

**ANTICONVULSANT ACTIVITY OF *ARTOCARPUS*
*HETEROPHYLLUS***

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Artocarpus heterophyllus is a vegetable drug and it is kept on using from ancient time for food purposes as well as for medicinal purposes. In the present study anticonvulsant activity of *Artocarpus heterophyllus* were investigated. Three extracts of *Artocarpus heterophyllus*, petroleum ether, ethanolic and aqueous were prepared, the former two were prepared by hot percolation method by Soxhlet apparatus and the later one was prepared by cold maceration method. Anticonvulsant activity of all the three extracts like petroleum ether, ethanolic and aqueous of *Artocarpus heterophyllus* were checked by studying the effects on seizures induced by Pentilentetrazol, and maximal electroshock convulsive methods in mice. Alcoholic extract of *Artocarpus heterophyllus* significantly reduced the duration of convulsions like flexure (1.06 ± 0.21), extensor ($8.88 \pm 0.44^{**}$), clonic (5.49 ± 0.29) and stupor (27.98 ± 0.39) respectively in maximum electroshock method. In another method, convulsions induced by Pentilentetrazol, alcoholic extract of *Artocarpus heterophyllus* significantly increased the onset time of clonic (234.99 ± 0.489) and tonic (565.04 ± 1.998) convulsions as compared to other extracts. All the results indicate that *Artocarpus heterophyllus* have anticonvulsant property and this property may be due to one chemical moiety or a group of chemical moieties.

INTRODUCTION

Artocarpus heterophyllus Lam, belonging to the family Moraceae (mulberry family) and popularly known as jackfruit or Ceylon Jack tree, is one of the important and commonly found trees in the home gardens of India and Bangladesh. Jackfruit tree is of great importance in the various folk and traditional system of medicine in Asia. Reports suggest that almost all parts of the jackfruit tree are of use in the preparations of various Ayurvedic and Yunani medicines.

Studies have shown that jackfruit contains many classes of compounds such as carotenoids, flavanoids, volatile acids sterols and tannins, and that their concentration changes with the variety. So the present work is taken to evaluate the anticonvulsant potential of *Artocarpus heterophyllus* (Baliga *et al*, 2011).

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