

Botanic name : *Michelia champaca* L.

Common name: Champak, Champa

Family: Magnoliaceae (S.S)

Habitat: Terrestrial

Distribution: Native to India. Found throughout Indo-China, Malaysia, Sumatra, Java, and southwestern China, Malaysia and Indonesia, and in southern Japan and Taiwan.

Description: Tall tree that grows up to 30 m. The young branches are covered with grey hairs, ovate leaves and are up to narrowing to a fine point at the apex. Small bracts, known as stipules, are present on the leaf stalk of the alternately arranged leaves; fairly large pale yellow to orange flowers growing up to 5.1 cm in diameter, fragrant, have 15 tepals that curve up towards the tips and many stamens (pollen producing structures). The fruit- up to 3-20 brown follicles with 2-6 reddish seeds/follicle that are dry at maturity and split open at one side.

Phytochemicals: Bioactive compounds such as β -sitosterol, dihydroparthenolide, gallic acid, quercetine, sesquiterpenes, parthenolide, liriodenine, essential oils etc.

Medicinal/Economic uses: Ornamental medicinal plant. Bark is used in fevers, flowers are stimulant, good for eyes and relieves burning, and in skin diseases, Root bark is purgative, used in amenorrhoea. Flowers tonic, stomachic, carminative, used in dyspepsia, nausea, fever, also useful as a diuretic in renal diseases. Flower oil used in cephalgia. Bark stimulant, diuretic and febrifuge. Dried root and root-bark used as a purgative and emmenagogue. Traditionally used in the treatment of various disease like rheumatism, gout; used as diuretic, febrifuge, anti-diabetic, anti-microbial, anti-inflammatory, diuretic, anti-ulcer, analgesic, anti-helmintholytic, procognitive activity, anti-oxidant, and in burn wound healing.