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Plants with anti-inflammatory activity in Palestinian ethnomedicine: Past, present and future**Abdullatif Ali Azab**

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Plants are by humans used for medicinal purposes since the dawn of humanity. Among these, plants with anti-inflammatory activity are well known to most cultures, especially the Palestinian traditional medicine which is known for its vastness. However, these ethnomedicine use many plants of different genera to treat inflammations. The methods of herbal treatments were documented or passed verbally through generations. Among these plants, they are well known to other cultures such as *Malva sylvestris*, *Micromeria fruticosa* and *Salvia officinalis*. Expectedly, modern published research approves this traditional knowledge. But these are aromatic plants with very pleasant odors that are expected to have medicinal activities. Carob (*Ceratonia siliqua*) is a very well-known tree for Palestinian culture and it is very important nutritional resource. Its anti-inflammatory capacities were known and used for centuries, especially against mouth and throat inflammations. But strangely and interestingly enough, the anti-inflammatory of this has been proven, activity was studied just in the last few years. Our current research focuses on other plants that are known to Palestinian ethnomedicine for having anti-inflammatory and other medicinal activities. Currently, we have studied three plants and the results indicate that at least one of them has proven anti-inflammatory activity. Our list includes other 16 plants that were reported to us by local Palestinian people as having such activity. These plants have three common properties: (1) Their anti-inflammatory potential was never studied and published before; (2) The chemical compositions of all of them are either partially or completely unknown and; (3) All of them are known to Palestinian ethnomedicine as having medicinal potential. We will present some plants that Palastenian ethnomedicine use to treat inflammations, published, being studied and with future research plants.

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