

# The Neem Tree

Remedy for most ailments  
from the wonder tree

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**T**he neem tree, also called margosa tree, is found practically in every house in rural India. Its leaves, bark, wood, roots and fruits are extremely bitter, but have great medicinal value.

## Medicinal Uses

Ayurvedic physicians have been using neem since antiquity. Charaka found it useful in leprosy, Susruta in leprosy, gonorrhoea and fevers with burning sensation. Harita found it useful in boils and as a blood purifier. Bagabhata used it against baldness of the head. Chakradatta found it useful in boils, ulcers, eczema, scabies and other skin diseases. Bangasena found it to be a sovereign remedy for sciatica and eye diseases in children. Bhavaprakasha used it against worm infestations.

Homoeopathic physicians use it to cure loss of memory, vertigo, troublesome cough, constipation, fever with chills and itching.

Allopathic research has revealed that the margosa plant contains non-crystalline resinous

substances, tannins, sugars, neem oil, margosine, catechin gum and salts. It is useful against worm infestation, boils, ulcers and leprosy.

## Modern Application

With the giant strides in allopathic medicine, herbal remedies have lost their place in the mainstream therapy. However, parts of the neem tree are used by native physicians to cure fever, loss of appetite, worm infestation, jaundice, boils, non-healing ulcers, leprosy and gonorrhoea.

It is also a good remedy for forgetfulness, where the patient forgets names or right answers in examinations.

It is also a grand remedy in leprosy and counteracts the ill effects of Quinine, which is given in malaria. It is used as a poultice or a plaster in skin diseases, such as abscesses, boils, buboes and carbuncles.

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