

CONFERENCE PROCEEDING

***Ziziphus mauritiana* in Bathing Deceased: Reflection from Hadith Sahih Al-Bukhari 1253, Book 23, Hadith 344**

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Abstract

In the current modernisation of the world, various medicines produced by modern technologies have exist to treat diseases in society. This has resulted in less traditional medicine being the focus of our society. However, traditional medicine which is usually made from plants has many hidden nutrients that have not been studied more thoroughly. *Ziziphus mauritiana* is one of the valuable plants. *Ziziphus mauritiana* belonging to family *Rhamnaceae* or commonly called as *bidara* or *sidr* in Arabic has been mentioned two times in Quran and four times in Hadith. According to these Hadith, *Ziziphus mauritiana* leaves is used frequently in bathing such as to bath deceased or as woman bathing agent. To determine either the uses of *Ziziphus mauritiana* in bathing deceased is just to seek *barakah* in Islam (*tabarruk*) or it has its own scientifically justification in term of antimicrobial, qualitative methodology of content analysis and experimental method are carried out. From previous studies, water of *Ziziphus mauritiana* is believed to easier the shrouding process and prevent it from rapidly smelling. Moreover, some studies found stated the uses of this plant is only a *tabarruk*. Scientifically studies stated that it is well-known for its antimicrobial and antioxidant properties. However, from both method used in this study, it is proven that the uses of *Ziziphus mauritiana* in bathing deceased is not just to seek *barakah* in Islam (*tabarruk*) as this plant has antimicrobial properties to prevent the deceased from instant decay.

Keywords: *Ziziphus mauritiana*; *sidr*; *bathing deceased*; *Hadith Sahih Al-Bukhari 1253*, *Genius INAQ*

INTRODUCTION

In this study, a study on a plant that belongs to the family of *Rhamnaceae* that is *Ziziphus mauritiana* has been made. *Ziziphus mauritiana* is a plant believed to originate in South Asia and North Africa. Later, this plant has been grows naturally in Tropical Africa to Afghanistan and China, as well as through Malaysia and Australia as well as several other Pacific islands. This plant is actually well-known to the public if it is called as *bidara*. This plant is usually widely grown around the community's yard. However, only a few of us know the true benefits and nourishes of the plant.

Next, *Bidara* is also called *sidr* in Arabic. Based on the word of Allah, this plant is mentioned twice in the Qur'an, namely in Surah Saba', verse 16 and Surah Al-Waqiah, verse 28. It is also mentioned four times in the hadith of the Prophet Muhammad SAW and most of it is used as an agent in the bathing process. For example to bathe the deceased and also the agent in the bath for women.

Despite all those functions of the leaves, the use of *Ziziphus mauritiana* leaves in the process of bathing the corpse would like to emphasize more in this study. Therefore, from the Hadith narrated by Um 'Atiyya al-Ansariya:

“Allah's Messenger (ﷺ) came to us when his daughter died and said, "Wash her thrice or five times or more, if you see it necessary, with water and Sidr and then apply camphor or some camphor at the end; and when you finish, notify me." So when we finished it, we informed him and he gave us his waist-sheet and told us to shroud the dead body in it.”

(Hadith Sahih Al-Bukhari 1253, Book 23, Hadith 344)

From this hadith, it mentioned that our Prophet Muhammad (ﷺ) ordered to bathe the body of his daughter by using *sidr* or *bidara* leaf water. Therefore, there is a disagreement among the community about the use of *bidara* leaf water while bathing corpses. Either it is really necessary as it has strong scientific reason or is it just a *tabarruk*, which is something that brings blessings to someone who does it.

METHODOLOGY

Material

Ziziphus mauritiana leaves, Ethyl acetate United States, distilled water, filter paper Whatman's No.1 Filter Paper

Extraction

The *Ziziphus mauritiana* leaf was dried in an oven for 15 minutes at a temperature of 600°C. The pestle and mortar were then used to grind the leaves and then it was inserted into the beaker. 2.0 g of grinded *Ziziphus mauritiana* leaves were weighed and placed into two conical flasks. 40ml of ethyl acetate was poured into a conical flask containing the *Ziziphus mauritiana* leaves as the solvent. Both of the conical flasks were instantly coated with aluminium foil. The samples were then left at room temperature for 24 hrs.

Moreover, the sample was filtered using a Whatman's filter paper into another conical flask. Liquid-liquid extraction was thus performed. The sample solution was poured into a filter funnel and followed by distilled water and ethyl acetate. The filter funnel was then shook gently, and this measures were repeated three times. Then, the solvent was extracted using a rotary evaporator in which the temperature was adjusted to 760°C to obtain the extract of the samples.

Characterization

The *Ziziphus mauritiana* samples were subjected to FT-IR analysis. The extract of ethyl acetate was placed directly on the diamond window of the leaf section of leaf samples of *Ziziphus mauritiana*. In the north-south orientation, to minimise spectral differences due to sample location, all samples were located and aligned with the probing laser. The FT-IR (Agilent Technologies, USA) spectrometer was used to

conduct the analysis. The accurate data was determined according to the IR windows by the five relevant frequency ranges. In each slot, the frequency spectrum was modified in order to achieve a correct test identifier and determiner. The ranges of frequency is calculated in compliance with Nurdalila A.A. (2016). Four wave frequency spectrum scans from 3800 cm⁻¹ to 80p cm⁻¹ were reported. The spectral average was used for further study. On the spectrum, normalisation and correction of background interference was conducted. By using MicroLab applications (Agilent Technology, USA), spectrum transfer was achieved.

Method II

Content Analysis Method

Content analysis is one of the qualitative study. Qualitative analysis requires the studied use and compilation of a number of analytical resources, including case study, personal memory, introspective, life narrative, survey, observational, geographical, interactional and visual texts. In order to run this method systematically, some phases were crucial to be done (Aspers, P., & Corte, U.,2019).

Firstly, in term of data collection, in this study, all the data collected are from previous researches or studies up to year 2014. It is to ensure all the data obtained are up-to-date. After that, characterization phase and interpretation phase are done thoroughly on all the related past studies collected which were focus regarding the usage of *Ziziphus mauritiana* and water in bathing deceased. It had been read and compared with this study. For reporting phase, the differences between the studies were identified. Then, the conclusion from the results obtained will be discuss in detail at the discussion section.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Laboratory method

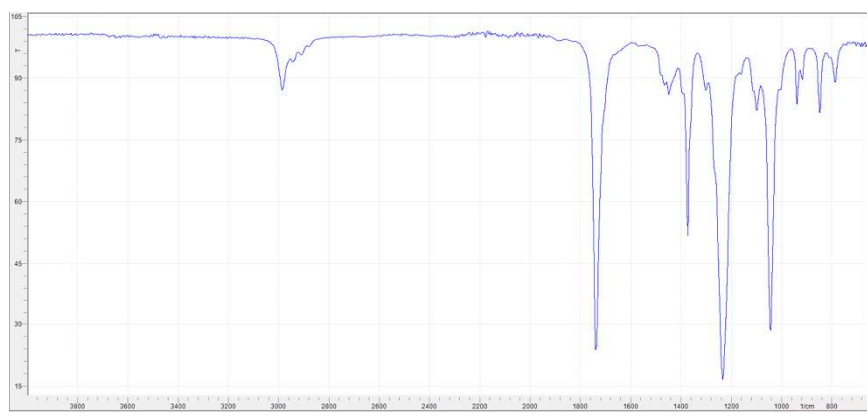


Figure 11. ATR-FTIR spectrum graph of *Ziziphus mauritiana*

Table 1. Functional groups determined from *Ziziphus mauritiana*

Frequency (cm^{-1})	Transmitters (%)	Functional group
2988.09	87.43	C-H stretch alkanes
1741.05	23.99	C=O stretch carbonyls
1449.64	86.25	C-C stretch (in-ring) aromatics
1235.37	17.18	C-N stretch carboxylic acids, C-O stretch alcohols, carboxylic acids, esters, ethers
1044.67	28.98	C-N stretch aliphatic amines
939.68	83.89	O-H bend carboxylic acids
849.69	82.18	C-Cl stretch alkyl halides

The spectrum and wavelength released by the ATR-FTIR are collected. Refer to Figure 1 and Table 1, the functional group of compounds present in the *Ziziphus mauritiana* leaves was determined. *Ziziphus mauritiana* has functional groups from the spectrum graph that are the C-H stretch alkanes, C = O stretch carbonyls, C-C stretch (in-ring) aromatics, C-N stretch carboxylic acids, C-N stretch aliphatic amines, carboxylic acids O-H bend and alkyl halides C-Cl stretch.

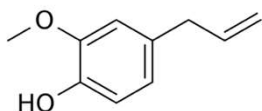
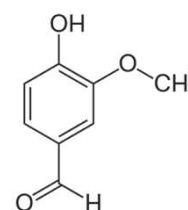
Transmission measurements observed at 2988.09 cm^{-1} are attributed to C-H stretch alkanes, C = O stretch carbonyls are attributed to 1741.05 cm^{-1} , while C-C stretch (in-ring) aromatics are attributed to 1449.64 cm^{-1} . In comparison, the attribution of C-N stretch carboxylic acids and C-O stretch alcohols, carboxylic acids, esters and ethers was 1235.37 cm^{-1} . Moreover, transmission measurement observed was attributed to C-N stretch aliphatic amines at 1044.67 cm^{-1} while 939.68 cm^{-1} was attributed to O-H bend carboxylic acids. Other than that, the transmitting measurement assigned to C-Cl stretch alkyl halides is 849.69 cm^{-1} .

Content analysis method

This method are based on latest studies which are conducted from year 2017 to the latest year which is year 2020. All the paper reviewed chosen was mentioning the usage of *Ziziphus mauritiana* water in bathing deceased.

Based on some studies, the water of *Ziziphus mauritiana* is able to soften the body of the corpse in addition to immediate the rate of decaying of the corpse. It can also be used as an soap water. Then, of course, there are respondents who state that it is just a *tabarruk* which action to seek *barakah* in Islam. The use of *Ziziphus mauritiana* water is also referred to as a fragrance for the corpse after bathing. However, there was some study material which does not ever mention on why this plant water is used in bathing corpses.

From the laboratory method, functional group of *Ziziphus mauritiana* was determined from the frequency identified by ATR-FTIR. To show that the usage of *Ziziphus mauritiana* water is not just a *tabarruk*, some antimicrobial agents were chosen and equated with *Ziziphus mauritiana* in term of their functional group. The microbial agents were Eugenol and Vanillin.


Figure 2. Structural formula of Eugenol

Figure 3. Structural formula of Vanillin

These Eugenol and Vanillin have similar functional group as *Ziziphus mauritiana*. Hence, to relate, *Ziziphus mauritiana* is expected to contain both of antimicrobial agents of Eugenol and Vanillin. Then, the usage of *Ziziphus mauritiana* water in barhing deceased is not just a *tabarruk* but also is significant in term of scientific study which it has antimicrobial property.

CONCLUSION

The usage of *Ziziphus mauritiana* in bathing deceased is not only *tabarruk* which is an action to seek *barakah* in Islam. However, it is crucial as it does contain antimicrobial agents, Eugenol and Vanillin which gives it antimicrobial property to help in lower the rate of decaying of the deceased.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We would like to thank Kolej GENIUS InsaH's Halal Action Laboratory, Universiti Sains Islam Malaysia, for supporting and allowing us the chance to carry out this analysis by supplying equipment.

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