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## Neem (*Azadirachta indica*): Prehistory to contemporary medicinal uses to humankind

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### Abstract

The divine tree neem (*Azadirachta indica*) is mainly cultivated in the Indian subcontinent. Neem has been used extensively by humankind to treat various ailments before the availability of written records which recorded the beginning of history. The world health organization estimates that 80% of the population living in the developing countries relies exclusively on traditional medicine for their primary health care. More than half of the world's population still relies entirely on plants for medicines, and plants supply the active ingredients of most traditional medical products. The review shows the neem has been used by humankind to treat various ailments from prehistory to contemporary.



## Keywords

*Azadirachta indica*; Palm leaf manuscripts; Prehistory

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**Comments:** The paper is convincing and is based on the diversified application of neem tree. The article has been highlighted with the historical links of neem tree with the ancient medicines. It also gives a detailed description of the existing historical evidences of neem tree with the mankind and in medicine. It has provided a new insight into the exploration and utilization of neem tree as a source for development of new therapeutic molecules.

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