organized with the great support of the Management of Uka Tarsadia University at Bardoli, a historical place known after late ShriSardarVallabh Patel. The University is located in the vicinity of largest tribal belt of Gujarat State surrounded by rich biodiversities like Dang, Saputara, and Rajpipla forests. It is a pertinent and ideal location to host such great congress in this region. The congress was organized by Prof R Krishnamurthy as Chairman and supported by DrVijayalakshmiGhosh&Dr N ChSrivathsa as Organizing Secretaries, and DrMiteshDwivedi, DrShrikant Joshi &DrBhavinVyas as Joint Organizing Secretaries. SFEC-2017received overwhelming responses from wide range of stakeholders on single platform in discussing large number of issues related to Healthcare in 21st century: Perspectives of Ethnopharmacology & Medicinal Plant Research. Over 1000 stakeholders actively participated in the conference and discussed relevance of Ethnopharmacology and medicinal plant research in the Indian and global context through different sessions.

Theme of the Congress

The 4th 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

- Quality control and standardization of herbal medicine
- Phytochemical, pharmacological and microbiological screening of medicinal plants
- Bioprospecting of natural products
- Integrative approach in healthcare – Role of medicinal plants
- Plant breeding, Genetics & Biotechnology
- Conservation & propagation of rare, endangered & threatened medicinal plants

The 4th International Congress of the Society of Ethnopharmacology on 'Healthcare in 21st Century: Perspectives of Ethnopharmacology and Medicinal Plant Research' was jointly organized by UkaTarsadia University, Gujarat and the Society for Ethnopharmacology (SFE), Kolkata (H.O) on February 23rd–25th 2017. It was first of its kind that was organised in the Western India and especially in the tribal belt of South Gujarat. More than 1200 delegates from all over India including 25 foreign delegates from various parts of the globe attended this international conference. Researchers of national and international repute presented their research in 15 concurrent sessions followed by more than 120 oral and 375 poster presentations. The conference (SFEC 2017) was organized under the dynamic Chairmanship of Prof.R.Krishnamurthy, Director, CGBIBT, Uka Tarsadia University.

The conference was inaugurated by Chief Patron Shri. B.U.Patel, Dr. Dinesh R. Shah, Provost and ShriKiritbhai Patel, Vice-President, UkaTarsadiaUniversity,Gujarat. Dr.Shailesh Shah, SFEC – 2017,Patron, Prof. Rudolf Bauer, President, ISE, UK, Prof. A.G. Ambali, Vice Chancellor, University of Ilorin, Nigeria, Prof. M. Heinrich, UCL School of London, UK; Shri. ShekharDutt, Ex-Governor,Chhattisgarh, India, Prof.Vd. K S Dhiman, Director General, CCRAS, New Delhi, Dr.PratimBanerji, President, SFE-India, Prof.PulokMukherji, Secretary, SFE-India, Mr. Indraneel Das, Vice President, SFE-India also shared the dais. The inaugural ceremony was followed by SFE-annual award ceremony, where in eminent personalities who have contributed to the field of ethnopharmacology and medicinal plants were conferred awards.

Sessions on broader aspects of Ethnopharmacology and medicinal plants were conducted. One of the major highlight of the conference was a Healers Session

wherein the traditional wisdom of collection, preservation and cultivation of medicinal plants has been shared with the academia and industry. An Interactive









Healers Session with renowned scientists, industrialists, NGOs and farmers on how to promote ethnopharmacology and traditional health practices at the global level were conducted. These discussions not only revealed various problems the traditional healers are facing and even the general public in accepting the traditional medicine, but also the various ways by which we can educate the general public and help government in developing policies to promote ethnopharmacology and medicinal plants research. Researchers across the globe presented their research and competed for the best prize in oral and poster presentations. Interestingly, SFEC -2017 witnessed 67% of female participants.

This conference was partly supported by government agencies like Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) New Delhi, Department of Science and Technology (DST-SERB), Indian National Science Academy and also by well-wishers from various industries. The dignitaries admired Uka Tarsadia University for organizing successfully such a mega – event.

This conference has opened the door for researchers and scientists of Gujarat State to collaborate with foreign scientists working in respective field. UTU has successfully disseminated our culture also through evening schedule of cultural programme. The congress was a great success.





Outcome

The theme of the conference was related to the globalizing the prospects associated to scientific validation of the traditional medicine in healthcare systems. The conference included scientific sessions involving exploration of traditional medicines described in

traditional system of medicines such as Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani and Homeopathy. Thus the conference was helpful in introducing natural leads from medicinal plant sources, which was beneficial in the treatment of ailments. The conference will also provided wide platform to the researchers to learn the recent technology involved in natural drug discovery. As India has a very rich heritage of traditional medicine from natural flora, therefore it has an immense potential to be the global leader in herbal drug trade. In addition, due to its potent biological activity and high safety margin, there is wide increase in the popularization of natural therapies which has resulted in great demand for standardize herbal product worldwide. Therefore, globalizing the wealth of traditional knowledge available in our country require pooling of the best efforts, strategies right from collection, cultivation and marketing of herbal drug from all the stakeholders related to herbal drug. Such conference brought together all professionals related to herbal medicine to initiate the required changes ambient to promotion and globalization of our traditional medicinal knowledge. In addition, the conference formed a bridge between the academic and Industry to gather scientific and teaching professional in Ethnopharmacology, traditional medicine and also professional of other areas interested in developing cost effective natural remedies for healthcare of the society. It is expected to benefit large number of students, researchers, academicians and Industrialists in this South Gujarat Regions.

Prof. R. Krishnamurthy

Organizing Chairman, SFEC 2017